



# THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

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gcbo.com.ng



## SUNDAY SERMON

**Pastor A.S.O Olaleye**

**18th December, 2022**

### Topic: The covenant of new beginning

*Text: Genesis 17:1-7*

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.

Genesis 17:2 And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly."

Genesis 17:3 Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying:

Genesis 17:4 "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.

Genesis 17:6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

Genesis 17:7 And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.

The two things to examine in the theme are covenant and new beginning.

What is covenant?

Covenant is a written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action.

What is God's covenant?

Within the gospel, a covenant means a sacred agreement or mutual promise between God and a person, a family, group of people or nation.

In making a covenant, God promises blessings for obedience to particular commandments.

He sets the terms of His covenants, and He reveals these terms to His prophets.

What is the biblical meaning of new beginning?

It means that you have some issues in your life that are unpleasant but God has promised to do something new.

In other words, God is set to replace sorrow with joy.

New beginnings means that you are allowing yourself to accept changes that might bring good things to you.



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New beginnings means that you are capable of knowing where you lacked in the past and using those example of failures to create a success ladder for your future.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

What is the purpose of new beginning?

In order to embrace the new beginning, the new season, the fresh start in God; God is asking that we let go of some things from our past season(s).

The reason for this is that He wants us walking into the new without hindrance, limitation or baggage.

Ways to have a new beginning:

As Christians, we desire a closer relationship with God. When you ask some christians the reason why they don't come to church or why they are lacking behind in the church? They will say; it because of the situations of the country.

I do tell them that, because of that situations that you need to be more closer to God.

1. Love the Lord Jesus

Deuteronomy 6:5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

Deuteronomy 6:7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

H.A. Ironside - "If you would learn to appreciate Christ more, read this book [the Bible], frequently and prayerfully."

To show that you love Jesus you must have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. And our love and appreciation for Him is from our knowing Him and what He has done for us.

The more we know Him by reading His Word, the more we love Him.

As you start this new year by asking the Lord to renew our love for Him and to give us a deep longing for Him in His Word so that we wouldn't be satisfied until we find Him, see Him, and touch Him in His Word.



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### 2. Spend time with Him

Isaiah 1:18 "Please come, and let's reason together," implores the LORD. "Even though your sins are like scarlet, they'll be white like snow. Though they're like crimson, they'll become like wool.

James 4:8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

We simply need to spend time with the One we love. There is no substitute for quality time spent alone with Him, free from distractions, especially early in the morning.

By spending time with Him first, before we get involved with the affairs of our day, we'll experience Him as the refreshing dew in our fellowship with Him.

It's only by taking time to be with Him that we'll know Christ, grow in our relationship with Him, and grow in His life.

### 3. Feed on Him in the Word

W.H. Griffith Thomas-

"The 'good food' is...the food of the Word of God, for as food builds up the tissues of the body, repairs waste, and preserves us in health, so the Word of God is the complete food of the soul."

The Bible is our spiritual food. In Jeremiah 15:16 the prophet said, "Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart;

For I am called by Your name,

O Lord God of hosts.

We must daily come to the Word hungry to taste and enjoy God, to eat and drink Him, and to be nourished and satisfied by Him.

Feeding on His Word in this way imparts His life into us. If we don't have an appetite for God in the Word, we can simply ask Him to give us one.

### 4. You need to Make Sacrifice.

The Meaning of Sacrifice:

Sacrifice means giving to the Lord whatever He requires of our time, our material possessions, and our energies to further His work.

Sacrifice is what brings temporary pains and agonies but brings everlasting joy and comfort.



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Genesis 22:1 Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!"

And he said, "Here I am."

Genesis 22:2 Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Genesis 22:3 So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

When we get to verse 15 downward, the Bible says,

Genesis 22:15 Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,

Genesis 22:16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—

Genesis 22:17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

Genesis 22:18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

The Lord commanded, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness" (Matthew 6:33).

Our willingness to sacrifice is an indication of our devotion to God.