



SHEPHERDING

*A Spirit-Led
Governance*

Dedication

*This book is dedicated to the **Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ**, the One who called, appointed, and anointed me for His purpose. It is by His grace and the leading of the **Holy Spirit** that I have been entrusted with this revelation. May every word within these pages bring glory to His name and equip His people for **Spirit-led governance** in His Kingdom.*

*To those who have labored in the faith before me—the **Apostles, Prophets, Shepherds, and Saints of old**—your obedience has paved the way for many to walk in the truth. May we continue in the foundation you have laid, standing firm in **the doctrine of Christ and the apostolic faith**.*

*To the **true shepherds**—those who lead not for personal gain but for the love of God’s people—may this book serve as a guide, a reminder, and a call to greater responsibility. May you govern with wisdom, lead with humility, and shepherd with the heart of Christ.*

*To **every reader** who desires to walk in the fullness of their calling, may this book ignite in you a **holy passion** for righteousness, a renewed understanding of divine governance, and a heart to serve with the authority and compassion of the Good Shepherd.*

*And finally, to **the Body of Christ**, whom He has redeemed with His own blood—this is for you. May you be strengthened, established, and made ready for the work of the ministry, until the day of His glorious return.*

Soli Deo Gloria—To God Alone Be the Glory.

PREFACE

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

— Ephesians 4:11-12

The call to **shepherd God's people is not a profession—it is a divine mandate.** It is not driven by ambition, but by **a sacred trust from the Lord Himself.** Many have misunderstood shepherding as **a soft role of nurturing,** but in its **truest and most biblical form, it is an apostolic assignment—a governance of the Spirit.**

This book, *Apostolic Shepherding – A Spirit-Led Governance*, is written to **redefine the role of shepherding in its apostolic nature,** returning to the **original blueprint** that Christ intended for His Church. The Lord did not establish **isolated ministries** but rather a **unified, Spirit-led governance** where His shepherds operate with the **fullness of apostolic authority, wisdom, and discernment.**

The modern Church has seen an increase in **hierarchical structures, administrative leadership, and institutionalized Christianity,** which in many ways have drifted from the Spirit-led governance of the early Church. The Apostles did not lead with titles, but with **unction, power, and divine order.** They were shepherds not just in word, but in **authority, sacrifice, and servanthood.**

This book is a revelation that I have **lived, experienced, and received from the Lord**. It is not merely doctrinal, but deeply practical—**calling every shepherd, leader, and disciple into true apostolic governance**.

May this book **equip, awaken, and establish** a generation of **shepherds after God's own heart**, leading not by personal ambition, but by **the Spirit of God**.

The Author

INTRODUCTION

"Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

— 1 Peter 5:2-3

Why This Book?

The Church today is in a critical transition. The shepherds of God's people are no longer merely **caretakers of congregations** but must rise into their **apostolic function**—governing, equipping, and preparing the saints for **the return of Christ**.

The early Church was built **on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets (Ephesians 2:20)**, but in modern times, the structure has shifted. Many pastors and leaders today function **in isolation**, leading ministries as **institutional CEOs rather than Spirit-led shepherds**. This book serves as a **course correction**, calling the **Church back to its apostolic foundation**.

What Is Apostolic Shepherding?

Apostolic Shepherding is **not a new concept**—it is **the original pattern of governance established in the New Testament Church**. It is a **Spirit-led leadership model** where shepherds do not simply **feed the flock** but **govern in the Spirit, equip the saints, and steward the mysteries of God**.

It is a leadership that is:

- **Led by the Holy Spirit, not institutional systems.**
- **Rooted in divine revelation, not just academic theology.**
- **Focused on equipping and sending, not just gathering and retaining.**
- **Governed by Kingdom authority, not human structures.**

The Core Themes of This Book

This book is divided into **key revelations** that will help shepherds, leaders, and believers **embrace their apostolic function**. It will cover:

- **The true nature of shepherding as an apostolic assignment.**
- **The Spirit-led governance that the early Church operated in.**
- **How to equip the saints rather than merely build congregations.**
- **The dangers of institutionalized leadership in the Church today.**
- **Restoring the balance of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.**

Who Is This Book For?

- **Shepherds and Leaders** who desire to lead **by the Spirit rather than by tradition.**
- **Apostles and Prophets** seeking a clear understanding of their role in governing the Body of Christ.
- **Believers hungry for a deeper understanding of their Kingdom calling.**

- **Churches longing to transition into a more Spirit-led, apostolic structure.**

A Call to the Shepherds

The Lord is **restoring His order in the Church**. The **apostolic shepherds** must arise—not as **lords over the flock**, but as **governing stewards in the Spirit**. This is the season to **move from maintenance to movement, from congregation-building to Kingdom-governing**.

If you are ready to step into **the fullness of Spirit-led shepherding**, this book is for you.

May **the Lord anoint, equip, and awaken** every shepherd reading these words.

The Author

Episode 1

Called Yet Crushed – The Trials of a True Leader

Introduction

Throughout Scripture, those whom God calls into leadership often experience **deep trials, rejection, and crushing** before they step into the fullness of their assignment. **Apostolic shepherding is not about status or recognition—it is about surrender, suffering, and obedience.**

From **Prophet Jeremiah**, we learn the burden of carrying a prophetic voice amidst rejection. From **Apostle Paul**, we see the cost of establishing the Church while enduring relentless opposition. From **Jesus Christ**, we behold the ultimate sacrifice—God Himself walking the path of suffering to redeem mankind.

In this episode, we will uncover how **true apostolic leaders are first crushed before they are commissioned**, and why suffering is a **divine prerequisite** for governing God's people.

**Jeremiah: The Prophet Who Was Chosen
Before Birth Yet Rejected by Men**

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations." – Jeremiah 1:5

Jeremiah was **ordained before birth**, yet his calling came with immense suffering. **Why?** Because prophetic and apostolic leadership requires **breaking before building**.

The Crushing of Jeremiah

- **Rejected by his own people** – *Jeremiah 11:21*
- **Persecuted and imprisoned** – *Jeremiah 37:15-16*
- **Placed in a cistern to die** – *Jeremiah 38:6*
- **Lived in loneliness due to his calling** – *Jeremiah 16:2*

God **did not** remove Jeremiah from suffering. Instead, He **sustained him through it**. The crushing produced a **purified vessel, an unshakable messenger of God's will**.

Lesson for Apostolic Shepherds:

- A true calling is not about **ease but endurance**.
- **Rejection and suffering** are proof that you are carrying something divine.
- Those called to **govern spiritually** must first be tested **in their own suffering**.

**Paul: The Apostle Who Was Given a Throne
Yet Thrust into Thorns**

*"For I will show him how many things he must suffer for
My name's sake." – Acts 9:16*

Paul was a **chosen apostle**, yet his calling began with suffering. His crushing was not a coincidence—it was part of his **spiritual training for governance in the Church.**

The Crushing of Paul

- **Blinded after his encounter with Christ** – *Acts 9:8-9*
- **Beaten, stoned, and left for dead** – *Acts 14:19*
- **Shipwrecked, imprisoned, and persecuted** – *2 Corinthians 11:23-28*
- **Given a thorn in the flesh** – *2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

Paul's **apostolic authority** was not in his title but in his scars. Every crushing prepared him for **stronger governance, deeper wisdom, and greater spiritual impact.**

Lesson for Apostolic Shepherds:

- **The higher the calling, the deeper the crushing.**
- **Apostolic governance requires spiritual endurance.**
- **Power in leadership comes through tested faith.**

**Jesus Christ: The Ultimate Shepherd Who
Was Rejected Before He Reign**

"He was despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." – Isaiah 53:3

Jesus Christ is the ultimate model of **apostolic shepherding**. Before He **ascended in glory**, He **descended into suffering**. Before He was **crowned as King**, He was **pierced as a Lamb**.

The Crushing of Jesus

- **Rejected by His own people** – *John 1:11*
- **Betrayed by one of His disciples** – *Luke 22:48*
- **Falsely accused and condemned** – *Matthew 26:59-61*
- **Beaten, mocked, and crucified** – *Luke 23:33-34*

Yet, through **His suffering**, Jesus established **the greatest governance in history—the Kingdom of God**.

Lesson for Apostolic Shepherds:

- The **greatest leaders are the greatest servants** (*Matthew 20:26-28*).
- Leadership in God's Kingdom is **not about position but about sacrifice**.
- Every crushing is preparation for **greater spiritual authority**.

Conclusion: The Crushing Prepares the Commission

Every apostolic leader—whether **Jeremiah, Paul, or Jesus**—was **first crushed before being commissioned**.

If you are called to **apostolic governance and shepherding**, do not fear the crushing. It is **not a sign of God's absence, but His preparation**.

For **those willing to be broken**, God entrusts **His highest authority**.

Reflection Questions for Apostolic Leaders:

1. Have I embraced **the cost of my calling**, or am I resisting the crushing?
2. Am I **willing to endure suffering** for the sake of Christ's Church?
3. What areas of my life is God **breaking so He can build something greater**?

The crushing is not the end—it is the **beginning of true governance**.

Next Episode: The Weight of a Shepherd – Why True Leaders Suffer

- The burden of governing God's people
- How to endure rejection and still lead
- The spiritual warfare of **apostolic shepherding**

Episode 2

The Weight of a Shepherd – Why True Leaders Suffer

Introduction

Apostolic shepherding is not **glorious in the eyes of men**—it is **burdensome, painful, and filled with rejection**. Those who are called to **lead God's people** often carry **a weight that others do not understand**.

From **Jeremiah**, we learn the agony of speaking God's truth in a rebellious generation.

From **Paul**, we see the pressure of leading a scattered Church under attack.

From **Jesus Christ**, we behold the crushing burden of carrying the sins of the world.

Why do **true leaders suffer**? Because governing God's people is **not about control—it is about sacrifice**. The weight of a shepherd is the **burden of the Cross**, and only those who are willing to **carry it** can be entrusted with **divine governance**.

1. The Weight of the Prophetic Shepherd – Jeremiah's Burden

"O Lord, You induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and have prevailed. I am in derision daily; everyone mocks me." – Jeremiah 20:7

Jeremiah **never sought leadership**, yet he carried **the heaviest burden of his time**—warning Israel of its downfall. His suffering was not because he **sinned** but because **he carried the truth**.

