

MY GOD HAS GONE AHEAD OF ME

THIS IS YOUR RADIO FRIEND, PASTOR AMARA UWAEZIOZI, BRINGING YOU: **“HEALING WORDS FROM THE MASTER”**, A RADIO PROGRAM OF THE MASTER’S VESSEL MINISTRY WHOSE AIM IS TO LET YOU KNOW THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND GOD’S UNSEARCHABLE RICHES AVAILABLE TO YOU.

Beloved friends, may I on behalf of my family and the entire body of The Master’s Vessel Ministry welcome you into this New Year of 2019. We give thanks to GOD who in HIS love kept us throughout the year 2018 and showed us HIS grace. We’re not better than the dead – but it is all by HIS grace. Being alive goes with responsibilities. I pray that we shall fulfill the reason why GOD has brought us into this New Year.

Let me announce to you that our Daily Bible Reading Manual called The Master’s Daily Word is available at The Headquarter of our Ministry, 73 Azikiwe Road Umuahia. You will do well to collect your own.

Secondly, our Spiritual Journey will commence on 7th January and end on 27th January. Join us in this year’s Spiritual Journey, and you will not regret it.

Our topic today is a word which the LORD gave me in the course of waiting for HIM. So I will be speaking on GOD has gone ahead of you.

GOD HAS GONE AHEAD OF YOU

If you personalize it we can say, My GOD has gone ahead of Me. We shall take our reading from Isaiah 45:1-7.

Isaiah 45:1-7

¹ *“Thus says the LORD to His anointed,
To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—
To subdue nations before him
And loose the armor of kings,
To open before him the double doors,
So that the gates will not be shut:*

² *'I will go before you
And make the crooked places straight;
I will break in pieces the gates of bronze
And cut the bars of iron.*

³ *I will give you the treasures of darkness
And hidden riches of secret places,
That you may know that I, the LORD,
Who call you by your name,
Am the God of Israel.*

⁴ *For Jacob My servant's sake,
And Israel My elect,
I have even called you by your name;
I have named you, though you have not known Me.*

⁵ *I am the LORD, and there is no other;
There is no God besides Me.
I will gird you, though you have not known Me,*

⁶ *That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting
That there is none besides Me.*

I am the LORD, and there is no other;

⁷ *I form the light and create darkness,
I make peace and create calamity;
I, the LORD, do all these things.'*

Let us pray.

PRAYER

Almighty FATHER IN heaven, I give YOU all praises, honor and glory for bringing us into a New Year. Inspire my listeners by YOUR Word. Give hope to the hopeless; show love to the weak; save those who are in need of salvation; deliver those who are bound by the chains of the enemy. Let yokes be broken...in the Name of JESUS CHRIST. AMEN!

MY GOD HAS GONE AHEAD OF ME is our topic. Does it sound unbelievable? Not at all! There is nothing GOD cannot do. In protocol procedure, before the subject comes, advanced parties go to see that everything is set. They check security and the route of approach, then the subject comes with his entourage. But in this case, GOD says, "I have gone ahead of you."

What happens when GOD has gone ahead of you? The context of our passage is that GOD would raise a Cyrus and make him HIS shepherd. As HIS shepherd he will perform all GOD's pleasures. In chapter 44:28 GOD describes HIMSELF as The Redeemer,

Isaiah 44:28

*Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd,
And he shall perform all My pleasure,
Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built,"
And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."*

This GOD we serve is a great GOD. It is GOD that said to the Red Sea, *be dry, and I will dry up your rivers*. What a great GOD we serve. HE confirms the words of HIS savants and performs the counsel of HIS messengers; WHO says to Jerusalem, *you will be inhabited*; and to the cities of Judah, *You will be built: I will raise up its decayed places*. That's our GOD who we worship.

So if HE says HE has gone ahead of us why should we doubt HIM? For me it is good news. GOD said to Cyrus, *you are my anointed*. I have problem with this: a heathen king – who does not know GOD becoming his anointed? Of course no person does anything for GOD by flesh. No person prevails by the strength of the flesh. To carry out divine assignments one requires to be anointed. Hence it is not by power or might, but by HIS Spirit.

Why would Cyrus be anointed? So that he can subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings in order to open before him the double gates, and the gates will not be shut.

2019 is a New Season. The Year 2019 is a New Season; GOD has gone ahead of us. Nations will be subdued. The armor of kings will be loosed, and the double gates will be opened – and never be shut again.

