

10 November 2019 Our Assignment To The Message Ps Melusi Ngcobo (JHB)

Scripture Reference: Genesis 18:16-19 (MSG); Genesis 18:16-19 (AMPC); Deuteronomy 6:1-2 (MSG); Acts 26:14-17 (AMPC); Acts 26:16 (NKJV); Deuteronomy 18:18 (NKJV); 2 Samuel 14:19 (NKJV); Isaiah 59:21 (NKJV); Jeremiah 15:19 (NKJV); Ezekiel 3:17 (NKJV); Ephesians 2:20, 22 (NKJV); 1 Peter 2:5 (NKJV); Isaiah 34:16 (NKJV); Isaiah 48:3 (NKJV); Job 23:12 (NKJV); Psalm 119:70 (AMP); Psalm 119:70 (BSB); Luke 19:42 (BSB); John 8:43 (BSB)

Glory to God. It's good to be in the House of the Lord. Amen. It's an awesome thing to praise the Lord together with the saints. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord. Thank You, Father. Thank You, Jesus.

Well, in Pastor John's own words, you have to bear with me a little while longer. Amen. Hallelujah.

Welcome to church. You know, to be honest with you, there are messages that when I stand here, I wish I could preach, you know. But the Lord is just taking me in this path that I'm going to deliver this afternoon. I wish I could preach an easy message, but God seemingly gives me those hard messages. But I pray and I hope that you can receive it with the heart that it's coming from; you may receive it with grace. Amen. Hallelujah.

The title of the message this afternoon is *Our duty assignment is to the messages*. Our duty assignment is to the messages. If you can go with me to Genesis 18 verse 16 to 19 in The Message Bible. Verse 16, it reads as this, **¹⁶When the men got up to leave, they set off for Sodom. Abraham walked with them to say good-bye. ¹⁷Then God said, "Shall I keep back from Abraham what I'm about to do? ¹⁸Abraham is going to become a large and strong nation; all the nations of the world are going to find themselves blessed through him. ¹⁹Yes, I've settled on him as the one to train his children and future family to observe God's way of life, live kindly and generously and fairly, so that God can complete in Abraham what He promised him" (Genesis 18:16-19, MSG)**. Now I'm going to read it also in The Amplified, the Classic edition, it says, **¹⁶The men rose up from there and faced toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. ¹⁷And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham [My friend and servant] what I am going to do, ¹⁸Since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed through him *and* shall bless themselves by him? ¹⁹ For I have known (chosen, acknowledged) him [as My own], so that He may teach *and* command his children and the sons of his house after him to keep the way of the Lord and to do what is just and righteous, so that the Lord may bring Abraham what He has promised him (Genesis 18:16-19, AMPC)**. Well, in this scripture, what we observe that every founder and every father of the family has an assignment from God. Amen. And what we can take from this scripture is that the assignment of Abraham was not to be rich, it was not his assignment. But it is clear that now God chooses Abraham, He says, "I have chosen and I have acknowledged Abraham as My own."

You know, I always make this statement, especially when I have a discussion with my fellow African brothers, when it comes, and anybody who believes that the Gospel came through the white person. To say, people, we need to understand that God did not look out there and say, "Okay, I'm going to choose the Jews for Myself." But God founded the Jews. He founded the Hebrews out of one man that He chose and acknowledged. Why did He do that? Because He had a specific purpose and that is to give him an assignment that he can teach those who come after him the ways of the Lord. Amen. So God is always looking for one man. Amen. God is always looking for a man. You are, whether male or female, you are a representative in your community, in your family. God wants to do something out of you. God wants to accomplish something through you. Amen.

So we see that, in this scripture that God has an assignment for the fathers of the families; that as Abraham is a founder, because Abraham at that time, he had no child, you know. He had all the possessions and all the servants and everything and the wealth that he had, but he had no child, you know, to take after his name. But now God, He said, "I want Abraham to teach his children." That is a mandate and that is an assignment given to Abraham. And another thing that we see there, is that God says, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I'm going to do?" So God, what does He do with the fathers? He gives them a special insight of the direction that He's going to take. Amen. So He says, "Shall I hide from my servant Abraham what I'm about to do?" So God gives a vision to the father of, or the founder of the families. Amen. He gives them assignment and He gives them vision to say, "This is the insight, this is like a sneak preview." To say, "This is what I'm about to do." Nobody else knew. The people of Sodom and Gomorra, they were clueless, Lot was clueless, people around Abraham, they were clueless. But God saw it fitting to say, "I need to show Abraham which direction am I going to take now." Hallelujah.

So here we see that Abraham has been chosen by God for a specific purpose. It is God Who has a way. Now God has a way. You know, there are many ways of man, but God has a specific way, you know. And He says, "My ways are far from your ways." You know, the ways of God are different from the ways of man. So now, he wants a man who's going to teach his children after the way of the Lord. Abraham's tasks and assignment was to command the generation after him after the way of the Lord.