The Burden of Jeremiah's Calling

- **Rejected by his own people** (*Jeremiah 11:21*)
- **Cursed the day he was born due to his suffering** (*Jeremiah 20:14-18*)
- **Imprisoned and left for dead for prophesying truth** (*Jeremiah 38:6*)
- **Wept over the sins of the nation** (*Jeremiah 9:1*)

Lessons for Apostolic Shepherds

- **True leadership means standing alone** when others reject the truth.
 - **The burden of leadership is not the title, but the responsibility to speak God's will.**
 - Apostolic shepherds must **carry the weight of intercession, even for a rebellious people.**
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2. The Burden of Apostolic Governance – Paul's Suffering for the Church

"Besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches." – 2 Corinthians 11:28

Paul's burden was not **his personal struggles** alone—it was the **spiritual weight of governing multiple churches**. He suffered because he was **the pillar of doctrinal truth** in an age of deception.

The Weight of Paul's Apostolic Leadership

- **Faced betrayal & opposition from false brethren** (2 Timothy 4:14-16)
- **Endured beatings, shipwrecks, and hunger** (2 Corinthians 11:23-27)
- **Felt the emotional burden of weak churches** (2 Corinthians 11:29)
- **Was imprisoned for the Gospel** (Acts 28:30-31)

Paul **governed through suffering**. His weight was not just **external persecution**—it was the **internal pain of watching the Church struggle**.

Lessons for Apostolic Shepherds

- **Apostolic governance requires endurance** through betrayals and attacks.
 - The **weight of leadership is spiritual, emotional, and physical**.
- **True leaders suffer the most because they love the most.**

3. The Burden of the Good Shepherd – Jesus Christ's Ultimate Weight

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep." – John 10:11

Jesus did not carry a **political throne**—He carried a **wooden Cross**. His burden was **not just rejection** but the **sins of humanity**. He suffered **not for Himself** but **for those He came to save**.

The Ultimate Weight Jesus Carried

- **Falsely accused and sentenced to death**
(*Matthew 26:59-61*)
- **Betrayed by His own disciple** (*Luke 22:47-48*)
- **Abandoned by His followers in His moment of suffering** (*Matthew 26:56*)
- **Carried the weight of the sins of the world**
(*Isaiah 53:4-6*)

Jesus' burden was **not just physical pain**—it was **spiritual agony**. He took the **ultimate weight of leadership**—dying so others could live.

Lessons for Apostolic Shepherds

- **Spiritual leadership means sacrificing oneself for others.**
- The weight of shepherding **is heavier than any earthly title.**
- **True leaders do not live for themselves—they live for the people they serve.**

4. Why Does God Allow His Leaders to Carry This Weight?

1. **Because Governance Without Suffering Leads to Pride**
 - God allows **suffering** to refine His leaders.
 - **Without pain, leaders become self-glorifying rulers instead of servants.**
2. **Because Only the Broken Can Lead with Compassion**
 - A shepherd who has **not been broken cannot care for broken people.**
 - The suffering of Jeremiah, Paul, and Jesus **taught them deep compassion.**
3. **Because Apostolic Shepherding Is About Service, Not Status**
 - True leadership is **not about control but about carrying the burdens of others.**
 - The more responsibility given, **the heavier the spiritual weight.**

Conclusion: Carrying the Weight with Christ

Jeremiah **wept** but remained faithful.
Paul **suffered** but never stopped preaching.
Jesus **died** but rose in victory.

If you feel the **burden of leadership**, know this: **you are not carrying it alone.**

*"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest." – Matthew 11:28*

Jesus, the **ultimate apostolic shepherd**, teaches us that
we **carry the weight—but He carries us.**

Reflection Questions for Apostolic Leaders

1. Am I **willing to carry the weight of leadership**, or am I seeking comfort?
 2. Do I truly understand that **apostolic governance is a burden, not a position?**
 3. How can I lead like Christ, suffering for the **sake of the Church?**
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Next Episode: Establishing Divine Order – Governance in God's Kingdom

- How **Jeremiah, Paul, and Jesus** established divine governance
- The **principles of spiritual leadership**
- **Tactical and administrative skillsets** for governing the people of God

Episode 3

Establishing Divine Order – Governance in God’s Kingdom

Introduction

Every kingdom requires **governance, structure, and leadership** to function effectively. Without divine order, even God's people can fall into confusion, rebellion, and destruction. **Apostolic shepherding is not just about spiritual guidance but also about establishing governance in the Church and among God’s people.**

From **Jeremiah**, we learn how prophets are called to **warn, correct, and restore divine order** when a nation goes astray.

From **Paul**, we see how apostles **set foundations, structure leadership, and defend doctrinal purity** in the Church.

From **Jesus Christ**, we understand that **true governance is not political power but Kingdom authority, ruled by servanthood and divine wisdom.**

This episode explores how these three figures established divine order, providing a **model for spiritual and administrative governance** in the Church today.

Jeremiah: Governance Through Prophetic Authority

"See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant." – Jeremiah 1:10

Jeremiah was more than a prophet—he was a **divine governor** sent to bring God's order to a rebellious nation. His role involved **tearing down the corrupt systems of Israel and restoring the people to righteousness.**

How Jeremiah Established Divine Order

- **Confronting corrupt leadership** – *Jeremiah 23:1-2*
- **Rebuking false prophets who misled the people** – *Jeremiah 14:14-16*
- **Warning of national destruction due to disobedience** – *Jeremiah 6:10-19*
- **Restoring Israel to covenant relationship with God** – *Jeremiah 31:33*

Jeremiah's Model for Apostolic Governance

1. **Expose corruption** – Apostolic leaders must cleanse the Church of falsehood.
2. **Call the people back to holiness** – Governance must be built on righteousness.
3. **Build after breaking** – Reformation must follow correction.

Lessons for Apostolic Shepherds

- **True apostolic governance requires boldness** to expose and correct sin.
 - **Leaders must tear down false structures** before they can build lasting ones.
 - **Divine order is established through prophetic obedience, not human strategy.**
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Paul: Governance Through Apostolic Structure

"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." – 1 Corinthians 3:11

Paul was not just a missionary—he was a **Kingdom strategist**. He established churches, structured leadership, corrected errors, and ensured that **doctrinal purity was maintained across the body of Christ**.

How Paul Established Divine Order in the Church

- **Appointing and structuring church leadership** – *Titus 1:5*
- **Correcting errors and enforcing discipline** – *1 Corinthians 5:1-5*
- **Defending sound doctrine against false teachings** – *Galatians 1:8-9*
- **Training leaders for long-term governance** – *2 Timothy 2:2*

Paul's Apostolic Governance Model

1. **Appoint the right leaders** – Spiritual oversight requires delegated authority (*1 Timothy 3:1-7*).
2. **Discipline and correct** – Without discipline, churches fall into error (*2 Corinthians 13:10*).
3. **Teach sound doctrine** – Doctrinal purity must be defended at all costs (*1 Timothy 4:16*).

Lessons for Apostolic Shepherds

- **Governance in the Church must have structure, leadership, and accountability.**
 - **Apostolic leaders must correct errors boldly** to protect the body of Christ.
 - **A Church without structure will collapse under deception and disorder.**
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Jesus Christ: Governance Through Servant Kingship

"For the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." – Isaiah 9:6

Jesus Christ **established the greatest Kingdom in history**—yet He did so through servanthood. Unlike earthly rulers, He governed by **submission to the Father and by raising others into leadership.**

How Jesus Established Divine Governance

- **Teaching the principles of the Kingdom** – *Matthew 5-7 (Sermon on the Mount)*
- **Training and sending leaders** – *Luke 6:12-13*

- **Balancing authority with humility** – *John 13:3-5 (Washing the disciples' feet)*
- **Demonstrating governance through servanthood** – *Mark 10:45*

Jesus' Model for Apostolic Governance

1. **Teach Kingdom principles** – Governance is not worldly power but spiritual truth.
2. **Train and empower others** – Leaders must build successors, not followers.
3. **Govern through servanthood** – The highest leaders are those who serve the most.

Lessons for Apostolic Shepherds

- **Apostolic governance is about empowering, not controlling.**
- **The greatest leadership is found in humility, not dominance.**
- **True governance produces successors who continue the work.**

The Balance Between Spiritual Leadership and Administration

Many leaders either **focus too much on spiritual leadership and neglect structure**, or they **focus too much on administration and neglect the Spirit**. Apostolic shepherding requires **both dimensions**.

Spiritual Leadership vs. Administrative Governance

Aspect	Spiritual Leadership	Administrative Governance
Focus	Hearing and obeying God	Structuring and managing people
Example	Jeremiah's prophetic role	Paul's church structuring
Key Function	Teaching, discipling, leading spiritually	Appointing, correcting, governing practically
Jesus' Model	Teaching Kingdom principles	Training apostles for global mission

The Balance for Today's Apostolic Shepherds

1. **Govern by the Spirit, not by human strategy.**
2. **Establish structure but allow the Holy Spirit to move.**
3. **Train leaders to ensure divine governance continues.**

Conclusion: Establishing Divine Order in the Church

Jeremiah **corrected** a rebellious nation.
Paul **structured and governed** the Church.
Jesus Christ **established** the eternal Kingdom of God.

Apostolic governance is **not about controlling people—it is about leading them into divine order.**

"Let all things be done decently and in order." – 1 Corinthians 14:40

Reflection Questions for Apostolic Leaders

1. **Am I governing by the Spirit, or by human wisdom?**
 2. **Do I have both spiritual depth and administrative structure in my leadership?**
 3. **How can I establish divine order in my area of ministry?**
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Next Episode: Apostolic Authority vs. Human Power – Who Really Rules?

- The difference between divine authority and human leadership
- Why apostles and prophets clash with political and religious rulers
- How Jesus, Paul, and Jeremiah handled authority in governance

Episode 4

Apostolic Authority vs. Human Power – Who Really Rules?

Introduction

True apostolic authority does not come from men but from God. It is neither a title granted by human institutions nor a position won through political influence. It is a divine commission that carries the weight of heaven's governance. However, throughout history, apostolic leaders have found themselves in direct opposition to earthly rulers, religious establishments, and political systems that seek to govern through human power.

Jeremiah stood against corrupt kings and false prophets who rejected divine instruction, yet his words carried more authority than those who sat on earthly thrones. Paul confronted both religious and political opposition, yet his apostolic letters still govern the Church today. Jesus Christ, the King of kings, was sentenced to death by human rulers, yet His Kingdom remains eternal. This episode explores the difference between divine authority and human power, revealing why true apostolic shepherds must remain steadfast in their calling, even when faced with opposition.

