

**Pursue  
Overtake  
Recover All**

**A New Dawn**

# Pursue overtake and recover all - A New Dawn

**The New Dawn of Pursuing, Overtaking and Recovering All**

The Four Old Testament Women in The Genealogy of Christ

*This compilation is not a book, nor an edited piece, it is a compilation of my personal devotional time either in the morning or during my afternoon meditations. I am praying that you will find the compilation a blessing regardless of the typing and grammatical errors.*

## **Study 1: 1 Samuel 30**

4<sup>th</sup> December 2022

As MLR approaches this year, I am taking time to prepare myself ahead of time for what God will do with me.

The 2022 MLR comes to us from 1 Samuel 30. I intend to glean for myself and look at this considering what the Lord told me: "It is a new dawn."

I shall look at other Bible references as I understand God's mind deeper.

### **The invasion**

The need to pursue, overtake and recover all came to be as David and his men returned from following King Achish and his soldiers to fight against Saul and the Israelites.

David having been rejected by the soldiers of Achish, returned to his base at Ziklag and met that there was an invasion; the camp they left had been invaded by the Amalekites.

Many lives, homes, families, churches and nations have indeed been invaded by the Amalekites. Many returned to their homes to meet great surprises. I remember over eleven years now when I returned home from sister Nkem's bridal shower to meet my husband invaded by stroke, he was in the ambulance gasping and struggling for his life, it was a sudden invasion indeed, an unexpected one.

Could it be that the Amalekite have been on the lookout for David's camp, or did they come to raid by accident or by chance? Could my husband's stroke have happened abruptly or were we not mindful or we were ignorant of the state of his health?

The Amalekite invasion brought about a crushing, a smitten, or an attack of Ziklag, and burnt it or destroyed it with fire. I see that the invasion of an enemy comes with wastage. Imagine the burning down of Ziklag, that means resources were wasted.

### **Women were taken into captivity**

This is another effect of invasion. When someone is invaded by an enemy, the likelihood of loss is high. So, in this scripture, the women were taken into captivity. And indeed, are women not taken into captivity? Many women, and even women in the church are taken into captivity. The minds of many women are captivated by their past experiences; what was done or undone to them. Women are in church but lack a deeper knowledge of God's Word. Women usually fall prey to false preachers. Many have emptied their purses for ministries, and many have spent their bodies for so-called men of God. The captivity of the women folks in the church is massive and such that seems unsurmountable.

Women are doing prayer meetings and engaged with so many spiritual activities, but they are captives of unforgiveness, bitterness and the various works of the flesh. Womanhood in the church is in captivity. The rate of worldliness in the church is as equal as it is in the world. Competition, seeking the latest fashion and beauty products is encouraged and sometimes advertised in some of our churches. Modesty is lacking amongst the women in the church. We are raising our daughters with no sense of value. Womanhood is in captivity.

This invasion that came into the church has greatly affected the women in the church, meanwhile, the spirituality of a church can be well measured by the spirituality of the women in that local church. Proverbs 14:1 says the wise woman builds her house, but how can we build when we are taken into captivity? No wonder marriages are failing, and divorce is rising right in the church.

So, I see God saying, "There is hope for recovering the female folk in the church so that they can recover other women outside the church. Therefore, as I have recovered you, you need to arise and pursue women." I must be specific as to what to pursue, I am pursuing women to recover them back to the Lord.

Titus 2:2-4 seems to me as an injunction to recover women. The older woman, who in this case is the woman already recovered by the Lord is to now teach the younger women.

I see that recovering women will involve teaching them and helping them to renew their minds through the Word. God's Word is the most sufficient instrument needed in the recovery of women's life back to God's original plan for womanhood.

I am hopeful that the Word shall recover women just as the Word of God recovered me.

Psalm 68:11: The Lord is announcing His word of recovering, and I am going to be part of throngs of women who published this good news to other women.

The women taken into captivity in this 1 Samuel 30 were not killed, they were taken away. They were exploited. But as long as there is life within a woman, there is hope of recovery. Be it the woman that is in the captivity of prostitution, trafficking and any other form of captivity. While there's life, there's hope for recovering women.

### **Prayer:**

Lord, thank You for making Your mind clear to me as to this Rehoboth. Help me Lord to be amongst the armies You will be sending forth to pursue, overtake and recover the women in captivity.