We see the same pattern also in Deuteronomy 6 verse 1 and 2 in The Message Bible. Deuteronomy 6, 1 to 2, this is what it says, **1This is the commandment, the rules and regulations, that God, your God, commanded me to teach you (Deuteronomy 6:1 MSG)**. Now this is Moses, he's talking to the children of Israel. Now, as a person who holds the position of a father, the position of a founder and the position that is selected by God to say, "Now Moses, you are the one now who needs to teach these people and you need to teach them. He says, He has **commanded me to teach you to live out in the land you're about to cross into to possess (Deuteronomy 6:1 MSG)**. So now, there is a specific way and I take it that it's not far from what Abraham was supposed to teach his children after him. Amen. It says, **2This is so that you'll live in deep reverence**, we're going to come to that. **2This is so that you'll live in deep reverence before God lifelong, observing all His rules and regulations that I'm commanding you, you and**

your children and your grandchildren, living good long lives (Deuteronomy 6:2 MSG). Hallelujah.

So, even as with Pastor John and Pastor Sharon, it's the same task that God has given them. He has given them a task to teach us. Amen. To teach us that we can live after the ways of the Lord. Amen. They are set aside and chosen by God's own design and purpose for a specific assignment. They are given assignment. And it's God who did what? It's God who chose them. I like it in the Book of Ephesians 4, Amplified, it says that Jesus Himself, He ordained and chose them. Jesus Himself. There's no man that chooses our leader but Jesus Himself He ordains and chooses them. Amen.

And let's quickly go to Acts 26 verse 14 to 18. Verse 14 says, **¹⁴And when we all had fallen to the ground,** this is when the great light appeared to Paul and all those who were with him. **I heard a voice in the Hebrew tongue, 'Saul, Saul, why do you continue to persecute Me [to harass and trouble and molest Me]? It is dangerous and turns out badly for you to keep kicking against the goads [to keep offering vain and perilous resistance].** **¹⁵And I said, Who are You Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting.** **¹⁶But arise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose.** Now there's a purpose why Jesus appeared to Paul, **¹⁶that I might appoint you to serve as [My] minister and to bear witness both to what you have seen of Me (Acts 26:14-16 AMPC).** Now, there is a vision. Now, Paul needs to give witness of what he has seen of Jesus. He has seen a vision. It's like when God said, "Should I hide from Abraham, my servant, my minister what I'm about to do?" So now we see here in Scripture that God, what does He do? He gives specific directions through visions, through what He reveals Himself to be to His servants that He has chosen. Amen. Hallelujah. It's either – I have all your attention, or you are really tired. Are you good? Okay, I have your attention; thank you, Jannie.

So this is it, **¹⁶that I appoint you to serve as [My] minister and to bear witness both to what you have seen of Me and to that in which I will appear to you (Act 26:16 AMPC).** Now the King James says, **¹⁶and of the things which I will yet reveal to you (Act 26:1 NKJV).** We can see that now a vision; it's not the whole picture. A vision is for that moment in time. So it's for specific direction. You know, God was not about to take out the whole world. It was not only His business to do away with Sodom and Gomorrah. But this is what the vision that he says, "Abraham, this is what I'm about to do." And it's up to Abraham what he is going to do with the knowledge and the insight that he receives from God Himself. So now, we see here, he says to Paul, "Paul", He says, "the things that I have shown you and the things that I'm still to show you." Amen. So don't be dismayed. And you feel that maybe, when Pastor John says, "This is the vision and this is the direction that the Lord says we must take," he says but, "What is the vision of this church?" Amen.

Because the vision on its own that God is giving to Pastor John is for specific tasks and purpose and the season of that time. Amen. So we see here that He uses the very same pattern that He uses with Abraham and He uses with Moses to say, "I will show you those things and the things that I will show you to come." And He says, **¹⁷Choosing you out,** in verse 17 He says, **¹⁷Choosing you out [selecting you for**

Myself] (Acts 26:17 AMPC). Now He chose Abraham as a father and this is exactly what He does with whom? With Paul. He says, selecting you out for Myself. He chose Abraham for Himself so that He can give instruction to His people. Amen. **17And delivering you from among this [Jewish] people and the Gentiles to whom I am sending you (Acts 26:17 AMPC).** Now Paul is being taken out of the Jewish people and you say, "But the Jewish people are the covenant people." Now Jesus, He's got a new covenant. Now the very same people that Abraham was called out from were his father's family. But his father's family doesn't mean that they were not seeking God. But God had a time and a season in plan. He had a purpose and he had an assignment for He specifically said, "Abraham, come out from among them. Come out from among your father's house because I've got a task for you. I've got an assignment for you. And that assignment is to teach my people." Amen.

So he was chosen by the Lord for Himself, and he was shown by the Lord specific things. So the vision can change from time to time. The purposes of God and the plans do not change but God gives the chosen ones; His chosen ones. He gives them insight to His purposes because we do not see the purposes of God, you know, about our lives, and everything that God does on the earth. We know about them but as we walk with God, as we follow our leaders, we don't see the whole picture. But what does God do? He gives them visions for a certain period and a certain time. He gives them specific messages because what does He do? He said, "What I have revealed to you and what I am going to show to you, you give it to them." In what way? "You tell it to them. You teach it to them. So that they can follow My way because I'm leading them in a certain way." Amen.