Jeremiah: A Prophet Who Stood Against Kings

"Thus says the Lord: 'Execute judgment and righteousness, and deliver the plundered out of the hand of the oppressor. Do no wrong and do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, or the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place. But if you will not heed these words, I swear by Myself,' says the Lord, 'that this house shall become a desolation.'" – Jeremiah 22:3,5

Jeremiah was neither a king nor a priest, yet his authority outranked both. He was a lone prophet carrying a divine mandate in a time when the kings of Judah had abandoned righteousness. While earthly rulers surrounded themselves with advisors, military strength, and wealth, Jeremiah stood with nothing but the Word of the Lord. Yet, it was his words that determined the fate of the nation, not the decrees of those in power.

His defiance of human authority brought intense persecution. He rebuked King Jehoiakim for his greed and injustice, warning that his palace would be reduced to ruins. He stood against the false prophets who comforted the people with lies when judgment was at the door. He was accused of treason, beaten, and thrown into prison for speaking what God had commanded. When he refused to be silenced, he was cast into a cistern and left to die in the mud. Still, Jeremiah did not waver, for he understood that his authority did not come from the approval of men but from the throne of God.

Key Lesson: Apostolic authority will always be tested through opposition. Those who govern by

**divine command must be willing to stand firm,
even when earthly rulers reject them.**

Paul: An Apostle Who Defied Religious and Political Systems

*"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God?
Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to
please man, I would not be a servant of Christ." –
Galatians 1:10*

Paul's apostleship was questioned from the beginning. Unlike the twelve who walked with Jesus, Paul received his commission through direct revelation from Christ. His authority was not conferred by human hands but by divine appointment. Yet, his greatest struggles came from those who held positions of power within religious and political institutions.

The Jewish leaders rejected him, viewing him as a traitor for preaching Christ. The Roman authorities imprisoned him, seeing his influence as a threat to stability. False apostles arose within the Church itself, seeking to undermine his teachings. He was beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, and betrayed, yet he never abandoned his apostolic mission. Paul's authority was not measured by the absence of opposition but by his endurance through it.

Despite his suffering, his letters carried weight greater than any earthly decree. Long after Roman governors and Jewish high priests had passed away, Paul's writings continued to govern the Church. His epistles corrected,

instructed, and established doctrine that remains the foundation of Christian faith today.

Key Lesson: True apostolic authority does not seek approval from men. It stands firm in obedience to God, even when it faces resistance from religious and political powers.

Jesus Christ: The Ultimate Confrontation Between Two Kingdoms

"Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.'" – John 18:36

Jesus Christ, the highest example of apostolic shepherding, demonstrated that divine authority does not operate like human power. While earthly kings build their rule through armies, wealth, and laws, Jesus established His Kingdom through submission to the Father. His authority was unlike anything the world had seen, yet it was perceived as a threat to the existing systems of power.

The religious leaders feared Him because He exposed their hypocrisy. The Roman governor struggled to judge Him, realizing that His authority did not come from political maneuvering but from something higher. Though He could have called down twelve legions of angels, He chose the path of suffering, knowing that true authority is not proven through force but through obedience.

When Jesus stood before Pilate, it was not Pilate who held power—it was Christ. The earthly ruler sat on a throne, yet he trembled in fear. Jesus, bound and beaten, was in complete control, for He understood that the power of men was temporary, but the Kingdom of God would last forever.

Key Lesson: Apostolic authority does not seek to control through force but to establish divine order through obedience to God’s will.

The Difference Between Apostolic Authority and Human Power

There is an eternal contrast between the authority given by God and the power granted by men. One is built on righteousness and submission to divine will; the other is built on control and self-preservation. Those who govern through apostolic authority understand that their calling is not about ruling over people but about bringing God’s order to the earth.

Aspect	Apostolic Authority	Human Power
Source	Given by God	Given by men
Function	To serve and build	To control and dominate
Example	Jeremiah, Paul, Jesus	Kings, religious rulers, governments
Longevity	Eternal	Temporary
Result	Brings divine order and transformation	Leads to corruption and destruction

The battle between divine authority and human power has existed throughout history. Kings and rulers have risen and fallen, but those who were truly sent by God have left an eternal mark on His Kingdom.

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders do not govern to seek power but to bring divine order. They understand that their authority is eternal, while human power is temporary.

Conclusion: Who Really Rules?

Jeremiah was thrown into a cistern by a king, yet his words came to pass. Paul was imprisoned by earthly rulers, yet his writings govern the Church today. Jesus Christ was sentenced to death by human authorities, yet He reigns as King of kings.

Apostolic authority is not about controlling people but about aligning with God's will. Those who are sent by Him may face rejection from men, but their governance carries eternal weight.

"For the Lord is our Judge, the Lord is our Lawgiver, the Lord is our King; He will save us." – Isaiah 33:22

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I seeking **man's approval or God's authority?**
- Do I govern through **human power or through divine obedience?**

- How can I lead with truth, even in the face of opposition?

Next Episode: Spiritual Leadership vs. Administrative Leadership

- The difference between leading by the Spirit and managing by human systems
- How Jeremiah, Paul, and Jesus balanced both dimensions
- Why today's Church must embrace both spiritual authority and structured governance

Episode 5

Spiritual Leadership vs. Administrative Leadership

Introduction

The Church today faces a **growing crisis in leadership**. Some leaders are deeply **spiritual but lack order**, resulting in disorganization, mismanagement, and doctrinal instability. Others are **highly administrative but lack the Spirit**, leading to rigid institutions that operate more like corporations than the living body of Christ.

In modern times, **many churches struggle with this imbalance**. Some focus so much on **spiritual experiences** that they neglect proper **discipleship, accountability, and governance**. Others have become so **structured and formalized** that they function more like organizations than Spirit-led communities. The result is either **chaos or religious stagnation**.

The balance between **spiritual leadership and administrative leadership** is not just a church issue—it affects **nations, businesses, and families**. Even in **government and society**, we see leaders who either rule with **strict policies but no compassion** or those who promote **vision without structure, leading to confusion**.

This episode explores how **Jeremiah, Paul, and Jesus Christ** modeled both **spiritual depth and administrative wisdom**, showing us how **apostolic shepherds must operate today**.

Jeremiah: The Burden of Leading Spiritually and Administratively

"Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant.'" – Jeremiah 1:9-10

Jeremiah was first called **as a prophet**, but his role went far beyond giving messages. He had to **rebuke corrupt leadership, manage the people's rebellion, and guide a nation in crisis**. His authority was **both spiritual and administrative**—he was God's voice to the rulers of his time, but he also had to **act as a reformer, a mediator, and a defender of righteousness**.

His spiritual burden was **heavy**. He wept for the people, interceded on their behalf, and pleaded with God to spare them. But he also had **the weight of governance**—proclaiming judgments, correcting kings, and ensuring that falsehood was exposed. This tension **broke him at times**. He wished he had never been born, yet he **could not escape his calling**.

Relevance to Today

Many spiritual leaders today experience **this same burden.**

- **Pastors and church leaders** feel the deep pain of seeing **sin, rebellion, and deception** in their congregations.
- **Apostolic leaders** must correct errors, remove false teachings, and **restore divine order.**
- **Government and political leaders** often struggle between **making righteous decisions** and **managing people's resistance.**

Like Jeremiah, modern leaders must **stand firm** despite opposition. True governance **requires both prophetic boldness and administrative wisdom** to **tear down the corrupt and build up the righteous.**

Key Lesson: A spiritual leader must also carry the weight of governance. Prophetic insight without administration leads to disorder, while administration without the Spirit leads to legalism.

Paul: The Apostle Who Balanced Spiritual Oversight and Church Governance

"For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you." – Titus 1:5

Paul's leadership was deeply **spiritual and revelatory**—he had visions, was caught up into the third heaven, and wrote **profound mysteries of the**

Kingdom. But he was also one of the **greatest administrators in church history.** He did not just **preach and prophesy—he established church structure, appointed leaders, and set governing principles.**

His letters reveal how he **corrected disorderly churches, established church discipline, handled financial issues, and trained new leaders.** He rebuked the **chaos in the Corinthian church,** reminding them that **spiritual gifts must operate within divine order.**

He instructed Timothy on **choosing bishops and deacons,** showing that leadership requires **both calling and character.**

Relevance to Today

Many churches today either **lack spiritual depth or suffer from poor administration.**

- Some churches focus **only on spiritual gifts,** yet have **no accountability, financial stewardship, or leadership structure.**
- Others are **so structured** that they have lost **the flow of the Holy Spirit, turning into religious institutions.**
- Many ministries are started by **visionary leaders** who fail to **develop proper governance, leading to collapse.**

Paul shows us that **a thriving Church requires both spiritual fire and structured governance.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders must be able to move in deep spiritual revelation while

also maintaining structure and discipline in the Church.

Jesus Christ: The Ultimate Model of Spiritual and Administrative Leadership

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." – Ephesians 4:11-12

Jesus was not just a spiritual leader—He was **a master strategist and Kingdom administrator**. He preached the Kingdom, cast out demons, healed the sick, and performed miracles, yet He also **structured His disciples into leadership roles, trained them in governance, and ensured that His mission would continue beyond His time on earth.**

He did not simply teach and move on—He **built a government**. He selected **twelve apostles** as the foundation of His Church. He trained **seventy disciples** to spread His message. He appointed **leaders to carry out His mission, equipping them with wisdom and instruction**. His governance was not **earthly, but Kingdom-based**, ensuring that divine order would remain even after His ascension.

Relevance to Today

The Church today needs leaders who can **discern spiritual movements while also structuring sustainable governance.**

- Ministries **collapse when there is no strategy for succession and leadership development.**
- Churches fall into **legalism when governance replaces the Spirit's leading.**
- The modern world has **governmental systems,** but without **righteous leadership,** they lead to **oppression.**

Jesus shows us that **effective leadership is not about control—it is about empowerment and structure.**

Key Lesson: True apostolic shepherding involves both spiritual power and strategic leadership. A leader must move in the Spirit but also establish structures that sustain God's work.