Five things the LORD said HE will do for us! This is the reason why HE has gone ahead of us. By the way this promise is not new in the scriptures. Deuteronomy 31:6-8 (take note of verse 8 as we read).

Deuteronomy 31:6-8, and I want to read the specific promise, because what we are reading is not new. It's been there; GOD has made these promises and has been keeping them, and HE cannot change now.

Hear the word of The LORD:

Deuteronomy 31:6-8

⁶ Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

[Did you hear that? In this New Year, said The LORD your GOD, HE is the One Who goes with you. HE will not leave you nor forsake you.]

⁷ Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it.

[verse 8 is special]

-- *⁸ And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you.*

[Did you hear that? That's why HE said HE has gone ahead of us]

⁸ And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."

Let us return to the five agenda of GOD in going ahead of us. The agenda of GOD in going ahead of us:

1. By going before us The LORD becomes our Divine Leader. Divine Guide.

We must do well this year to submit completely not partially – we must totally submit to HIS leadership. This will ensure both success and excellent result. That’s the first thing. We must allow GOD to be our Divine Leader and our Divine Guard – so that we submit to HIM completely, not partially: so that HE will lead us throughout the year.

2. It says there, *HE will make crooked places straight.*
Our GOD has gone ahead of us to make crooked places straight. We’re living in such a time where crookedness is reigning. But as The LORD Who has gone ahead of us crooked places will be made straight for HIS people.
In the world, activities are crooked; relationships are crooked; life itself in the world is crooked. Only GOD can make things straight. We can afford to trust HIM because HE has gone ahead of us.
3. HE says HE will break in pieces the gates of bronze.
This implies the removal of obstacle and hindrances. We can afford to trust our GOD Who has gone ahead of us to remove all obstacles and hindrances on our way in this New Year.
4. He said HE will cut the bars of iron.
HE will cut the bars of iron. Iron bars are stronger. No matter the magnitude of such obstacles GOD has power to remove them. I see GOD cutting the bars of iron preventing your spiritual and social growth this year...in the Mighty Name of JESUS CHRIST. AMEN!
5. GOD says HE will give us treasures hidden in darkness and secret riches.
It’s only GOD that teaches our hands to make wealth. We can trust HIM. Haven gone ahead of us this year, HE will give us the treasures hidden in darkness and secret riches. We can afford to trust HIM.

With these promises, friends, a responsibility has come upon us. And the realization of this promise squarely is upon us.

What are we required to do?

- i. Prepare your heart to seek GOD and forge intimate relationship with HIM.
Prepare your heart to seek GOD this year and forge intimate relationship with HIM. Develop your relationship with GOD as never before. Increase in the level of intimate relationship with HIM to ensure that HIS promises will come to pass.
- ii. Develop your spiritual sight.

You need to develop your spiritual sight, because if you can see it you can have it. But seeing is not in the physical but in the spiritual. You need to see GOD bigger than your problems and acknowledge that HE has gone ahead of you to take care of these problems. Do not see problems bigger than GOD. GOD can do far more exceedingly greatly than you can think or conceive in your heart. Develop your spiritual sight! That's the second thing we need to do as a responsibility.

iii. Devour the Word of GOD.

Devour as caterpillar devours the leaves of plants devour the Word of GOD. Faith comes by hearing and hearing the Word of GOD. As you continue to study and read the Word of God, your faith will grow. Faith is the currency for buying in the kingdom of GOD. And if GOD says I've gone ahead of you HE requires us to exercise faith in order to have these things HE will do for us realized.

I want to leave you with these three things you need to do:

- Prepare your heart to seek GOD.
- Develop your spiritual sight.
- Devour the Word of GOD.

PRAYER

May your life be filled with testimonies this year...in the Name of JESUS. Let the crooked way be made straight in your life and family...in the Name of JESUS CHRIST. AMEN! O GOD, break in pieces the gates of bronze which the enemy has shut YOUR people out of their inheritance...in the Name of JESUS CHRIST. All the bars of iron which constitute obstacles and hindrances, may The LORD who has gone ahead of you cut them down...in JESUS Mighty Name.

This year, you will know that JEHOVAH is GOD; and there is no other god besides HIM.

Once again, Happy New Year to you. And keep in touch with me for more powerful messages that will impact on your life.

I remain your friend Pastor Amara Uwaeziozi. AMEN!