It is then for a season to guide the assignment so we can fulfil the plans and the purposes. So then, from time to time the Lord will reveal to Pastor John the vision so to continue with his assignment that's to pass to us the message. Let's go to Deuteronomy 18 verse 18. It reads, **18I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth; and He shall speak to them all that I command Him (Deuteronomy 18:18 NKJV).** Now we see the pattern of God, the pattern that God follows here. He is talking and He is giving prophesy about Jesus, saying; "Among their own brethren I will raise up what? I will raise up a prophet who is like you, Moses. Who is like you to do what? To teach. Who is like you to do what? To command the people to follow My ways." Amen.

And let's go to Samuel. Now I want us to see something here. He says, I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth. So now God will do what? He will put His words in Pastor John's mouth. Amen. Why does He do that? "And Pastor John will speak to them all that I have commanded him." How does God do that? Let's go to 2 Samuel 14 verse 19. 2 Samuel 14:19, this is how God does it. He says in verse 19, **19So the king said, "Is the hand of Joab with you in all this?" And the woman answered and said, "As you live, my lord the king, no one can turn to the right hand or to the left from anything that my lord the king has spoken. For your servant Joab commanded me, and he put all these words in the mouth of your maidservant (2 Samuel 14:19 NKJV).** So now, this is how God now puts the words of Pastor John, His words in Pastor John's mouth. He commands Pastor John. How does He command

Pastor John? He says to Pastor John, "Tell them, say this to them. Bring this message to them." Hallelujah.

So now, this is how now – what is God doing? He is commanding Pastor John to say something. As this woman was commanded by Joab when she was approaching the king about the king's matters, and then he said, Joab said to her, "When you get to the king, you must say this." So now the woman, because she was a servant to Joab, she was commanded to say what she was saying. Now God commands Pastor John. God puts His words in the mouth of Pastor John. And how does He do that? He says, "John, tell them this. Say this to them. Bring this message to them." Hallelujah. I'm trying to build something here so that we can establish our duty and our assignment on the messages that come out from the pulpit. Amen.

When you read Isaiah 59:29, Isaiah 59:21. This is the pattern that God uses. He said, **"As for Me," says the Lord, "this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants (Isaiah 59:21 NKJV).** Where did we read this? Let this Book of the Law not depart from your mouth. Meditate on it day and night. Now God is making a promise saying, "My words shall not depart out of your mouth, and shall not depart from the mouth of your descendants." Now this is the promise that we can take for ourselves that the words that God commands and gives to Pastor John, will not depart from the mouth of Pastor John. Pastor John will not compromise and alter the message that he is given by God to deliver to us. And the messages that comes from Pastor John, we are going to receive them and they are not going to depart from our mouths. Amen. That is the order of God and that is His pattern. **²¹Nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the Lord, "from this time and forevermore." (Isaiah 59:21 NKJV).** That is why we have the message highlights, you know, for adults and for kids, you know. I will encourage you; go on our website. It is Heritage of Faith, HOFMI, then you can request the transcribed messages, then you can download the messages for yourself. And then so that you can be able to take those messages that the Lord has commanded Pastor John to deliver, or Pastor Sharon to deliver, so that they will not depart from your lips. Amen. And so that they will not depart from the lips of your children. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

Let's look at Jeremiah 15:19. Now this is the Lord reassuring Jeremiah, **¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, Then I will bring you back; You shall stand before Me; If you take out the precious from the vile, You shall be as My mouth. Let them return to you, But you must not return to them. (Jeremiah 15:19 NKJV)** He says, you shall be as my mouth. So the man that God chooses Himself, he becomes, as Pastor Sharon puts it, she says Pastor John is a spout, you know. He becomes the mouthpiece of God. When he speaks it is very easy and it comes on all of us. We are going to see as we read and we continue here to become desensitised towards the Word of God, towards the man that God has given into our lives, to become familiar with the man that God has given into our lives and because we have seen him, maybe we have seen that he is a man just like us, it's very easy but we need to understand that now, if we honour Jesus as our Lord, and as I preached two weeks ago to say; He gave gifts to us and the gift that you received from Jesus, the value that you place on that gift is the value that you place on Jesus.

And the one who gives the gift, you know, it depends on who gives you the gift. There are people who are taken as celebrities. I was talking this morning and I was saying, "If I can give you and say, "Let me sign on your Bible." It is called the autograph. Let me sign my autograph, you will be like, "No ways, not on my Bible." But I am sure if Siya Kolisi can come, you will get any paper you can get and Siya can say, "No, not on the Bible." You will say, "Siya, please sign here, I want that signature." Why? Because you place a value on Siya, because you put Siya on another level, then his signature has a value. So now, if you place a value on Jesus, then His gift, there is a value, the very same value that is on Jesus, is the same value that is on the gift that Jesus gives us. Hallelujah. So he is the mouthpiece.

Now let's look at Ezekiel 3:17. There are a lot of scriptures that we are going to read this afternoon, please just bear with me. Now we, it says here, **¹⁷Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel (Ezekiel 3:17 NKJV)**. I have made you a seer. I have made you to watch over and to see. I have given you insight, because you can't be an intercessor if God does not give you visions. You can't be an intercessor if God does not speak to you from time to time and it says I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel.