Conclusion: Walking in Both Realms of Leadership

Jeremiah carried **prophetic fire** but also had to lead **reform.**

Paul moved in **supernatural revelation** but also **structured the Church.**

Jesus Christ **demonstrated ultimate governance through servanthood and divine strategy.**

Today's apostolic leaders must **govern under divine authority while establishing practical order.** This ensures that the Church remains **spiritually powerful**

**and structurally sound, advancing the Kingdom
without compromise.**

*"Let all things be done decently and in order." – 1
Corinthians 14:40*

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I walking in both **spiritual depth and administrative wisdom**?
 - Do I focus too much on **spiritual experiences without structure**?
 - Do I focus too much on **administration without the leading of the Spirit**?
 - How can I better **balance these two aspects** in my leadership?
-

Next Episode: Training & Raising Leaders – The Fathering Model

- The role of apostolic shepherds in training the next generation
- How Jeremiah, Paul, and Jesus raised and equipped future leaders
- Why fathering in leadership is essential for Kingdom expansion.

Episode 6

Training & Raising Leaders – The Fathering Model

Introduction

One of the greatest failures of leadership today is the lack of **fathering in ministry**. Many leaders focus on **building organizations rather than building people**. They accumulate followers but fail to **train successors**. Without proper discipleship, churches become spiritually weak, and ministries die when their leaders pass away.

In contrast, the Bible presents a **fathering model of leadership**. True apostolic shepherds do not just govern—they **equip and raise others to continue the work**. They are **spiritual fathers** who invest in people, train them in truth, and release them into their God-given calling.

Jeremiah instructed and mentored a younger generation, preparing them for God's purposes.

Paul raised Timothy, Titus, and others, ensuring that the Church had strong leadership after him.

Jesus trained His disciples with the mindset that they would carry on His mission after His ascension.

This episode explores the **fathering role of apostolic shepherds** and why raising leaders is a **critical mandate for today's Church**.

Jeremiah: The Prophet Who Raised the Next Generation

"And I brought you into a bountiful country, to eat its fruit and its goodness. But when you entered, you defiled My land and made My heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?' And those who handle the law did not know Me; the rulers also transgressed against Me." – Jeremiah 2:7-8

Jeremiah ministered in a time when Israel's **spiritual leaders had abandoned God**. The priests no longer sought the Lord, and the rulers had turned to corruption. He understood that if **true leaders were not trained, the nation would continue in rebellion**.

Throughout his prophetic ministry, Jeremiah took on the **responsibility of training and raising a faithful remnant**. Though he was rejected by kings and religious leaders, he did not stop speaking into the lives of those who were **hungry for the truth**. One of his notable spiritual sons was **Baruch, the scribe who recorded Jeremiah's prophecies** and carried on his legacy.

Modern-Day Relevance

Today's spiritual climate mirrors Jeremiah's time. Many churches are filled with **leaders who do not seek the Lord, false teachers who mislead people, and systems**

that have abandoned biblical truth. If the Church does not raise a **new generation of strong, Spirit-led leaders, the cycle of corruption and spiritual decline will continue.**

Many pastors and ministers today **burn out** because they carry all responsibilities themselves. They do not **train others** to lead, teach, or govern, which creates **spiritual stagnation.** Just as Jeremiah trained **faithful men despite opposition,** today's apostolic leaders must **invest in those who are willing to learn.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic shepherds must raise and mentor future leaders, or else corruption and deception will continue in the Church.

Paul: A Spiritual Father to Many Sons

"For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me." – 1 Corinthians 4:15-16

Paul was **not just an apostle—he was a spiritual father.** He did not only plant churches; he **trained leaders to govern them.** He raised Timothy, Titus, and others who **continued his apostolic work.** His letters to them were **not just instructions but fatherly guidance.**

Paul's leadership was **not based on control but on empowerment.** He **trained, corrected, and encouraged** those under him. He taught them how to **handle church conflicts, appoint leaders, defend**

doctrine, and manage people. His goal was not to keep them dependent on him but to **equip them for their own ministry.**

Modern-Day Relevance

In today's world, many churches **focus on building membership rather than discipleship.** The modern church system often revolves around **a single leader,** with no real plan for **raising successors.** Many pastors and ministers die without passing their wisdom to the next generation. This is why many churches **struggle to survive after their founding leader is gone.**

Paul's model shows us that **leaders should not seek followers but raise successors.** Instead of keeping people dependent on them, they should **empower others to grow, lead, and expand the Kingdom of God.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders must think generationally—discipleship is the key to lasting impact.

Jesus Christ: Training Disciples for Kingdom Expansion

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." – Matthew 28:19-20

Jesus Christ was **the greatest leader in history, yet He never built an earthly institution.** Instead, He **trained twelve men to carry His mission forward.** His leadership model was **not about gathering crowds but making disciples.**

For three years, Jesus **poured into His disciples, teaching them the ways of the Kingdom.** He gave them power, trained them in leadership, and prepared them for ministry. Even after His resurrection, He **continued to instruct them for forty days before sending them out with the Holy Spirit.**

Jesus knew that **a leader's impact is measured not by how many people follow them but by how many leaders they raise.**

Modern-Day Relevance

Many ministries today measure success by **church attendance, social media following, and financial growth.** However, the real measure of success is **how many true disciples are raised.**

The world today needs **more trained leaders, not just preachers.** Apostolic shepherds must **equip others, impart wisdom, and send people out for Kingdom work.** If leaders today **fail to disciple others,** then the Church will lack strong, mature believers in the future.

Key Lesson: Jesus built His Kingdom through discipleship. The true test of a leader is how many people they equip for ministry.

The Fathering Model of Apostolic Shepherding

Raising leaders is not just about teaching them—it requires **personal investment, mentorship, correction, and empowerment**. Apostolic shepherds do not just train; they **father**.

Aspect	Spiritual Fathering	Institutional Leadership
Focus	Raising and equipping sons	Managing people
Example	Jeremiah training Baruch	Political or corporate leadership
Key Function	Mentorship, correction, sending	Organizing and structuring
Jesus' Model	Training the twelve disciples	Leading a government

Leaders who father others **create a legacy** that continues beyond them. Those who simply **manage people** often see their work **fade when they are gone**.

Key Lesson: Apostolic shepherds must go beyond leadership—they must become spiritual fathers who raise and release Kingdom leaders.

Conclusion: The Call to Raise Future Leaders

Jeremiah trained men despite opposition, ensuring that truth was preserved.

Paul fathered Timothy, Titus, and many others,
strengthening the early Church.
Jesus trained disciples who carried His message to the
ends of the earth.

In every generation, **God raises apostolic shepherds to father and equip others.** Leadership is **not about control—it is about investment.** The true success of a leader is not in **what they build but in who they raise.**

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations..." –
Matthew 28:19*

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I **raising and equipping future leaders**, or am I only focused on my own ministry?
- Do I **mentor and disciple others**, or do I expect them to learn on their own?
- How can I **invest in people today** so that the Kingdom continues to grow beyond me?

Next Episode: Establishing Doctrinal Purity – Defending the Truth

- The apostolic responsibility of preserving sound doctrine
- How Jeremiah confronted false prophets, Paul exposed false teachers, and Jesus rebuked religious hypocrisy
- The dangers of compromise and how to keep the Church aligned with biblical truth

Episode 7

Establishing Doctrinal Purity – Defending the Truth

Introduction

One of the greatest threats to the Church today is **doctrinal corruption**. Many churches have compromised the truth, exchanging **biblical doctrine for human traditions, secular ideologies, and false teachings**. In some places, churches have embraced **prosperity-driven messages that lack repentance**, while others have become so **intellectual** that they reject the power of the Holy Spirit.

Apostolic shepherds are called to **preserve, defend, and establish sound doctrine**. They are the **gatekeepers of truth**, ensuring that the Church remains aligned with God's Word. This responsibility is not optional—it is **the foundation of Kingdom governance**.

Jeremiah fought against **false prophets** who preached peace when judgment was near.

Paul confronted **false teachers** who tried to pervert the Gospel.

Jesus Christ **rebuked religious leaders** who twisted the Word of God for personal gain.

This episode explores how **apostolic leaders must guard doctrinal purity**, ensuring that the Church remains **grounded in truth and unshaken by deception**.

Jeremiah: Confronting False Prophets in a Deceptive Age

"And the Lord said to me, 'The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart.'" – Jeremiah 14:14

Jeremiah's time was filled with **false prophets who deceived the people with comforting lies**. While Jeremiah spoke of coming judgment, these false prophets **declared peace and prosperity**. They claimed to speak for God, but their messages were fueled by **greed, deception, and manipulation**.

Because of this, the nation refused to repent. Instead of heeding Jeremiah's warnings, they **mocked him, rejected him, and chose to believe the lies**. The result? **Destruction came, just as Jeremiah had prophesied**.

Modern-Day Relevance

The Church today is **flooded with false voices**.

- Many pastors preach **what people want to hear** rather than what they **need to hear**.

- False prophets **sell miracles and blessings** but do not call people to repentance.
- Many churches have embraced **culture over Christ**, tolerating sin to remain popular.

Like Jeremiah, apostolic leaders today must **stand against deception**, even if they are ridiculed for it.

Key Lesson: A Church that rejects truth will eventually fall into destruction. Apostolic shepherds must expose deception and preach repentance.

Paul: Defending Sound Doctrine Against Corruption

"But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed." – Galatians 1:8

Paul's battle for doctrinal purity was intense. False teachers infiltrated the early Church, **introducing legalism, false grace, and deception**. Some tried to **mix the Gospel with Jewish traditions**, while others promoted **lawlessness under the guise of "freedom."**

Paul did not tolerate false doctrine. He **called out false teachers by name, rebuked them, and urged churches to remain firm in truth**. He trained Timothy and Titus to **appoint elders who could teach sound doctrine and refute error**.

Modern-Day Relevance

Today, doctrinal corruption is widespread:

- Some churches **water down the Gospel** to avoid offending people.
- Others add **man-made traditions, turning faith into legalism.**
- Many denominations **compromise biblical truth to fit social and political trends.**

Apostolic shepherds must **protect the purity of doctrine** by teaching truth boldly, **correcting falsehood, and guarding the flock.**

Key Lesson: Doctrine is not a matter of personal interpretation—truth is absolute. Apostolic leaders must guard the Church from deception.

Jesus Christ: Rebuking Religious Hypocrisy & Establishing Kingdom Truth

"Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'" – Matthew 15:6-9

Jesus' fiercest confrontations were **not with sinners but with religious leaders**. The Pharisees and scribes had replaced **God's commandments with human traditions**. They appeared righteous outwardly, but their hearts were far from God.

Jesus boldly **exposed their hypocrisy** and restored the truth. He taught **the true meaning of the Law**, emphasized grace and obedience, and established the foundation of Kingdom governance.