Connect me, equip me and make me part of Your rescuing team. Amen.

5/12/22

### **Wives, sons, and daughters were taken into captivity.**

Apart from the women that were taken captives which would have included single women, now I am seeing another set of people that were taken into captivity. I see the invasion of family relationships. The enemy laid his hands on families and took wives, sons and daughters away.

Therefore, as we pursue, overtake and recover all, I am seeing another thing to pursue for recovery; it is family relationships. Daughter son relationship is affected, and so are mother-son relationships and mother-daughter relationships.

The enemy has made its way into Christian homes and has taken captive children that were raised in the church, children that were christened in church and raised in Christian homes.

Sons that bore Christian names are now locked up in alcohol, drugs and various addictions. Some are in prison for a crime committed or carried away by gangs, such is the pathetic story of family life.

Did I need to speak of children that are taken into the captivity of immorality right under their parent's roof? Some are sexually abused in their homes; some are watching filthy things on the internet. The enemy has infiltrated family life and has taken many sons and daughters into captivity. But I see God bringing hope to me. He is showing me the specifics to pursue.

Family life needs to be recovered back for the Lord. Wives in the family who are meant to be the gatekeepers have been taken into captivity. Children are growing up in homes without the presence of mothers.

Wives are no longer there to stand in the gap for the Biblical upbringing of their sons and daughters.

Some men though are married, they live as though they have no wives because such wives have been taken into captivity, some party all weekend, some overwork, and some wives are home, but the media has taken them into captivity; though they are present, they are actually absent in terms of impacting those in their homes as the wife or mother. They spend most of their time on social media, movies and films. Lord, have mercy!

The submission expected of wives to their husbands is mostly missing in many Christian homes, we have been taken into captivity in our minds that submission is oppression.

I see God coming to say I am recruiting those who will not only pursue women but also pursue the recovery of godly family life as sons, daughters and wives are recovered.

Ps 68: 6 says that God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity...

I am thinking of the boys that are being used by drug barons, or boys used by kidnappers, are these not sons of a mother and a father? God wants to set free.

### Prayer

Lord, enlist me amongst Your recovery team into families. Let my own family be an epitome of godliness so that I can stand upon Your faithfulness to point others to Your recovery power.

Amen

6/12/22

## **Wives of leaders were taken captive**

This invasion was such that affected the highs and the lows, the poor and the rich, the learned and the unlearned. I must not look away from the rescue of wives of leaders. Look at wives of church leaders, are they not promoting unrighteousness in the congregation? This invasion was such that took the wives of leaders into captivity.

God is saying to me, part of recovery must be targeted towards wives of leaders. Many of these women are in bondage, and as such they must be part of those that I have in mind to pursue, overtake and recover.

I am thankful to God for the burden to reach ministry Wives, this is not to gather a crowd or to make a name that I have a work amongst leaders, no, I am seeing that it is God's rescue mission for wives in ministry. They may be well seated in church, but if you get closer to them, they are in captivity. Some are in chronic depression, struggling and battling their husband in competition. Some feel unfulfilled and would prefer to seek fulfilment elsewhere if possible.

Therefore, this recovery must not elude wives of leaders, as the enemy is not a respecter of persons, he captures whoever he lays his hands on. Abinoam and Abigail were both taken into captivity though the wives of the leader.

Think of leaders of women's ministries, what are they doing with women? There may be many women's meetings and activities, but the lives of women are not helped because those seeking to lead them are themselves held in captivity. And how can the blind lead the blind? They will all fall into the ditch. Strike the shepherd and the sheep shall be scattered. Keep women leaders in captivity, and those under them remain captive too. For me, this is why reaching one ministry Wife is effective, if she is helped, she can help the women under her.

I see God say I sought for a man amongst them. May I be His vessel amongst ministry Wives rescuing and recovering them for the Lord. Amen.

## **How to respond to captivity or invasion**

### **1. Weeping, a natural response to captivity**

*The men of David wept till they had no more power to weep.*

The natural response to invasion is weeping. We must surely raise a cry to heaven for all the invasions that I am seeing all around. The men of David wept when they got to their camp and met it in ruin. It was a surprise, disappointing and unplanned. They wept till they had no power to weep. For me, my weeping must be such that reaches heaven. I must not weep out of hopelessness but cry to God as the widow in Luke 18 cried to the unjust judge. God hears the cry of those in pain. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

The weeping God is speaking about is such that agonised for those in captivity. Jesus wept for Lazarus who was in the captivity of death. This weeping is to me a personal identification with all those who are held in captivity, and a compassionate cry to the Lord to step in.