Now if Pastor John is a watchman over this house, and then now, what does he do? He prays for us and then after he prays for us, he gets a message from God and God commands this message and He says, "Go tell them this," because He has seen the danger that is coming. He has seen the onslaught from the enemy that is coming towards us and God says, "Go prepare them with this message," and that's where now we can place a value on the message because we know that that message is not from a man but it comes from the Lord Himself.

He says, **¹⁷Therefore hear a word from My mouth**, so Pastor John hears a word from the mouth of the Lord, **and give them warning from Me (Ezekiel 3:17 NKJV)**. Amen. That is another assignment and a task; is to rebuke, is to warn, is to reproof, the task of Pastor John and Pastor Sharon. They rebuke us and they correct us, they bring correction and they bring, encourage and they edify, they teach us, they build us up. That is their assignment. Amen.

Now, let's go to Ephesians 20, there is no Ephesians 20, don't even go there. I don't know, some you were beginning to check. Sorry to embarrass you, you don't know your Bible or I caught you off guard. So Ephesians 2 verse 20. Ephesians 2 verse 20, it says, **²⁰Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20 NKJV)**. And verse 22 says, **²²In whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit (Ephesians 2:22 NKJV)**. Now you will not see what we are being built to become because with the natural eye we cannot see it but in the spirit, we are being built for a dwelling place of God. In the spirit we are becoming blocks of bricks, if I may put it like that, we are being built as a house and a dwelling place for God. We want, we prepare, He comes. We become His dwelling place in the spirit. Amen. We will not see the importance of us engaging with the message because God does not build any other way. He builds through the messages that He gives the people that He has chosen to deliver those messages. Amen. And not just any other

messenger. You know, some other people, they send themselves, they are not sent. Some other people, they choose themselves, they are not chosen but God says, "I have chosen Myself these people and I have given them to teach the people after My own ways".

And in 1 Peter 2:5, it says, **⁵You also, as living stones (1 Peter 2:5 NKJV)**. Now we are told that we are stones. Amen. But thank God that we are living stones. You know, in Zulu, there is a saying that says, I will say it in Zulu and then I will try and translate. It says, [Pastor Melusi speaking Zulu]. *Don't put your trust in a man; you can rather put your trust on the stone*, in Zulu, not in the Bible. Obviously, put your trust in God, definitely. But I am saying, you know, but that saying, you know why we say that saying? Because if you leave a stone there, when you come back, you will find it there. It will not move itself.

But now, we thank God that we are living stones. We are not just dead stones, we are living stones, there is life in us but now we are told that we are living stones and are being built as a spiritual house, as a spiritual house. How does God do that? He brings a message, actually, let me not jump the gun there, we are being as living stones, **⁵are being built up as a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:5 NKJV)**.

Now with every message that comes from Pastor Sharon or Pastor John comes a responsibility on our part. We've got a part to play. Now, we can't take the whole message, you can't memorise the whole message, actually, those transcribed messages, they are like 15 pages, some of them. You know, there is a lot. You can't memorise everything that is there. Amen. But there is a part for you there. There is a part that is meant to be received by you and there are parts that are meant that you must become in that message. Amen. Because we will not respond the same. The same message comes as I am talking to you, but definitely not everybody is hearing me the same. It is a mystery, you know. You might find the other one, when you leave here, you are discussing about this message, the other one is critical, the other one was on cloud nine. You say, "What did I miss?" Amen. Because we are not hearing the same way. We are not responding the same way but God knows that there are certain things that are in this message that are meant for you.

So now, what you need to do, you need to grab the highlights. That's why we have the message highlights. Now it is made very easy for us that they are readily available. They take time but they are easily available. Maybe, with the 4IR, Mari, maybe we will start now, after a person preaches, already the highlights are underlined there, as we leave, we get all the highlights. What do you think about that? Praise the Lord. And the transcribing, everything, you know?

Last week, as I was preparing for the message, I was transcribing the Word from listening from the message where, *Activation of prayer* from Pastor Sharon and I was transcribing and I said, "Wow, these ladies they go through this", and it was only just a few lines. I had to rewind and stop and pause. Thank God for these ladies. Hallelujah. I wonder when men are going to start transcribing. Or is it because we can't multi task? Amen.

So there are specific things that are meant for every individual person, personally and there are, we are becoming. God knows, actually, I was here to say, God knows what you need to become and God knows what He can make that you can be able to become this. And then He brings a special message to you because now He is building His own dwelling place, He's building His own spiritual house. Amen.

So, we have a role and a part in every message. What we take for ourselves from the messages, we become. So, actually it becomes eternal. That's what you become. It becomes, so the more you pay the price to live the message, it becomes your possession, it becomes your terrain, it becomes your authority, a place of authority. There's a price to pay for you to apply that Word in your life but that price that you have paid, then it produces that place for you in the house of God. Amen. Hallelujah.

Because God has a specific assignment for each and every one of us and our first primary assignment is to respond to His message, is to respond to his messenger. That is our primary assignment and then how do we respond? We respond with honour. And how do you know that you honour? You take the Word praying. You honour the Word in the privacy of your house where you stay alone where nobody sees you, where nobody can approve, where nobody can tap you on the back. You take that responsibility to say, "I honour you, Lord and therefore, if I honour You, I honour the man that You have brought in my life and if I honour the man that you have brought in my life, I honour the messages that you have commanded in his mouth to bring to me."