Modern-Day Relevance

Religious hypocrisy is still a major issue today:

- Many **church leaders focus on outward appearances** but neglect true discipleship.
- Some **create rigid traditions that replace true faith**.
- Others preach a **powerless Gospel that lacks conviction, repentance, and transformation**.

Jesus shows us that **true apostolic shepherds must confront religious deception and restore God's truth in love**.

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders must remove false traditions and restore true biblical doctrine, leading people into authentic faith.

The Danger of Doctrinal Compromise

Apostolic leaders must **remain alert**—whenever **truth is compromised, the Church is weakened**. Here’s what happens when false doctrine infiltrates leadership:

Compromise	Result
Preaching without repentance	Leads to a powerless Church filled with sin
Legalism & traditions over truth	Turns faith into religion, not relationship
Mixing culture with Christianity	Leads to moral compromise and worldliness
Ignoring doctrine to avoid conflict	Allows deception to spread in the Church

Many churches today **have lost their spiritual authority** because they have **exchanged truth for convenience**. Apostolic shepherds **must stand firm, even if it costs them popularity**.

Key Lesson: A weak Church cannot govern. Doctrinal purity is the foundation of apostolic leadership.

Conclusion: Defending Truth in a Generation of Deception

Jeremiah stood against false prophets who deceived the people.
Paul fought against false teachers who corrupted the Gospel.

Jesus Christ rebuked religious leaders who twisted God's commandments.

Today's apostolic shepherds **must carry the same boldness**. The Church cannot afford to **compromise the truth**—it must be guarded, defended, and preached without fear.

"Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching." – 2 Timothy 4:2

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I **protecting doctrinal purity, or tolerating falsehood** for the sake of peace?
- Do I **boldly preach truth, even when it is unpopular**?
- How can I **help the Church stand firm in biblical truth in a world of deception**?

Next Episode: The Cost of Confronting Evil – Fighting for Truth

- Jeremiah's battle against corrupt rulers and idolatry
- Paul's war against deception in the Church
- Jesus' ultimate confrontation with Satan and the kingdom of darkness

Episode 8

The Cost of Confronting Evil – Fighting for Truth

Introduction

Apostolic leadership is **not for the weak-hearted.**

Those called to govern in God's Kingdom will inevitably face **opposition, persecution, and warfare.**

This is because **evil does not surrender without a fight.** Whenever a leader **stands for truth, confronts corruption, or rebukes deception,** they will be met with **resistance from those who benefit from darkness.**

Jeremiah was attacked and imprisoned for speaking against **corrupt rulers and idolatry.**

Paul was beaten, betrayed, and persecuted for **exposing falsehood in the Church.**

Jesus Christ faced **the ultimate battle against Satan, religious hypocrisy, and political oppression.**

This episode explores the **cost of confronting evil** and why **apostolic leaders must be prepared for intense spiritual warfare.**

Jeremiah: The Prophet Who Became a Target for Truth

"Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the men of Anathoth who seek your life, saying, 'Do not prophesy in the name of the Lord, lest you die by our hand'— therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Behold, I will punish them...' — Jeremiah 11:21-22

Jeremiah's life was **constantly in danger** because he **spoke what no one wanted to hear**. The kings of Judah and the false prophets promoted **false security, idolatry, and oppression**, but Jeremiah exposed their wickedness.

As a result, he was:

- **Threatened with death by his own people** (*Jeremiah 11:21*).
- **Beaten and put in stocks for preaching truth** (*Jeremiah 20:1-2*).
- **Imprisoned and thrown into a cistern, left to die** (*Jeremiah 38:6*).

Despite all of this, **he never stopped preaching**. Jeremiah understood that **truth must be spoken, no matter the cost**.

Modern-Day Relevance

Apostolic leaders today face the **same opposition**:

- **Preachers who expose sin** are accused of being **judgmental or intolerant**.
- **Leaders who rebuke false teachings** are attacked by those who profit from deception.

- **Christians who refuse to conform** to cultural compromise are mocked and silenced.

The world today **hates truth just as it did in Jeremiah's time. Standing for righteousness will always bring persecution.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders must expect resistance. The cost of truth is high, but silence is more dangerous.

Paul: The Apostle Who Paid for Truth with Suffering

"But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake.'" – Acts 9:15-16

From the moment Paul accepted his calling, **God told him that suffering was part of his mission.** He did not just teach doctrine—he **confronted false apostles, religious legalists, and corrupt leaders.** Because of this, he endured:

- **Beatings, stoning, and imprisonment** (2 Corinthians 11:23-25).
- **Betrayal from false brethren** (2 Corinthians 11:26).
- **Constant opposition from religious leaders and government officials** (Acts 23:1-5).

Paul's mission was not **just to plant churches, but to defend truth**. He **exposed false teachers, rebuked deception, and kept the Church pure**. But doing so **made him a target**.

Modern-Day Relevance

Today, those who stand against **false teachings and corruption** often experience:

- **Censorship and rejection** for preaching biblical truth.
- **Attacks from within the Church** by leaders who protect false doctrines.
- **Persecution from governments** that promote ungodly laws.

Many pastors and Christian leaders are afraid to **speak out against sin, injustice, or compromise** because they fear **losing their position, reputation, or safety**. But Paul teaches us that **if we do not fight for truth, deception will take over**.

Key Lesson: Truth must be defended, even if it costs everything. Apostolic leaders must fight deception at all costs.

Jesus Christ: The Ultimate Confrontation Against Darkness

"And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." – John 1:5

Jesus Christ came as **the Light of the World, but the world rejected Him**. His entire ministry was a direct confrontation against the forces of darkness. He exposed:

- **Satan's dominion** through casting out demons (*Luke 11:20*).
- **Religious corruption** by rebuking the Pharisees (*Matthew 23:27-28*).
- **Political deception** by refusing to be manipulated by rulers (*John 18:36-37*).

Because He confronted **sin and darkness**, He was falsely accused, arrested, tortured, and crucified. His greatest battle was at **the Cross, where He defeated Satan and redeemed mankind**.

Modern-Day Relevance

The world today **rejects Christ just as it did 2,000 years ago**.

- **Governments promote laws that oppose biblical values.**
- **Religious leaders compromise to maintain influence.**
- **Satan works through deception, false doctrine, and persecution.**

Apostolic leaders today are **called to continue Christ's mission**—to expose darkness, preach truth, and prepare the Church for His return.

Key Lesson: Apostolic leadership is spiritual warfare. Those who follow Christ must be willing to confront darkness.

The Cost of Confronting Evil

The moment an apostolic leader **chooses to stand for truth, they enter a battlefield.** Evil does not surrender easily, and those who **govern in righteousness will face opposition.**

Opposition Faced	Biblical Example	Modern-Day Example
Religious persecution	Jesus rebuked the Pharisees	Christian pastors arrested in hostile nations
False accusations	Paul was falsely accused by Jewish leaders	Leaders attacked for speaking against sin
Rejection from society	Jeremiah was mocked and rejected	Believers ridiculed for their faith
Betrayal from within	Paul was betrayed by false brethren	Apostolic leaders opposed by religious figures

Many churches today **compromise to avoid confrontation.** They choose **comfort over conflict, acceptance over truth, and peace over righteousness.** But apostolic shepherds **must be willing to fight for God’s Kingdom, no matter the cost.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic leadership comes with suffering. But those who refuse to fight for truth will allow deception to reign.

Conclusion: The Cost is High, But the Reward is Eternal

Jeremiah stood alone against a rebellious nation.

Paul suffered greatly to keep the Church doctrinally pure.

Jesus Christ confronted the greatest evil and won eternal victory.

The fight for truth **is not easy, but it is necessary.**

Apostolic leaders must be prepared to **stand against deception, rebuke corruption, and confront darkness—regardless of the cost.**

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 5:10

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I willing to **face opposition for standing on God's truth?**
 - Do I **confront deception and sin, or do I remain silent?**
 - How can I **equip others to stand strong in spiritual warfare?**
-

Next Episode: When the Church is Under Attack – Apostolic Warfare

- The role of apostolic shepherds in protecting the Church from external and internal attacks
- How to recognize spiritual warfare in governance and leadership
- The power of intercession and prophetic strategy in overcoming opposition

Episode 9

When the Church is Under Attack – Apostolic Warfare

Introduction

The Church is under attack. This is not a **passive opposition**—it is an **organized assault** from both **spiritual forces of darkness** and **worldly systems** that seek to weaken, infiltrate, and ultimately destroy the Body of Christ. Many Christian leaders **fail to recognize these attacks**, mistaking them for natural struggles when, in reality, they are manifestations of **spiritual warfare**.

Apostolic leaders are not just **shepherds**—they are **warriors and gatekeepers** who must defend the Church from:

- **External attacks** from political systems, false religions, and anti-Christian movements.
- **Internal corruption** caused by false teachers, division, and compromise.
- **Spiritual warfare** from demonic forces attempting to **weaken and manipulate God's people**.

Jeremiah battled the spiritual decay of Israel while facing political opposition.

Paul fought for the Church's doctrinal purity while resisting demonic forces.

Jesus Christ confronted both **Satan's kingdom and corrupt religious leaders, securing eternal victory.**

This episode explores **how apostolic leaders must engage in spiritual warfare to protect the Church.**

Jeremiah: Defending Truth in a Spiritually Corrupt Nation

"The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own power; and My people love to have it so. But what will you do in the end?" – Jeremiah 5:31

Jeremiah's battle was not just against **corrupt leaders—it was against a system that had rejected God.** The nation was in **spiritual decline**, and even the religious leaders were deceiving the people. Instead of repenting, Israel chose **false prophecies, idol worship, and rebellion.**

His fight to restore truth came with:

- **Resistance from false prophets who claimed he was lying** (*Jeremiah 28:1-17*).
- **Opposition from priests and officials who wanted him silenced** (*Jeremiah 20:1-2*).
- **National leaders who ignored his warnings, leading to destruction** (*Jeremiah 38:4-6*).

Modern-Day Relevance

The Church today **faces the same dangers**. Many **false voices** are influencing believers:

- Some **preach a gospel that tolerates sin** rather than calls for repentance.
- Others **use Christianity for political and financial gain** rather than true discipleship.
- Many churches **refuse to address spiritual decay** because they fear losing members.

Like Jeremiah, apostolic leaders must **stand firm and speak truth, even when it is unpopular**. If they remain silent, **the Church will fall into deception and judgment**.

Key Lesson: When the Church is infiltrated by falsehood, apostolic leaders must rise up and defend truth, no matter the opposition.