This weeping must not be a weeping in the flesh, it must be a cry that is led by the Spirit. Romans 8:26, And such that weep for recovery shall surely return with the harvest. Psalm 126:6

## **Prayer**

Lord, give me the grace to weep for the lives taken into captivity.

Help me that this weeping will not be out of self-pity, rather it will be a deep groaning for the release and recovery of all who are held in captivity. Amen.

**07/12/2022**

### **2. Distress, a natural response to invasion or captivity.**

When David saw the magnitude of what was on the ground, and the response of his men was not encouraging also, he felt distressed. He was greatly distressed; the Bible says because the people spoke of stoning him. I see the challenge of being a leader when there is an invasion and lives are taken in captivity. It becomes harder when the people you are leading are a source of discouragement to you. I see that as one that is being led when there is an invasion, my re-

sponse must not add to the sorrow of the one leading, my response should be part of the solution and encouragement to the leader.

Being overwhelmed with the state of things on the ground can incapacitate a leader, therefore, I must not allow myself to be overwhelmed for long with the reality of what is on the ground.

Invasion and taking into captivity usually come with distress unless we will not be honest. The possibility to hear any bad news or see lives in captivity and be distressed is high.

David as the leader of these troops was distressed by the state of the things on ground. He was responsible for his own family members that were taken into captivity, and so was he responsible for the other people that were taken away by the Amalekite.

What a need to pray for leaders of ministries, church leaders, leaders of homes and institutions, for they are at the forefront of the reality of the invasion.

### **3. Encouraging oneself in the Lord, a godly response to invasion or captivity**

Amid the discouragement that came upon David because the soul of all the people was grieved for his sons and his daughters, and the thought of stoning David, and how he might feel to be alone at such a time, the Bible says, *“but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.”*

This is a key attitude for me if I will pursue, overtake and recover all. I cannot afford to depend on people’s encouragement, men will change, but God is the only constant. The end of the encouragement of men is the beginning of the encouragement that is in the Lord. Therefore, I must learn how to encourage myself in the Lord as I seek recovery. What are the ways to encourage myself? I can listen to the audio Bible, and listen to specific messages, particularly the ones that are relevant to the invasion or captivity. These options will help even in moments when things look so overwhelming. My chief source of encouragement is the Word of God. I must study it, read it, memorise it and meditate on it as I pursue recovery.

### **4. Inquiring of the Lord, a sure response to captivity.**

David though distressed with the state of things on the ground, he encouraged himself in the Lord. He probably ruminated on the faithfulness of God to him in time gone by. And therefore, he arose to enquire at the LORD.

I see the beauty of getting encouragement from the Lord, it directs your heart to know that solution is from Him and Him alone.

David having received this inspiration, saw the next step in recovering all that was lost to the Amalekite. He said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son to bring him the ephod. And Abiathar having brought thither the ephod to David, David enquired at the LORD, whether he

should pursue and if he will recover, and God told him to pursue, and that without any fail, he will surely recover all.

A few things stood out to me again. Though David asked Abiatha to bring him the ephod, he did not ask Abiathar to enquire for him, David made that personal enquiry from the Lord. The pursuit of recovery requires that I have a more personal relationship with the Lord. I must be able to enter the holy place by the blood of the Lamb and receive grace in my time of need.

I cannot afford to depend on congregational prayers or people praying for me, but I must learn to seek God and hear Him personally.

**N.B:** Two key elements needed in this Rehoboth is the need to talk to God and He talks back to me. I must be able to hear Him. My personal relationship with God must not be replaced with anything else.

**08/12/2022**

### **Pursue, God's direction on how to recover all**

David having heard from the Lord that he should pursue, he indeed arose and pursued. He arose not out of his own wisdom or zeal, but at the word of the Lord. The state of things no longer wearies him or discouraged him, he received the courage to pursue the invaders who are now the captors of all that David and his men left behind.

I had a dream overnight in which I went to Aldi and a few shops or so and wanted to buy things, but unfortunately, I could not buy them. Despite the good things that I saw and the good bargain, I could not purchase them because I could not find my backpack that contains my purse. I looked and searched all over but could not find it. And I gave up. But I later saw myself somewhere around Nike my friend, and there on the ground was my backpack, and I picked it up and quickly checked if my purse was there, and indeed it was there. I was incredibly happy to recover my bag.

