# The NEW CREATION

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### INTRODUCTION

Receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord is not the end but rather the beginning of the Christian life. Christianity is a life that must be lived. Now that you have accepted and received Jesus Christ into your heart, you need to understand who you are in God through his word and the life that you have received so that you can walk accordingly.

This book is written for you to begin your walk as a child of God and I trust that the Spirit of God will guide you into the reality of Christianity as you go through the pages of this book.

Pastor Isaac Kyamufumba

### 1 UNDERSTANDING MAN

Man was created by God therefore only through the light of God's word can we truly understand who man is and the purpose for which he was created. Man is not the body that we see; he is a spirit that has a soul but lives in a physical body. The real man is the spirit man, the body is man's domicile - his dwelling place.

Genesis 1:26-27 says "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

Man was created in the image of God and after God's likeness as we can see in the

above portion of scripture, but the Bible lets us know that God is a Spirit (John 4:24). This automatically means that man is a spirit.

Apostle Paul in his letter to the Thessalonian Church puts an emphasis on this truth when he writes saying, "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:23). It's clear that man is a spirit that has a soul and lives in the physical body.

### The Spirit man

Spirit is from Greek word 'Pneuma' which is the same as wind, that's why when a man's body is cut open, you can't identify the spirit man. He is also called the <u>hidden man of the heart</u> or <u>the inward man</u>.

1 Peter 3:4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward

### man is renewed day by day.

The spirit man is the dimension of man that knows and relates with God. This is the part that deals with the spiritual realm.

### The Soul

The soul is the dimension of man that deals with the mental realm. It's the seat of the mind, will and emotions. This is the part of man that reasons and thinks.

Romans 12:2 says, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Proverbs 23:7 says, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: ...."

The soul is the bridge between the spirit man and the body. Even though a man is born again and his spirit is recreated, his mind has to be continually renewed with the word of God for him to walk in God's ways.

James 1:21 says, "Wherefore lay apart all

filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."

### The Body

2 Corinthians 5:1 says, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The body is the outward man or the dwelling/ the house of man. In Romans Chapter 12 verse 1, we are admonished to present our bodies a living sacrifice. The fact that he calls them our bodies means that we aren't the bodies. Just like a man could be asked to present his documents, that doesn't make the man the documents he presents but rather the owner of the documents. Praise God! We are therefore the custodians of our bodies but we are not those bodies.

However it's important to note that just like the mind has to be renewed, the body must be controlled, it must be brought to subjection and for this cause we are charged in the scriptures not to be body ruled or carnal. To be carnal is to let yourself be dominated by the body senses.

1 Corinthians 9:27 "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

When a man dies, his body is buried but his spirit lives on and he is still as much the human person he was before he died; he hasn't lost anything.

Luke 16:19-31 says, "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son,

remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."

The rich man in the above text still had all his senses intact; he could thirst, see, hear, talk and he could remember everything [his memory was intact]. The only thing the man loses when he dies is the ability to function on earth. The body is the only thing that gives man the right to function on earth. No spirit without a body is allowed to function on earth, that's why demons seek to possess people because they need a body to function on earth. This is the reason as

a child of God, you should take a good care of your body giving it the right diet, adequate rest and exercise because you need it to function in the earth. Praise the Lord! 14 Salvation

## 2 SALVATION

ohn 3:3-7 says, "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

We see from the above portion of scripture that flesh gives birth to flesh and spirit gives birth to spirit; however, we already learnt that God is a Spirit. To be born again therefore is to be born of God, this implies that everyone born again is born of the Spirit. Being Born again is more than just following Jesus Christ and copying

### him, you must have his life!

The question for many is, 'Why do I need to be born again?' Let's answer that this way; God created man primarily for His pleasure, to fellowship with him. As a result man had to be in the same class as God, that's to say a spirit being [John 4:24], So God created man in His image and after His likeness, that is to say, man is of the same nature as God and functions as God [Gen 1:26-27]. However, after man was created and put in the Garden of Eden, he fell after eating the forbidden fruit, so man could no longer fellowship with God.

Genesis 3:1-10 says, "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the

woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

Suddenly the man who was supposed to fellowship with God was now running away from the same God that desired communion with him. After this, man was sent out of the Garden of Eden so that he doesn't eat of the tree of life and live forever in sin because then it would be impossible to redeem him.

Genesis 3:22-23 says, "And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken."

By the disobedience of this one man [Adam], sin came into the world [Romans 5:19]. It was of necessity therefore that the sin of humanity should be taken away, but sin doesn't go away without the shedding of blood.