Paul: Battling Spiritual Warfare Within the Church

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." – Ephesians 6:12

Paul understood that **the greatest threats to the Church were not just external enemies but spiritual forces operating through false brethren, deception, and persecution**. He constantly **fought for the purity of the Gospel, rebuked false teachers, and strengthened believers to withstand spiritual attacks**.

Paul's battles included:

- **Resisting false apostles who preached another gospel** (*2 Corinthians 11:13-15*).
- **Standing against legalists who tried to corrupt Christian freedom** (*Galatians 2:4-5*).
- **Strengthening the Church to stand firm against persecution and demonic attacks** (*Ephesians 6:10-18*).

Modern-Day Relevance

The Church today is facing **intense spiritual warfare**.

- Many believers are **spiritually weak** because they are **not trained to fight**.
- The enemy has infiltrated churches with **false teachings that distort biblical truth**.
- Persecution is rising against **Christians worldwide, yet many remain unprepared**.

Paul teaches us that **apostolic leaders must train believers in spiritual warfare, equipping them to stand firm**. Without discernment and authority, **the Church becomes vulnerable to deception and attack**.

Key Lesson: Apostolic shepherds must recognize spiritual warfare, train believers for battle, and defend the Church against enemy infiltration.

Jesus Christ: Confronting Satan's Kingdom and Securing Victory

"I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." – Matthew 16:18

Jesus Christ **waged the ultimate war against darkness**. His mission was not just to preach—it was to **destroy the works of the devil**. Every confrontation He had was part of a **larger spiritual war**:

- He **cast out demons, proving His authority over Satan's kingdom** (*Luke 11:20*).
- He **exposed religious corruption, breaking the power of false spiritual control** (*Matthew 23:27-28*).
- He **defeated sin and death at the Cross, securing victory for all believers** (*Colossians 2:15*).

Jesus did not just **defend against attacks**—He **went on the offensive**. He **established the Kingdom of God, trained disciples for war, and transferred authority to His Church**.

Modern-Day Relevance

The war between **light and darkness** continues today:

- **Satan is still at work**, trying to weaken, divide, and deceive the Church.
- **The world system is aggressively pushing anti-Christ agendas**, trying to silence Christianity.

- **Many churches focus on programs rather than power, leaving them defenseless against spiritual attacks.**

Jesus calls apostolic shepherds **to advance, not retreat**.
The Church is not meant to **hide from battle**—it is
meant to **establish God’s rule on Earth**.

Key Lesson: Apostolic leadership is not defensive—it is offensive. The Church must confront darkness with Kingdom authority.

Recognizing When the Church is Under Attack

Many churches **fail to realize when they are under spiritual attack** because they do not recognize the signs.

Type of Attack	Biblical Example	Modern-Day Example
Doctrinal Corruption	Paul rebuking false teachers	Churches accepting secular ideologies over biblical truth
Religious Oppression	Jesus rebuking the Pharisees	Churches controlled by legalism instead of grace
Persecution from Authorities	Jeremiah imprisoned for truth	Christians arrested for preaching the Gospel
Demonic Influence	Jesus casting out demons	Churches denying the supernatural power of God

If these attacks are ignored, the Church becomes **spiritually ineffective, weak, and powerless**. Apostolic shepherds must **identify these threats and confront them in spiritual warfare**.

Key Lesson: The greatest danger to the Church is not persecution—it is compromise. Apostolic leaders must fight against deception before it overtakes God's people.

Conclusion: The Church Must Stand Strong in Warfare

Jeremiah fought against **spiritual corruption and opposition**.

Paul battled **false doctrine and spiritual deception**.

Jesus Christ defeated **Satan's kingdom and secured victory**.

Apostolic leaders today must **carry the same fire**. The battle is not just **for survival—it is for dominion**. The Church must **recognize spiritual warfare, fight for truth, and advance God's Kingdom without fear**.

"No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord." – Isaiah 54:17

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I recognizing the spiritual attacks against the Church?

- How can I **train believers to engage in spiritual warfare?**
 - Am I **confronting deception, or tolerating compromise?**
-

Next Episode: Servant Leadership – The Power of Humility

- How Jesus led through humility rather than power
- Paul's model of servant leadership in apostolic governance
- Why true leadership is rooted in servanthood, not control

Episode 10

Servant Leadership – The Power of Humility

Introduction

One of the greatest dangers in leadership is **the corruption of power**. Many leaders start with **good intentions**, but as their influence grows, they begin to **seek control rather than servanthood**. This is why **spiritual authority must always be rooted in humility**.

The world teaches that **leadership is about dominance, status, and command**. But in the Kingdom of God, **true leadership is servanthood**. Apostolic shepherds are not called to **rule over people but to serve them, nurture them, and lead them with a heart of humility**.

Jeremiah carried the burden of a nation, yet he remained **a weeping prophet, broken before God**.

Paul established churches and governed leaders, yet he called himself **the least of all apostles**.

Jesus Christ—the King of Kings—chose to **wash the feet of His disciples and die for His people**.

This episode explores how **servant leadership is the true mark of apostolic governance**, and why **leaders today must embrace humility to carry the authority of God**.

Jeremiah: A Prophet Who Carried Leadership in Tears

"Oh, that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" – Jeremiah 9:1

Jeremiah had **great authority in his words**. Kings feared his prophecies, and nations rose and fell according to the word of the Lord through him. But despite his power, **he never carried himself as a ruler—he carried the heart of a broken servant**.

He was not **prideful** about his prophetic role. Instead, he **wept for the people, interceded for them, and suffered rejection for their sake**. When others cursed him, **he prayed for them**. When he was imprisoned, **he continued to plead for Israel to turn back to God**.

Modern-Day Relevance

Today, many spiritual leaders **desire authority without brokenness**.

- Some pastors build **ministries focused on status rather than service**.
- Many leaders refuse to **repent or humble themselves, even when corrected**.
- Churches often **respect leaders for their power rather than their servant-heartedness**.

Jeremiah shows us that **true spiritual authority does not come from position but from a heart surrendered to God**. A leader's influence must come **not from**

dominance but from their willingness to carry the burdens of the people.

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders must embrace brokenness before God. Only a servant's heart can carry divine authority.

Paul: The Apostle Who Led Through Humility

"For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God." – 1 Corinthians 15:9

Paul was one of the **greatest spiritual leaders in history**. He planted churches, wrote most of the New Testament, trained apostles, and defended the truth. Yet, despite his influence, **he never saw himself as superior**.

He did not boast about his revelations. He did not demand respect based on his rank. Instead, he said:

- *"I am the least of the apostles" (1 Corinthians 15:9).*
- *"I am less than the least of all the saints" (Ephesians 3:8).*
- *"I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling" (1 Corinthians 2:3).*

Even though Paul had the right to **receive financial support as an apostle**, he sometimes chose to **work with his own hands so that he would not be a burden to the people**. He humbled himself **not because he**

lacked authority, but because he wanted to set an example.

Modern-Day Relevance

Many leaders today **love titles, honor, and status.**

- Some **demand to be served rather than serving others.**
- Others **seek to be exalted rather than to glorify God.**
- Many churches treat leadership as a **position of control rather than a position of servanthood.**

Paul teaches us that **true apostolic governance is not about status—it is about sacrifice.** A leader must be **willing to decrease so that Christ may increase.**

Key Lesson: True leaders do not seek to be served but to serve. Apostolic authority is rooted in humility, not self-exaltation.

Jesus Christ: The King Who Washed Feet

"But Jesus called them to Himself and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.'" –
Matthew 20:25-28

Jesus is **the perfect example of leadership**. He had **all power in heaven and earth**, yet He chose to live as a **servant, not a ruler**.

- He washed the feet of His disciples, even **Judas who would betray Him** (*John 13:12-17*).
- He refused earthly kingship, choosing instead to fulfill His mission on the Cross (*John 6:15*).
- He led through love, mercy, and sacrifice, not dominance (*John 10:11*).

When the disciples argued over who was the greatest, Jesus corrected them, saying that **true greatness is found in servanthood**. He showed them that **leadership is not about control—it is about laying down one's life for others**.

Modern-Day Relevance

Today, many leaders **want power but not sacrifice**.

- Some use their positions for personal gain rather than for serving people.
- Many pastors care more about fame than the actual needs of their congregation.
- Leadership in the world is based on control, but in the Kingdom, it must be based on love.

Jesus **redefined leadership**. He proved that **the greatest authority belongs to those who serve**. The true test of an apostolic shepherd is not **how many people follow them**, but **how many people they serve**.

Key Lesson: The highest form of leadership is servanthood. A true leader is one who serves with love and humility.

Servant Leadership vs. Worldly Leadership

The difference between **Kingdom leadership** and **worldly leadership** is profound.

Aspect	Kingdom Leadership	Worldly Leadership
Source of Power	Given by God	Earned through status
Position	Servanthood	Authority & Control
Greatness	Measured by humility	Measured by dominance
Example	Jesus washing feet	Rulers seeking power

Many churches today **have adopted worldly leadership models**, focusing on **hierarchy, titles, and power struggles**. Apostolic shepherds must return to **servant leadership, where authority is earned through love, sacrifice, and humility**.

Key Lesson: The Church must return to Christ’s model of leadership—where leaders are servants, not masters.

Conclusion: Humility is the Foundation of Apostolic Leadership

Jeremiah was a **powerful prophet, yet he carried the burdens of his people in tears.**

Paul was **one of the greatest apostles, yet he saw himself as the least.**

Jesus Christ was **the King of Kings, yet He washed the feet of His disciples.**

Apostolic leaders today **must embrace this same humility.** Leadership is not about **titles, status, or control**—it is about **serving God's people with a pure heart.**

"He must increase, but I must decrease." – John 3:30

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I leading **to be served, or to serve?**
- Do I seek **authority for myself, or to glorify God?**
- How can I **lead with greater humility and servanthood?**

Next Episode: Building for Eternity – The Long-Term Vision of Apostolic Shepherds

- Jeremiah's impact beyond his time
- Paul's letters still governing the Church today
- Jesus' Kingdom that has no end

Episode 11

Building for Eternity – The Long-Term Vision of Apostolic Shepherds

Introduction

Many leaders today **focus on short-term success rather than long-term impact**. They measure their effectiveness by **how many followers they have, how big their churches are, or how well their ministries are known**. But true apostolic governance is **not about temporary influence—it is about establishing something that will last beyond one’s lifetime**.

The Bible reveals that the greatest leaders were **not focused on their own reputation**, but on ensuring that God’s work continued for generations.