The recovery of that bag was effortless. I had sought it with many efforts, and it was when I thought I will not find it that I actually found it.

### **Prayer**

Lord thank You as You direct my step to recover all I may have lost. I am excited about what You want to do in this season. Amen. Psalm 126

09/12/2022

In David's pursuit of recovery, he found an Egyptian. If he had not pursued, he may not have seen the Egyptian. The God who said to him to pursue has gone ahead of him and directed his feet to meet the Egyptian.

In my pursuit of recovery, I must know that God will bring me across some so to say Egyptians. I need sensitivity to know when to stop and converse.

It is noteworthy that David found this Egyptian in the field. As I set out to pursue, I know God will lead me to Egyptians in the field of women, wives, daughters and sons. There are Egyptians needed in various vocational fields.

For these Egyptians, I must not ignore their personal needs, just as David attended to the need of this Egyptian by giving him food to eat.

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023

### **Invaders spread abroad upon all the earth**

*And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. 1 Samuel 30:16*

The Egyptian man having been fed took David and his men to the Amalekites who raided and carted away their people. And verse 16 noted that they were spread abroad upon all the earth. I want to take this with literary meaning. The invaders are spread all over the world. And is this not true? We have our nursery schools, primary schools, universities, and even homes invaded by wickedness. Every sector of societal life has a volume of invasion.

The pursuit to overtake must be concentrated on every aspect of societal life.

### **David smote them**

*And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled. 1 Samuel 30:17*

David now in the camp of the invaders took charge, and he smote them. He wrought mightily amongst them. I see the need to prepare Davids, and to also be a David who goes forth to smite. These may be nurses working in our hospitals, teachers teaching in the classrooms, and lecturers in higher institutions. If I am going to see a smiting of the Amalekites that has invaded our society, I must prepare Davids who are taught how to use the sword.

### **David recovered all**

*And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives. And nothing was lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: David recovered all. 1 Samuel 30:18-19*

David having pursued, overtook, and smote, here I see the fulfilment of what God told him which was the premise of his pursuit. God told him he will recover all, and indeed he recov-

ered all for his men and himself.

### **David's attitude to the faint-hearted**

*And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that were with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.*

*22 Then answered all the wicked men and men of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them ought of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead them away, and depart. Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand. For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.*

The men who went to the camp of the Amalekite felt that the spoilt must not be shared with those who fainted in the pursuit of what they lost, but David rejected such an idea. When these faint-hearted brothers came near to David, he saluted them, in a nutshell, he greeted them, he did not snub them nor reprimand them. This is the heart of a leader that will do well in this enlargement. I must be willing to take cognisance of the weakness of my brethren and must not prey on them nor ignore them because of their lack of contribution. I must offer the same hand of fellowship to each person.

### **David shared gifts abroad**

*And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying, Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD; To them which were in Bethel, and to them which were in south Ramoth, and to them which were in Jattir, And to them which were in Aroer, and to them which were in Siphmoth, and to them which were in Eshtemoa, And to them which were in Rachal, and to them which were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them which were in the cities of the Kenites, And to them which were in Hormah, and to them which were in Chorashan, and to them which were in Athach, And to them which were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt. 1 Samuel 30:26-31*

Just as David shared gifts all over, so must I share gifts all over. I must see all domination in the light of Christ. I must be ready to allow my sisters to help with other congregations or ministries.

The grace God has given me must be shared abroad; I must be willing to contribute to the ministry of a fellow sister. Whatever the Lord has endowed me with in this enlargement is to be shared with those who might benefit from it.

## **Part 2**

### **The Four Old Testament Women in The New Dawn**

*The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar;*

*and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias. Matthew 1:1-6*

Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba; these four women were from the Old Testament part of the Bible, but after over four hundred years of silence, heaven broke out in the New Testament as He brought forth a new dawn in the pursuit of mankind and overtaking the enemy of God who had turned the hearts of men against their Maker.

God found for Himself women and men listed in the genealogy of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amongst these men were five women, and four of these women were Old Testament women, but heaven gave them the privilege to be mentioned in His New Dawn. They played a unique part in God's Rehoboth at their time.