Hebrews 9:22 says, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

The blood of goats, bulls and sheep, couldn't atone for sins of humanity [Hebrews 10:4] therefore there was a need for a better sacrifice, so God sent His Son who knew no sin and he became sin for the whole world to be saved. Hallelujah!

John 3:16-17 says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Once any man hears the gospel, believes with his heart that Jesus Christ rose from the dead and confesses or declares with his mouth the Lordship of Jesus Christ, that man is born again, he is saved.

Romans 10:8-10 says, "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Once a man is born again, he is a new creation; he is not renewed or reformed but born a new, and he is no longer a part of this world or it's systems but a member of the household of God Almighty. Praise God!

Just in case, you are reading this book and you are not born again yet or you are not sure of your salvation, cease this opportunity and receive Jesus Christ into your heart by praying this prayer aloud and mean it from the bottom of your heart.

### **Prayer of Salvation**

O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord, for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!

Congratulations! You are now born again, you are a child of God! Welcome to God's family.

Kindly contact us and let us know that you received salvation so that we can have an opportunity to help you in your new life of salvation.

God bless you.

### 3 YOU ARE A NEW CREATION

Now that you have given your life to Christ, you have ceased to be what you used to be or where you used to be. You aren't reformed nor renovated nor are you refurbished but a new creation, that is, a new person altogether and a new species of being that never existed before. Glory to God!

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;"

Notice what the above portion of scripture tells us; any man in Christ is a new creature, that's to say a type of being that never existed before. Praise God! On the outside you may still look the same but you are a new person on the

inside, with a new set of values. Hallelujah!

You may have been born for example with a sickness that has been with you for all these years but now that you are in Christ, you must realize that all things are become new. You may even have been told that you were cursed, it doesn't matter anymore because you are in Christ and the old things are passed away, you are now a child of God and therefore a joint-heir with Christ Jesus (Romans 8:16-17) meaning you have inherited a generational blessing - The blessing of Abraham! (1 Peter 3:9) Praise God forevermore!

# 4 YOU HAVE THE LIFE AND NATURE OF GOD

The Bible tells us in John 1:12-13 that "as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." Glory to God! He is talking about you that has accepted Jesus Christ, you received a right to be a son of God. This implies that you are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Hallelujah! You have the life and the very nature of God now.

2 Peter 1:4 says, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

God is now your Father and you are a member of God's household and therefore a citizen of

Heaven where God dwells. You are therefore a partaker of the divine nature and in the same class as God. Praise God! This means you have ceased to live by blood because the nature and life of God-Eternal life, has been imparted to your spirit. Hallelujah!

1 John 5:11-12 says, "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." Praise God! You have Eternal life now because you have the Son of God. Eternal life is the life of God that makes Him who He is; this life makes it impossible for the new man in Christ to be defeated in any situation, it always puts him above, and because of this life it is therefore illegal for you to be sick. Hallelujah!

May be you used to be sickly and in and out of hospital, listen to me my brother or my sister, now that you are born again, you have ceased to live by blood and Oxygen, you have the very life and nature of God, therefore you don't fall sick. Choose to live that way because that's the truth about you.

## 5 YOU ARE DELIVERED

Colossians 1:12-13 says, "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son."

When you got born again, you became a member of God's Kingdom. This means you are out of the dominion or control of demons, you are out of all the covenants you might have entered into knowingly or unknowingly and you are free from every sickness, habit and sin to which you were bound. Praise God!

The lack of the accurate knowledge of the word of God has kept many Christians in bondage to things from which they were delivered long ago. You don't need any deliverance because you were already delivered in Christ Jesus. Walk in your freedom. Hallelujah!

Let us look at it this way, if the first Adam fell to the deception of the devil and hence became a slave of that devil, would God bring in a new creation that's subject to that same devil? That's not possible, No wonder, he calls it a new creation because it's superior to the devil and the negative influences of this world.

Someone once said that Jesus came to restore to us the glory that Adam lost but you must realize that the Bible doesn't say that. We that are born again aren't born after the first Adam who was a living soul but rather after the second Adam - The life giving Spirit. Glory to God!

And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a lifegiving spirit. (1 Corinthians 15:45 NKJV) Do you know what this means? Understand this, a christian is born free! Hallelujah! You are born into freedom, you don't need to be delivered from anything. This is the new glory!

### 6 YOU ARE JUSTIFIED

To be justified means to be declared not guilty or to be declared righteous. Now that you are in Christ, you must realize that in the sight of God you are not guilty of any offence that you committed before you were born again because the blood of Jesus washed it all away. By your faith in Jesus, you were justified. Hallelujah!

Romans 4:25 says "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." Jesus was crucified for the offences of the whole world but He was raised again for our justification. He took the punishment therefore for our sins and we are now at peace with God. Praise God!