- **Jeremiah spoke words that outlived him, shaping history even after his death.**
- **Paul’s letters still govern the Church today, centuries after he was martyred.**
- **Jesus Christ established a Kingdom that will never end.**

This episode explores why **apostolic leaders must have a vision beyond their own lifetime**, ensuring that they **build for eternity, not just for the present**.

Jeremiah: A Prophet Whose Words Shaped Future Generations

"Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant.'" – Jeremiah 1:9-10

Jeremiah's prophetic ministry was **not for the people of his generation alone**. His words were recorded and preserved **because their impact extended beyond his time**. He spoke about **nations rising and falling, the restoration of Israel, and the coming of the Messiah**. Many of his prophecies were fulfilled **long after he had died**.

Yet, during his lifetime, **he was rejected, persecuted, and ignored**. Many leaders today face the same challenge—they work hard, but **see little visible fruit**. Jeremiah's life teaches us that **true Kingdom work is not measured by immediate results but by eternal impact**.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many pastors and leaders **become discouraged** when they don't see quick success.
- Some ministries are **built around individuals**, and when those leaders die, the work collapses.

- Churches today **must focus on building disciples, not just numbers, so that faith continues through generations.**

Apostolic leaders must have the **patience and endurance to build for the future, even if they do not see the full results in their lifetime.**

Key Lesson: God's work is bigger than one lifetime. Apostolic shepherds must plant seeds that will bear fruit for generations.

Paul: A Legacy That Continues to Govern the Church

"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." – 1 Corinthians 3:11

Paul's ministry was **not just about establishing churches—it was about laying a strong foundation.**

He ensured that the churches he planted **were structured in a way that would endure beyond him.** He wrote **letters filled with wisdom and instruction,** training leaders who would continue the work.

Today, we still read Paul's letters, and they continue to **govern Church doctrine, structure, and leadership.**

His impact was **not limited to his generation but extended across history.**

How Paul Built for Eternity

- He **trained and mentored successors** like Timothy and Titus to continue his work.
- He **established church structure, ensuring governance beyond his lifetime.**
- He **wrote letters that would serve as doctrinal foundations for future generations.**

Paul **never built for himself—he built for Christ.** He did not care about **fame, popularity, or recognition.**

His only concern was ensuring that **God’s truth remained, even after he was gone.**

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many churches today **depend too much on one leader,** and when they are gone, the church weakens.
- Some leaders fail to **mentor and train successors,** causing ministries to die with them.
- Churches must be **built on strong biblical foundations,** not temporary trends or personal influence.

Paul’s life teaches us that **if leadership does not think long-term, the Church will suffer when one generation passes away.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic leaders must build something that lasts beyond them, ensuring that future generations remain strong in faith.

Jesus Christ: The Eternal Kingdom That Will Never End

"And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." – Daniel 2:44

Jesus Christ established a **Kingdom that will never end**. Unlike human leaders who build for their own legacy, Jesus **built for eternity**. He did not come to create **an organization or a temporary movement**—
He came to establish the government of God on Earth.

- He trained disciples who would continue His mission after His ascension.
- He gave them the Holy Spirit, ensuring that His presence would never leave the Church.
- He laid the foundation of the Church on His own life, death, and resurrection.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many Christian movements **rise and fall** because they are built on men, not Christ.
- Some churches are **too focused on earthly success**, neglecting their eternal purpose.
- True Kingdom work must **be centered on Jesus Christ, not personal ambition**.

Jesus teaches us that **the greatest leadership is not about temporary influence but about establishing what will last forever.**

Key Lesson: The true measure of leadership is not how much power one holds but how much they build for eternity.

Short-Term vs. Long-Term Leadership

The greatest mistake leaders make is **focusing on success rather than legacy.**

Leadership Type	Short-Term Thinkers	Long-Term Builders
Focus	Immediate results	Generational impact
Foundation	Personal ambition	Kingdom principles
Priority	Growth & popularity	Discipleship & endurance
Outcome	Temporary influence	Lasting transformation

Many leaders **burn out** because they **chase short-term success** rather than **building something sustainable**.
Apostolic shepherds must **think generationally**,
training people who will carry on the work.

Key Lesson: The goal of leadership is not to be remembered—it is to ensure that God’s work continues beyond one’s lifetime.

Conclusion: Building for Eternity, Not Just for Today

Jeremiah's words **outlived him, shaping future generations.**

Paul's letters **continue to govern the Church today.**
Jesus Christ **established an everlasting Kingdom that will never end.**

Apostolic shepherds must carry **this same vision.**
Leadership is not about **personal success—it is about establishing God's rule on Earth, ensuring that faith is passed down for generations.**

"One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts." – Psalm 145:4

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I building **for the present, or for future generations?**
- Have I **trained others to continue God's work after me?**
- Is my leadership focused on **temporary success or eternal impact?**

Next Episode: The Mantle of Apostolic Shepherding in the End Times

- The final apostolic battle before Christ's return
- How prophetic-apostolic governance will play a key role in preparing the Church

- Why the end-time Church must be built on **Spirit-led governance and Kingdom leadership**

Series of Special Episodes
- "Diminished to - ZERO"

Introduction

The Mystery of Becoming Nothing to Fulfill Everything

In the world, leadership is defined by **status, power, and recognition**. The higher a person climbs, the more they are exalted. But in the Kingdom of God, **the greatest leaders are those who make themselves nothing**. True apostolic governance is not about **self-exaltation but self-emptying**. The power of leadership lies **not in authority over others but in total surrender to God**.

This special episode series, "**Diminished to - Zero**," unveils a **spiritual paradox**—the more a leader **dies to self, the more effective they become in God's hands**. It is the mystery that **Paul, Jeremiah, and Jesus Christ Himself** embodied, proving that **true leadership is not about control, but about complete surrender**.

What Does It Mean to Be 'Zero' in Apostolic Leadership?

To be **zero** is to:

- **Give up personal ambition** so that God's will is fulfilled.
- **Surrender all human credit** and acknowledge that all glory belongs to God.
- **Embrace rejection, loss, and suffering** without seeking earthly rewards.

- **Recognize that leadership is stewardship**—not ownership.

This is the **path of every apostolic shepherd**. Paul started as a proud Pharisee, but through suffering and surrender, he became a servant of all. Jeremiah was anointed as a prophet, yet his ministry ended with **no earthly success, only sorrow**. Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, **never claimed credit for His own work**, instead handing everything back to the Father.

This series explores how **each of these three figures embraced the calling to "zero," and in doing so, became the greatest leaders of all time.**

The Three Stages of Becoming ‘Zero’ in This Series

Special Episode 1: Paul – The Journey to Zero Through Four Phases of Life

Paul’s life was a progression of **losing himself** until he was completely poured out:

1. **An Apprentice** – Full of knowledge, yet spiritually blind.
2. **A Missionary** – Humbled by grace and stripped of status.
3. **A Working Professional** – Choosing to serve instead of demanding support.
4. **A Martyr** – Fully surrendered, embracing death for Christ.

Special Episode 2: Jeremiah – The Prophet of Sorrow Who Carried No Earthly Reward

Jeremiah's life was a testimony that **true obedience does not always bring success.**

- He was called, yet he saw **no revival.**
- He was anointed, yet he faced **only rejection.**
- He carried **God's Word, but never saw the fruit of his labor.**

Yet, his faithfulness proved that **God's definition of success is not measured by human results, but by obedience.**

Special Episode 3: Jesus Christ – The Ultimate Example of Zero (John 17:12)

Jesus did not seek personal recognition—**He took no credit for Himself.**

- He did not call the disciples His own but **gave them back to the Father.**
 - He saw Himself as a **caretaker of what belonged to God.**
 - His **full glory was revealed only after resurrection,** proving that true exaltation comes only after total surrender.
-

Conclusion: The Path to Zero is the Path to Glory

Many seek **to be honored and remembered**, but the greatest apostolic leaders **seek only to disappear, so that Christ may be fully revealed**. This is the essence of true Kingdom leadership—**to be emptied of self, so that God's glory may fill all things**.

Jesus Himself declared,
"He who humbles himself will be exalted." – Luke 14:11

This series will **challenge every apostolic leader** to embrace the path of **self-denial, total surrender, and spiritual death to personal ambition**. Only when we are diminished to **zero** can God's **fullness** be made manifest in us.

Special Episode 1

Paul – The Journey to Zero

Introduction

The life of Apostle Paul is a remarkable example of a leader **who started as everything yet became nothing for the sake of Christ**. He was once a man of great **status, influence, and knowledge**, but through his journey, he was **stripped of all earthly prestige** until he was fully **poured out for the Gospel**.

Paul's transformation into a **true apostolic shepherd** was not instant. It happened in **four distinct phases**—each one bringing him closer to being **diminished to zero**. As he moved from **a man of self-righteous power to a man fully surrendered to Christ**, he became the most powerful apostolic leader of his time.

This episode explores **these four phases of Paul's life** and how his leadership was refined through **loss, suffering, servanthood, and ultimately, martyrdom**.

Phase 1

As an Apprentice – The Power of Knowledge Without Truth

"I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today." – Acts 22:3

Paul, originally known as **Saul of Tarsus**, was born into privilege. He was:

- **A Roman citizen** by birth, granting him status and legal protection.
- **A Pharisee of Pharisees**, trained under Gamaliel, one of the most respected teachers of the Law.
- **Highly educated**, fluent in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, and skilled in debate.
- **Zealous for God**, but blinded by religious legalism.

Paul **knew everything about the Scriptures, yet he did not know God. He persecuted the Church, believing he was defending the faith**, proving that knowledge alone is not enough to lead in the Kingdom.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many **seminary-trained leaders** have great **theological knowledge** but lack **spiritual transformation**.
- Some leaders build **ministries on intellect** rather than **Holy Spirit-led revelation**.
- **Religious legalism** often blinds people from recognizing **true faith in Christ**.

Like Paul, many today must **unlearn religious pride** before they can truly serve God.

Key Lesson: Knowledge without revelation leads to deception. True leadership begins when God removes false confidence.

Phase 2

As a Missionary – Stripped of Status, Humbled by Grace

"But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ." – Philippians 3:7-8

Paul's **conversion on the road to Damascus** (Acts 9) was his first step toward **becoming zero**.

- He was **struck blind**, showing that his previous "vision" was false.
- He had to be **led by the hand**, symbolizing his new dependence on God.
- He was **rejected by both Jews and Christians**, becoming a man with no identity except in Christ.

