

n this second month, we have an opportunity to re-focus our core priorities. The decision we take this month may determine what happens to us for the rest of the year and beyond. 'Kingdom' or the 'king's domain' begs the question--whose king's domain do we prioritize-ours or God's?.

The new year prayer summits in our continent and others last month focused on our Kingdom assignment as kings and priests in this world as reign and rule with the Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings, who is mighty in all the battles of life. He taught us to pray and focus on God's expectations from us to bring heaven to our domains--family, work, community and nation. (Mt. 5.9, 6.9-10, 33). Heaven has three prominent attributes: the Presence of God; Peace-meaning the absence of conflict but also of shalom or comprehensive wellness--(body soul and spirit for all inhabitants). These first two attributes result in a third one--Prosperity or the absence of lack resulting in joy for all who live in His kingdom (Ps. 23.1, 1 Tim 2: 1-4, Rom. 14.17). Lucifer challenged this order once and was promptly dismissed from heaven. (Rev.12.7-11).

After cleansing us from our sins, the Lord Jesus appointed us to reign as kings and priests in this world. Furthermore He secured for His followers the seven gates of our societies and nations. These are the gates of power (governance), riches (economy), wisdom (education), strength (family), honor (media), glory (entertainment), and blessing (religion). Unfortunately, many of God's people are ignorant of this high/ double calling by Christ to build God's kingdom of 3Ps--His Presence, Peace and Prosperity in our world. No where is this more grievous than in the political arena, the first of the seven gates (Ecc. 10: 7, Mt. 28.18-20, Rev.5.10,12).

For instance, this month, the one year old Russia -Ukraine war worsens and is fast becoming World War III. Nations are taking sides and sending weapons leading to further escalation. Also we have crucial elections in some strategic nations this month where wrong decisions might aggravate religious and ethnic tensions and poverty. Our Lord calls us to be peace makers. Unfortunately, many

of us Christians are asleep, unconcerned or focus on our personal interests. The Lord calls us to work for and pray for peace in our nations. This means we promote justice and pray for rulers who work for the 3 Ps whether we are rulers or citizens (2 Sam. 23.3-4, Jer.29.7,1 Tim2:1-4). One way to do this is by becoming active in the political process. Politics is the authoritative allocation of values. Once we opt out of it we leave the key decisions to the wicked who would only bring grief and darkness to all. (Pro.29.2, Rev. 5.12).

Many European nations were once in darkness but God's people worked with like minded others to bring light into the dark recesses of the continent--abolishing slavery, eliminating corruption and creating social safety nets for all. Unfortunately, God's people have gone to sleep today even in these nations. We need to wake up. Other countries in the world boast of millions of who claim to know God but most of these have excluded themselves from the political processes in their nations and communities and this is regrettable. The few that do are oppressed and humiliated because politics is a game of numbers. The more God's people can engage in this process the easier it would be to bring God's light into our communities, cities, nations and continents.

The Lord Jesus commanded us to 'occupy' till He returns (Lk 19.13). This means we use all legitimate means to bring light into darkness as salt and light till He returns. It requires political activism at the grassroots and promoting charitable acts that bless all peoples, irrespective of their religion, race, tribe or nationality. We would need double-portion anointing of kings and priests like King David and the Lord Himself. We would need to carry the divine fire to rule and reign in both secular and spiritual realms (Ps.104.4, Mt.3.11). It a month to seek therefore to seek the double anointing that destroys all yokes in all realms.

Welcome to the month of Kingdom Alignment.

Dele Olowu February 1, 2023