This implies that God holds no sin against you, you are now justified before Him. No wonder he says, "Therefore, since we are justified (acquitted,

declared righteous, and given a right standing with God) through faith, let us [grasp the fact that we] have [the peace of reconciliation to hold and to enjoy] peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One)." (Romans 5:1 AMPC) Hallelujah!

Notice that the scripture above says nothing about what you feel, he didn't say we have peace with God if we feel so but rather by faith. You can be challenged by friends that walked with you before your salvation or even by your mind but stick to that which is written about you in God's word; you are the justified of the Lord and you are at peace with God Almighty.

### 7 YOU ARE SANCTIFIED

Sanctification means to be set apart. When you got born again, you were sanctified, that is; set apart from the world unto God. However, that's not enough, you must get the world out of you and that's the purpose of the renewal of the mind with the word of God. When you accept Jesus Christ, your spirit is born again, your soul is saved but your mind can still have the wrong thoughts come to it, therefore it must be renewed. Some people, after giving their lives to Christ imagine that no wrong or bad thoughts will come to their minds again but that's not true.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:2)

The Renewal of the mind is a continuous

process allowing the mind to see things God's way. As a result a man speaks God's words, acts God's way and gets results according to God's word

Sanctification therefore is in two phases;

- i. Get out of the world [Be born again]
- ii. Get the world out of you [Renewing of the mind]

Apostle Paul had a great understanding of who the new man in Christ is and when talking to the Corinthian church, he said, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

Notice he doesn't say, 'such <u>are</u> some of you' but rather, 'such <u>were</u> some of you' and then when he addresses these believers he says,

'..but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord...'

You are sanctified, Hallelujah!

This is where you stand your ground when others begin to persuade you to do things you used to do before you gave your life to Jesus Christ, because you know you are set apart from this world; and by daily applying yourself to the word of God you reframe your thinking process, subduing negative thoughts that come to your mind.

# 8 YOU ARE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

**2** Corinthians 5:21 says, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." Jesus was made sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God. What a blessing! Notice, he doesn't say that 'he was made a sinner' but rather, 'he was made sin'. He is dealing with a nature transplant. Jesus took upon him our nature and he became sin that we might become righteous with his righteousness. Hallelujah!

Righteousness is the nature of God that makes Him right, it's that thing in God that makes Him do right. It's also the rightness of God in a human spirit. Righteousness therefore is different from right living or doing right; <u>Righteousness is a nature</u>, which implies that for a man to do right, he must first of all be

righteous.

When you accepted Jesus Christ, this nature of righteousness was imparted to your spirit, therefore you are righteous now and because of this righteousness, you can stand before God without any sense of guilt, condemnation or inferiority. You can also stand before the devil without any sense of intimidation. Praise God!

However, the man in Christ isn't just righteous, he is the righteousness of God. To be the righteousness of God means to be the expression, the outshining of God's rightness, integrity or righteousness. You are the display of God's righteousness and therefore His righteousness personified. Glory to God! Now you can understand why we don't fail in anything because we are the expression of the rightness of God.

### 9 YOU ARE THE GLORY OF GOD

begotten of the Father, the express image of God and the outshining of God's glory. (Hebrews 1:2-3). However, God wanted to have more sons, so Jesus died so that as many as would believe in Him would be brought into this glorified life. So the Bible says that whatever Jesus did, He wanted to bring more sons to glory (Hebrews 2:10) and those sons are us who have accepted Him. Praise God!

Apostle Paul talking about us said, "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." (Romans 8:29-30). Hallelujah! We are the glorified of the Lord; God's glory

is manifested through us, and we are the revelation of His beauty and greatness because we are His glory.

# YOU HAVE DOMINION IN LIFE

Dominion means rulership, control, authority and mastership. A Christian lives in and by the name of Jesus which name the Bible says is above all names, therefore a Christian is in authority all the time.

Philippians 2:9-11 says "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father".

Matthew 28:18 says, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth".

It's evident from the above portion of scripture that all authority in heaven, in the earth and under the earth is vested in the name of Jesus Christ and by this name we live and operate in this world.

However, it's important to understand that not only do we have the name of Jesus to use and live by, we are also are seated with Christ at the right hand of the Father. The Bible says that Jesus Christ is seated at God's right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come (Ephesians 1:20-21) and this is where we are also seated now having been raised from the dead with Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:5-6 says, "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus"

This is our present position now, we are seated with Christ in the place of authority. Hallelujah!

A Christian therefore has dominion;

## (a) Over the world and Satan

1 John 5:4-5 says, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

Anything that is born of God overcomes the world, this means that Now that you have accepted Jesus Christ, you have overcome this world with its systems, its economies and economics and all its negative influences. You are not a victim but a victor for life. Glory to God!