We are to realise that we are part of something very bigger than us and it is eternal. Amen. Now God had a, had a, had a purpose with Abraham, and it was to bless all the nations of the world. You know, we; what is that word? Is it gossamers? Gossamers strand. You know. But now Pastor Sharon says it's thickening, you know. What we pass from this generation to another, the very same assignment that is given to Pastor John is the very same assignment that is given to us. Because what we do is going to be passed to the next generation. You know, this is the something that God needs to help me with in terms when it comes to debt because God, I need to be more accountable. Because God has shown me to say every debt that I make is the debt that I make at the expense of my children. No, no, this is for me, it's not in the message, you know. But now, obviously the more I do not make debt; my children are going to benefit from that. So, if I go after this word and this revelation that God has given me then it means that my children will get a better inheritance from me. Maybe they might not get maybe big houses and all that but for me to live that word and pay the price and take that word like Kenneth Copeland. You know, Kenneth Copeland, he, he put the Word of God first place. You know he said, "Owe no man nothing." Amen. And we're like; Kenneth Copeland when am I going to buy a house then? You know. But it was his journey with God and God was instructing him so that he can, what God has commanded him and he puts the words, and for our responsibilities to take those words and apply on our life for the next generation.

So, we are, we are part of something bigger than us. So, when we realise that we are part of something bigger than us, we have the future of the whole generation that

is coming after us, then we start to begin to be serious about putting our foot in the message. Believe me, in some cases I'm in the same boat with you. But this is what God is dealing with my heart to say, this is, this is how serious this thing is. From the beginning this was My intention that the fathers will teach the children and the children after the children, and the children's children, and so forth so that we can accomplish this whole big picture that we cannot see at the one go. Now, we as mankind does not fully appreciate the fact that what God has said will surely come to pass.

Isaiah 34 verse 16. Isaiah 34 verse 16 says, **¹⁶Search from the book of the Lord, and read: Not one of these shall fail; Not one shall lack her mate. For My mouth has commanded it, and His Spirit has gathered them (Isaiah 34:16 NKJV)**. Now this was a judgement that was passed through the Prophet Isaiah and now God was saying, "Because My mouth has commanded it, it will really happen." He says, "Go to the Scripture and go and search that what My mouth has commanded before, it has not come to pass now."

Isaiah 48 verse 3. Because, if we are grounded and we are assured that what God says will surely come to pass, because it took that type of faith, that kind of faith from Abraham to say, "The One who has promised, He is faithful and well and able to do it." So, so, now if God has said something and said, "2019 is the year of marvels, wonders and extraordinary manifestations of the greatness of our God," and if we appreciate and fully comprehend that what God has spoken through His mouth, His mouthpiece will come to pass, I'm telling you we will never allow those, a single word from that prophecy to fall on the ground. So, so, that is why I said earlier that we become desensitised of the prophecies. We become too familiar and we're like, "Ah we will see if it does." And as Dr Jerry, you know, he says, he says it every day. Every time when he wakes up he declares because that's what God told him that, "This year you should tell My people to say, 'Lord, show me Your glory.'" So he says, "I say it every day." Because what? He has seen it before; he fully comprehends and appreciates that God wants to bring about victory in his life. So he does not take the word that God has given him lightly.

Isaiah 48 verse 3, **³I have declared the former things from the beginning; They went forth from My mouth, you know, they went from My mouth, and I caused them to hear it. Suddenly I did them, and they came to pass (Isaiah 48:3 NKJV)**. Now, this, this is the type of response that we must take. Let's look at Job 23. Job 23, I think it's verse 12, it says, **¹²I have not departed from the commandment of His lips (Job 23:12 NKJV)**. What are those commandments? It's what He commands. It is the words that He puts in the mouths of Pastor John and Pastor Sharon. He commands them, He says, "Say this to them." And then as God has put His words and His messages, then they bring and then this is what Job says, "I have not departed." And during that time there was no Bible. I wonder from whom was Job getting the words from the Lord and the commandments of the Lord from. I believe that it was the pattern of God, the messenger. It was the messenger of God who was speaking to Job to say, "Thus says the Lord." He said, **¹²I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured (Job 23:12 NKJV)**. You know something that, that you, Jesus said, "The, the Kingdom of God is like the lost, is like a treasure, is like somebody who has found a treasure." You know, it's like a hidden treasure, that's what He said. It's like a hidden treasure. It's like a lost coin. It's like a

lost, so it's the value that you place; it's the effort that you take in order to be able that you say, "I want to achieve this. I want to get this. I want some of this in my life." He says, **¹²I have treasured the words of His mouth (Job 23:12 NKJV)**. The words of His mouth. Remember that the words of His mouth, saints, is not God speaking out from the clouds. He said to Jeremiah, "You shall be as My mouth to them." It's a human being. You know, God chooses a man, a man just like you and me. Because are they better? Not because they are better. Actually maybe God chooses them because they are worse than everyone else. Because no one should glory in His presence. It is the grace of God. And as Pastor Sharon teaches us to say the power, the powerful, the most powerful human being is a disciple. Not a pastor, not a prophet, not a teacher, not an evangelist. And God does it purposely so that people's heart conditions will be exposed. He chooses a man who is just like you and me, so that the attitude, He doesn't choose Siya Kolisi. You know, everybody will repent when Siya says, "Repent." And people will be like, "Oh, we're going to play rugby, let's repent." He doesn't choose people who are connected. There's nothing wrong with connections, believe me, there's nothing wrong. Especially when you use them for the glory of God. He says, **¹²I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food (Job 23:12 NKJV)**.

Where did you hear that? Man shall not live on bread alone, but out of every word that comes out from the mouth of the Lord. Not the mouth of the Lord calling out and then we don't see, we just hear a voice. But out of the mouth of the Lord that He sent His messengers to people. And then people needed to listen to the messages that John the Baptist was preaching the messages that Jesus was bringing to the people. Excuse me. But we are normally, we find ourselves in a hardened hearts towards the message from the messengers. There's a verse that I want to read, it's in Psalms 119 verse 70. In the Amplified it says, **⁷⁰Their heart is insensitive like fat [their minds are dull and brutal], But I delight in Your law (Psalm 119:70, AMP)**. Now this version, I don't know what version is this, but it says, **⁷⁰Their hearts are hard and callous, but I delight in Your Law (Psalm 119:70 BSB)**. You know, there are many things that cause our hearts to be hard. There are many experiences. There are many things that we go through. There are many things that we seek after. There are many things that cause the heart, the condition of our hearts to be hard. And the first step that we must do in order to accomplish or to fulfil our duty, our assignment to the messages is to check the conditions of our hearts. It is to check whether the condition of our hearts is haughty, is fat, is a fat cat. You know, I was running the Soweto marathon last week and then there were this group, you know, they were, I'm sure people who run they see them. They are called 'Fat Cats'. You know, so like, and now they translate it in Zulu because last year it was not there. Now they say, *ikati eli sdudla*. Amen. Just a fat cat.

So you might find that maybe our hearts are raised, you know, our hearts are pompous, are fat, are insensitive. God speaks, it's as though He has not spoken. We waste our time coming to church, maybe we could have achieved better things at home and make something good, better in your own personal life because God speaks to me and then I come to church and I sit here, then when I go out of here I forget what He said. That's what Paul says, he says, "If what we are preaching, then it's not truth, then let's go and drink, it's better to go and drink because you are wasting our time. But if you are saying, we are coming to hear God, oh God help us."

Because this is what the Bible says; this people's lips, they draw near to me with their lips but their hearts are far from me. Count me in there, Lord.

So you find that it says here that their heart is insensitive like fat, please, please, I am not trying to condemn anyone, I'm not trying to condemn anyone. Their minds are dull and brutal but I delight in your law. You know, there are many things that make us to be desensitized. You know, the type of violence that we see now on TV makes us to be desensitized and you can see it from our young people. I know that I was a very violent man but when I see the young people today, they are at another level. It's because of what people are exposed to and it's because of being familiar, it's because of the tendencies what people, they let go without checking to say, "You know what, I'm not doing what's right here", and correcting it. We need a new vigor towards the messages, we need a new vigor, we need a rejuvenated spirit, we need to be rejuvenated towards the messages.

Now there is a worst kind of state that a person can find themselves in that is beyond a heart that is hardened. I believe that even those four conditions in Mark chapter four, those four conditions that talk about the heart conditions; I believe that everyone goes through them in certain areas of their lives. It's not only specific people with hard hearts, specific people with rocky and thorny places. I believe there are certain messages that you receive with joy and then all of a sudden they just lose their ground and then they are not rooted and it avails nothing. There are certain messages that fall on good ground in your own heart but just imagine what could have happened. There are messages some people, they receive messages of vision, message of vision, like a message about kingdom and vision and they receive it and it falls on good ground, they put their everything and their effort in it and they run with it and you can see the fruit to say; this man is a man of vision. Some people, they receive the message of finances, being prosperous. Some people they receive messages of healing, more than the messages of prosperity, amen. Some people they receive the messages of praying in the Holy Ghost and then they harden themselves in the messages of prosperity, they say, "No, you can tell me everything about it but not with this." We find ourselves in that position sometimes in our lives. But there is a worse state that we can find ourselves where we are literally bankrupt with the fear of the Lord. When we, it is the worse state that a Christian can find herself or himself in a place where there is no fear of the Lord. Hallelujah.