1 John 4:4 Says, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world". In this portion of scripture, the Apostle was talking about the Anti-Christ spirits and he said to the believers that they had already overcome such spirits because the greater one lived in them.

Now you can clearly understand why in the scriptures, the Lord instructed us never to be

afraid because the one in us is greater than the one in the world. Cheer up always for you are bigger on the inside. Notice, he doesn't say we have overcome them through much praying and fasting but rather because the greater one lives in us. praise God! You are a victor.

Colossians 2:15 AMP says, "[God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross]". This is so exciting to know that the powers against us were disarmed, they are eternally paralysed. Listen, the only way the devil can defeat a child of God is through deceit, he is not a factor in your life therefore keep winning everyday.

### (b) Over life circumstances

Right from the book of Genesis, it's evident that the man God created was created to rule always that's why God gave Adam dominion over everything he had created. Man was never meant to be a victim in this life

Romans 5:17, says "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)" Look at the picture of our lives, we are those that reign in life by Jesus Christ. Refuse to be a victim of sickness, disease or any infirmity. Reject every depression, distress or poverty because you are born a king. Hallelujah!

### (c) Over the flesh and sin

The accurate understanding of the truth of God's word is very vital for everyone of God's children. The teachers of yesteryears taught us that we had three enemies to conquer in this world that is the devil, the world and the flesh.

However, when you give your life to Christ, that can't be your reality. Romans 6:12-14 says, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto

## God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace".

Notice that the scripture says that sin can not have dominion over you; it can't rule you any more because you are under grace - the divine influence reflected on the outside. Praise the Lord!

The flesh on the other hand is basically about your senses and appetites, and the things you desire to do. And the Bible tells us, "...they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. (Galatians 5:24)

He doesn't say that they that belong to Christ are trying to or praying to crucify the flesh with the affections and lusts which means, that someone crying to the Lord to help crucify the flesh is praying the wrong prayer and struggling for nothing.

Don't find yourself in a struggle. If that's the case, stop right away and declare, "From this day, Jesus Christ is the Lord over my mind, appetites and desires; I have overcome the flesh, its passions and appetites; I am Christ-minded." Fill your thoughts with the words of Christ because that's all you need.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AND YOU

After you have come to Christ, the next greatest experience for you is being filled and walking with the Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit to start with is a person and not a thing. He isn't a smoke, a wind or a power but a person that you can relate with, One that the Father has given you to walk with you in this life.

John 14:15-17 (AMPC) says, "If you [really] love Me, you will keep (obey) My commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever-- The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you."

Jesus talking to His disciples about this wonderful person of the Holy Spirit helped them understand that He was a person and not a force. He called Him another comforter, this meant that while Jesus was with them, He was their comforter but now that He was going away, they couldn't stay as orphans, He was going to send them another comforter who was exactly like Himself.

This therefore means that the Holy Spirit isn't a dove, because He is exactly like Jesus and Jesus wasn't a dove. Jesus wasn't a smoke nor was he a wind therefore the Holy Spirit is none of those. He is a person with whom we can actually relate. Praise God! Jesus then gave us the outline of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives in that same scripture; He called Him our comforter, counselor, helper, intercessor, advocate, strengthener and standby. Glory to God!

# THE LOCAL ASSEMBLY AND YOU

The church of Jesus Christ has two aspects, the general aspect which is the whole body of Christ to which all the believers of Jesus Christ belong, and the Local assembly that comprises of particular Christians under a particular minister that God has appointed for their sake.

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:" (Ephesians 4:11-13)

Notice that from the above portion of scripture we learn that God gave some Apostles, some prophets.., what does this mean? These are ministry gifts; they are men that are gifts, so what he is saying is that to a particular congregation, the Lord gave an Apostle whereas to another He gave an evangelist or prophet or pastor or the teacher but all have the same purpose which is, to perfect the saints for the work of the ministry.

God is interested in your spiritual growth and this is the reason He has anointed and sent you a Pastor in the local assembly who should bring you God's word and the ministry of the Holy Spirit for your upbringing in spiritual things. In the local assembly, we have the opportunity to learn by sitting consistently under the ministry of a particular man of God, take part in ministry by applying that which we are taught and also give to God our offerings through that set man.

This is where many Christians miss out, they live like vagabonds belonging to no particular congregation and hence missing out on not only the fellowship with fellow saints but also the ministry of a Pastor. Take advantage of this by being a member of a local assembly.

For more information about the ministry and materials by Pastor Isaac Kyamufumba, please contact:

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