Now I want to go back to Deuteronomy 6 verse 1 and 2, it says here, **¹This is the commandment, the rules**, now Moses is telling the people that this is what God has commanded me. They said that Moses was the most humble man in the entire earth, maybe he did not even have a loud voice, maybe he was soft spoken, you know, I can only imagine. **This is the commandment, these are the rules and regulations that God, your God commanded me to teach you.** And they are like, huh God through you? Amen. So it says, **¹To live out in the land you are about to cross into to possess. ²This is so that you will live in deep reverence before God lifelong (Deuteronomy 6:1-2 MSG).**

Now he gives a reason after that statement to say God wants me to teach you. God wants me to bring messages to you so that the fear of the Lord can come upon your life. Now God, when Pastor John and Pastor Sharon want us to engage in the

message, it's for the benefit of ourself, so that the fear of the Lord can grip our hearts, the fear of the Lord can take hold of us. You know, we can save ourselves so much tragedy just by having the fear of the Lord. As the Bible says; the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. And I like to make this example every time when I speak about the fear of the Lord. I believe that my father taught me the fear of the Lord because every time, I remember this very, very well when we stole wheel-caps, you know wheel-caps, those caps? They are those expensive wheel-caps, not the ones that are for Toyota, Cressida. We stole them this high, you know and then as we were stealing them, then now there were other people who were joining. Now this house, it was quite, they were well off; they owned Taxi's, camels. You know, they owned taxi's so now we went there then we stole these wheel-caps and then there was, you know, kangaroo case court, you know. And then my mom came there and then they came, all of us and it was just a big joke. We were having fun, oh wow and then obviously the people who are role models they see all these youngsters now they are in this thing and the community is like, you guys are cool. My mom just saw that is thing is nonsense and then she just gave me a back one, she grabbed me, then I was bleeding and we went home. Got there and then she left me there and my dad came in late afternoon. She reported the thing, my dad just looked at me, he went to the family there, apologised and to reimburse them their money and so forth. And my dad, at four o'clock in the morning, I thought I was just off the hook, four o'clock in the morning he woke me up, I thought I was dreaming, I felt something, only to find out that it's real life and I saw this man and I was sleeping in the dining room, you know.

So now when we now and those wheel-caps we even sold them to one of my father's friends, you know. So I, anyway, so when we came and then we were there and now myself and my friends, the next door neighbour was the well-known, the guy he was called Guzman, you know the guy from Mexico. This guy was called Guzman and Guzman was saying, "Is this the wheel-cap that you stole?" But I was the only one with pains in my body and all my friends were like this, nobody touched them in their homes, you know? But I tell you today, all my friends, some of them are in jail, some of them are six feet underground, some of them are sick, they don't have direction in their lives. And there's one thing that I saw about this fear of the Lord, you know, teach a child in the ways that he must go and he will not depart, spare the rod, spoil the child, you know. Obviously I did not know it then, I was not that wise. But now as I meditate on this I see to say, parents they have a responsibility to be as God to their children. And now because every time when they said now is time to go, we call it around, you know. There were sides, you know, Western area, you know those places we call them wrong sides because you know a *boereman*, you hit a *boereman*, you steal anything from his house, you are dead. So wrong side, you don't go there, go to the places you can go, you know. But now, this thing, as young people, everyone wants to fit in without calculating the consequences, you know. You just do just because and you not calculating the consequences of your actions. But now whenever it's time, and sometimes I will go to those places and steal with them, whether we rob someone or do whatever, but I will have this fear and in streets they will tell you that you're chicken. No, it's the fear of the Lord because now you are wise; you are calculating the consequences of your actions. You see this thing will bring, because now my parents they taught me that if you do this, this is what you'll get. Amen. So there are so many things that we can

save ourselves from by just having and allowing the fear of the Lord to just take hold of us. Amen.

And the messages that Pastor John and Pastor Sharon are teaching us, the Bible says, let me read it in the Amplified. No, I don't have it, sorry about that. It says here; this is so that you will live in a deep reverence before God lifelong. Why? What does Moses have to do? He has to teach the commandments, the rules, the regulations that God has commanded him and that God has put in his mouth that he must teach the children of Israel so that they can live before God with reverence. So what does it mean when you don't have the fear of God? We must check the level of the fear of God that we have, and if we want to boost that we must check how much we are engaging in the messages.

The fear of the Lord is not a feeling that one has from somewhere out there. No, you cannot have the fear of the Lord by deciding to you say today I'm going to fear God. You have the fear of the Lord by allowing those messages to come into your heart and deal with your heart, and you live according to those messages, and you repent if you are in the wrong, if you went astray. You just have a personal encounter with your God. It's not just an emotion but it comes from the message. The messages help to infuse us with the fear of the Lord. Who wants to be infused with the fear of the Lord? Because the fear of the Lord brings about healing, brings prosperity, brings long life. The only way is to engage in the message.

The more time we give to the messages, something wonderful and precious will consume us and that is the fear of the Lord. Our duty is to take the messages praying, as I've said, the messages cannot become a part of us if we do not take them in prayer. You know that very same highlight, one highlight or one stance of a highlight, one sentence of a highlight; you read it and you pray in the Spirit. God says, "Draw nigh to Me, and I will draw nigh to you." God is honour bound to give you His attention and to give and infuse you with His strength and infuse you with blessing, and empower you to be able to live. Because what you are doing, you are acknowledging and now we are saying, "Lord, I honour Your men of God, I honour Your messages, and I honour You. Now I'm taking these messages, I want them to be part of my life."

Something wonderful, the duty is to take the messages praying, as we do that they become part of us. The spiritual house that God is building; we become part of the spiritual house. They become part of us, they bring change in our lives, they bring victory in our lives. They become in-built within us.

You know, I sometimes have this vision. You know, I reminisce with this. You know, to say after two decades or three decades, or four decades we will be those kinds of people that will just explode with the power and the presence of God. As we continue engaging in these messages. You might not see what's happening in your life, you might think that you are missing something; you might think that Pastor Sharon is talking or Pastor John is talking over your head. No, as you are sitting here you are making an effort. As you are sitting here you are listening to the messages. As you put more effort to engage with the messages, as you put more effort to go to PCG, to make sure to say, "Lord, I want Your fear, I want to engage more." I'm telling you,

there's something that's going to happen. As Pastor Sharon say, "We want, we prepare, He comes." Because we want Him to come. We want Him to be tangible in our midst.

The messages, I've said this, they are like a house. Oh yes, these are the messages, 'We are a house of prayer, a house of faith, a house of praise; Walk in the light; Walking together; Marvels, wonders, and extraordinary manifestations of the greatness of our God.' Just to name a few. All these are part of a bigger picture. Now what I've observed here, I read the book of Ezra. As the first challenges, now there was a plan and a decree that a king, when he set free the children of Israel in Babylon, he decree that the house of God must be built. And now it took the prophet Haggai to talk to people and say they must be strengthened and they must focus on building the house of God because there was much opposition. So I saw the pattern there to say, from time to time even God has put a plan, has purposed something. People will wonder away from that but God will redirect people with the direction of the prophetic word. This prophetic word to say, the year 2019 is part of a bigger picture.

(Oh my goodness, this water, maybe it wants to be part of the bigger picture.) You know, so these messages, these prophetic words, they are not just words to bring about a few cents and a few rand in our lives. They are for us to engage with them to want to be part of them, because God is building nothing but His Word. He's not building an organisation.

I like what one other man of God he said, "The church has organised so well that they organized Jesus out of the church with their organization things." He's building a spiritual house, that's what He wants and the sooner we engage and we put ourselves in engaging with the Word of God, the better for us, the better He can come because He will not come for anything else. He comes for the fulfillment of what He said to Abraham. This is what He said to Abraham, He said; to train his children and future family to observe God's way of life. Live kindly, generously and fairly so that God can complete in Abraham what He has promised Him. Amen.

Now, that is our assignment. We are part of the bigger picture. We need to get the part of them in order to be part of the bigger picture. It is our assignment, you know. How do we now be on assignment with Pastor John? He's on assignment to teach us; we are on assignment to receive the Word. That is our assignment and obviously not to receive only the Word but to live out the Word. And I like the message when he talks about, the message that Pastor Sharon preached about the *Hardworking Farmer*, you know. I wish I could have a release to preach those messages, you know, not to bring such strong messages but the hardworking farmer, the conditions of our heart. God said, plow your hard hearts. Now the very same hard heart, some of it is not of your cause, and some of it is something you can do nothing about. Some of it is that you did not realise that your heart is hard, is fatty, is dull, it cannot hear.

Oh, I have to read this scripture from Luke. Luke 19:42, I don't have it up there. Luke 19:42, **42and said, If only you had known on this day what would bring you peace! But now it is hidden from your eyes. (Luke 19:42 BSB)** That is Jesus. To

say, what is the peace that we are after? If we knew, what is it that will bring us peace, but we thank God that these things that are not hidden from our eyes. The messages I hear, they are given to us, amen.

It says here in John 8:43. It says, **43Why do you not understand what I am saying to you. It is because you are unable to accept My message (John 8:43 BSB).** That is Jesus saying, "Why are you unable to understand what I am saying to you? It is because you are unable to accept My message." What God has given, has put in the mouth of the man that He has chosen. He has commanded to say, "Go say this," then you accept this message. What did it mean there to say, you do not accept it as the message from God? Amen.

Now the heart condition is the one that rejects the Word, is the one that says, "Ah, ah, ah, this is not for me. You're taking it too far." Like Pastor Sharon asked us, "Who does this?" Uhm, ja, you're going to wait for it, you're going to say, "We do." It's okay. But those are the things to say, we are not like everybody else. And we can sometimes feel to say, "Ah, this message is, you are taking them too far." We are not trying to elevate any man. And I cannot stand here and preach something that he had not preached, but all that I'm trying to say to you is to say, yes, everyone has their own part to play and everyone has their own unique challenges. We all have our own unique challenges. But now, as Pastor Sharon, I think it was Pastor John who said what he has learned from these men of faith that he follows, is that they use their faith like a tool. But I want to say and leave this thing with you, to say you can use your praise as a tool. You would not know how to soften and you know sometimes our hearts are partially ploughed; sometimes the heart is ploughed only on top just because to go deeper it takes more effort and more work.

You know, I grew up in the farm place, and I knew we would hire a tractor. Then the tractor will come and the boy with the tractor when it find stones, then he will lift up the plough so that you'll make the furrows shallow. But now we need to go to those places that are rocky and with praise, because you know what, it's not a pleasant thing. You say, "Lord, my heart is hard concerning this part of the message. My heart is dull, I'm unable to hear. I'm hearing that people are saying this, that I must do this, I must engage. My heart is dull. What must I do?" Say, use your praise as a tool. Amen. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

Thank you for bearing with me, and enduring me. I believe you guys are suckers for pain, hey. You just come back and come back again and again. But God bless you and have a lovely week and a prosperous and a victorious week. Amen.