Paul lost **his reputation, his status, and his influence**. But instead of **rebuilding his old life**, he spent years **learning directly from Christ in the wilderness** (Galatians 1:11-12). He was **no longer a scholar—he was a servant**.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many **leaders fear losing their reputation**, unwilling to let go of **earthly titles** for the sake of truth.
- Some **pastors and ministers resist humility**, preferring **position over surrender**.
- The true **apostolic calling requires letting go of past achievements to fully embrace Christ**.

Paul teaches us that **God will often strip a leader of everything before entrusting them with divine authority**.

Key Lesson: Apostolic shepherds must die to their past achievements. God cannot use a man who still clings to his own greatness.

Phase 3

As a Working Professional – Choosing Service Over Status

"Nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you." – 2 Thessalonians 3:8

Even though Paul was a **powerful apostle**, he refused to **live off others**. He supported himself as a **tentmaker**, **working with his hands**.

Why? Because Paul understood that:

- **Apostolic authority does not demand privilege.**
- **True leaders serve the people rather than making people serve them.**
- **Ministry is not about entitlement—it is about responsibility.**

Paul could have **lived off church offerings**, but he wanted to **set an example of humility and self-sufficiency**. He proved that leadership is **not about personal gain but about sacrificial service**.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many church leaders today **expect financial gain from their calling** rather than serving freely.
- Some believe **ministry should make them wealthy** rather than teaching them **to be stewards**.
- **Apostolic shepherding is about giving, not taking.**

Paul's life teaches us that **a true leader must be willing to work, serve, and sacrifice, rather than demand honor.**

Key Lesson: Authority is proven through humility. A leader who refuses to serve is not fit to govern.

Phase 4

As a Martyr – Poured Out as an Offering

*"For I am already being poured out as a drink offering,
and the time of my departure is at hand." – 2 Timothy
4:6*

The final phase of Paul's journey was **his death**. He embraced martyrdom **not as a loss but as a final act of worship**.

- He did not **seek comfort or escape**.
- He did not **fear losing his life**.
- He understood that **his death would glorify Christ**.

Paul was **beheaded in Rome**, but his legacy **outlived him**. The churches he planted, the leaders he trained, and the letters he wrote **continue to shape Christianity today**.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many leaders **cling to comfort**, avoiding suffering for Christ.
- Some are **unwilling to sacrifice personal ambitions** for the sake of the Gospel.
- Apostolic leadership means **being willing to lay everything down, including one's life**.

Paul's final lesson is this: **A true leader does not seek personal legacy—he seeks to disappear so that Christ may be fully revealed.**

Key Lesson: Apostolic leadership ends with total surrender. The highest calling is to be completely emptied for Christ.

Conclusion

Paul's Journey to Zero

Paul started as a **proud Pharisee but ended as a humble servant**. He **lost everything the world values, yet gained eternal reward**. His life teaches us that **the greatest apostolic leaders are those who willingly become nothing, so that Christ may be everything**.

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me." – Galatians 2:20

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I willing to **lose my status for the sake of Christ?**
- Do I lead with **humility, or do I seek recognition?**
- Am I prepared to **become nothing so that Christ may be everything?**

Next Special Episode: "Jeremiah's Sorrow – The Unpopular Ministry"

- Why Jeremiah was called but never saw success.
- The pain of leadership without recognition.
- How obedience is measured by faithfulness, not earthly results.

Special Episode 2

Jeremiah's Sorrow – The Unpopular Ministry

Introduction

In today's world, success in ministry is often measured by **numbers, influence, and recognition**. Many believe that a true leader is one who is **followed by many, praised by people, and honored for their work**. But what happens when a leader is **faithful yet ignored, obedient yet unrecognized, anointed yet rejected**?

Jeremiah was one of the most **powerful prophets of God, yet he lived a life of sorrow**. His ministry bore **no visible fruit**, his message was **constantly rejected**, and his obedience led to **pain rather than reward**. He saw **no revival, no national repentance, and no honor in his lifetime**. By the world's standards, **his ministry was a failure**. But in God's eyes, **he was one of the greatest prophetic voices in history**.

This episode explores **why Jeremiah's ministry was so difficult, why he was chosen for sorrow, and what apostolic leaders today must learn from his life**.

1. The Calling That Led to Suffering

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations." – Jeremiah 1:5

Jeremiah's calling was not **a result of his choice—it was God's sovereign decision.** From birth, he was chosen **to be a prophet, to speak the words of God, and to stand alone against a rebellious nation.** But God never promised him **success in the way the world defines it.**

In fact, when Jeremiah hesitated, saying he was too young, God told him:

"Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you." – Jeremiah 1:8

This meant that **his ministry would be filled with opposition.**

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many leaders today expect **that answering God's call will lead to recognition and success.**
- Some believe that **if they are obedient, people will respond positively.**
- Jeremiah's life proves that **faithfulness does not always bring human approval.**

God's calling is **not for personal glory—it is for His purpose.** Jeremiah was **sent to deliver a message, not to build a following.**

Key Lesson: A true apostolic leader must accept the call even when it leads to rejection and suffering.

2. The Prophet Who Was Always Rejected

"To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Indeed their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the Lord is a reproach to them; they have no delight in it." – Jeremiah 6:10

Jeremiah's ministry was marked by **constant rejection**. He did not prophesy **prosperity or comfort**—he warned of **judgment, exile, and destruction**. Because of this, he was:

- **Ignored by the people** – They refused to listen to his warnings.
- **Hated by religious leaders** – They preferred false prophets who preached comfort.
- **Persecuted by kings** – He was seen as a traitor for prophesying against Judah.

Unlike prophets such as Elijah and Moses, **Jeremiah never saw a great revival**. His words **fell on deaf ears**, and his obedience only led to suffering.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many church leaders today **only preach messages that people want to hear** because they fear rejection.
- Some prophets **compromise truth to gain popularity**.
- Many pastors feel **discouraged when their ministries do not grow numerically**.

Jeremiah's life reminds us that **truth is often unpopular, and obedience to God will not always be celebrated.**

Key Lesson: The measure of success in ministry is not popularity—it is faithfulness to God's Word.

3. The Pain of Leadership Without Honor

"O Lord, You induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and have prevailed. I am in derision daily; everyone mocks me." – Jeremiah 20:7

Jeremiah's sorrow was not just because of the nation's sin—it was **personal**. He suffered greatly because:

- **His own family turned against him.**
- **He was beaten and thrown into prison for speaking truth.**
- **He was mocked daily for his message.**
- **He struggled with deep depression and loneliness.**

At one point, he was so broken that he said:

"Cursed be the day in which I was born! Let the day not be blessed in which my mother bore me!" – Jeremiah 20:14

Even though he was faithful to God, **his suffering made him feel abandoned**. He longed for relief but **could not escape his calling**.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many leaders today **carry deep emotional burdens** because of the weight of ministry.

- Some **experience betrayal, loneliness, and discouragement** when their work is not received.
- Many pastors and missionaries struggle with **burnout and depression** because they feel they have failed.

Jeremiah shows us that **ministry is not always about joy—it is often about carrying the burden of God’s heart**. True leaders **will feel the pain of rejection, but they must continue in obedience**.

Key Lesson: The pain of rejection does not mean a leader has failed. It often means they are truly aligned with God’s purpose.

4. The Reward That Came After Death

"Thus says the Lord: 'Write this man down as childless, a man who shall not prosper in his days.'" – Jeremiah 22:30

Jeremiah's life **ended in exile, with no reward, no honor, and no recognition.** Unlike other prophets, he did not perform miracles, and his warnings were largely ignored. But **after his death, everything he spoke came to pass.**

- The nation **was destroyed**, just as he prophesied.
- His writings **became part of Scripture, shaping future generations.**
- Jesus and the apostles **quoted his words as the foundation for understanding God's judgment and mercy.**

Even though **he was never celebrated in his lifetime, his impact outlived him.** He was diminished to **zero,** but **his obedience changed history.**

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many leaders **want recognition now, but true impact is measured by eternity.**
- Some **quit ministry too soon because they do not see immediate results.**
- Apostolic leaders must understand that **faithfulness is rewarded, but not always in this life.**

Key Lesson: A leader's greatest impact is often realized after they are gone. True success is measured by eternity, not time.

Conclusion

The Unpopular, Yet Most Faithful Ministry

Jeremiah's life proves that **true leadership is not about being celebrated—it is about being faithful.**

He was:

- ✓ **Called, yet constantly rejected.**
- ✓ **Faithful, yet hated by the people.**
- ✓ **Obedient, yet he never saw revival.**

But **he fulfilled his purpose.** He did not live for personal success—he **lived for God's truth.**

"For he is a prophet, and he shall stand in the presence of the Lord." – 1 Kings 17:1

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Am I willing to **be faithful even if no one listens?**
 - Do I seek **man's approval or God's approval?**
 - Can I trust that **God will use my obedience, even if I don't see the results?**
-

Next Special Episode: "Jesus Christ – The Ultimate Example of Zero (John 17:12)"

- How Jesus **took no credit for Himself but gave all glory to the Father.**
- Why Jesus **handed the disciples back to God, rather than keeping them as His own.**
- The mystery of **true leadership as a caretaker, not an owner.**

Special Episode 3

Jesus Christ – The Ultimate Example of Zero (John 17:12)

Introduction

In the final hours before His crucifixion, Jesus prayed to the Father, revealing a powerful truth about His leadership:

"While I was with them, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled." – John 17:12

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did not take **ownership** of the disciples He had trained. **He took no credit for Himself.** Instead, He presented them **back to the Father.** He saw Himself **not as their final authority, but as a caretaker of what belonged to God.**

This was the ultimate act of **self-emptying.** Jesus had all power, yet He:

- **Did not seek recognition for Himself.**
- **Did not claim ownership over His disciples.**
- **Did not take credit for the work He accomplished.**

This episode explores how **Jesus embraced the path of zero**, teaching apostolic leaders that **true governance is not about control, but about stewardship.**

1. Jesus Never Took Credit

– The True Servant-King

"I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me." – John 5:30

Unlike earthly rulers who seek recognition, **Jesus always pointed back to the Father.**

- He never said, **"I built this ministry."** Instead, He said, **"I do nothing of Myself."**
- He never claimed, **"These disciples are mine."** Instead, He said, **"They belong to the Father."**
- He never declared, **"I am the source."** Instead, He said, **"The Father who dwells in Me does the works"** (John 14:10).

This is **true apostolic governance**. Jesus led, trained, and disciplined men, but He **never claimed ownership over them**. He understood that **every leader is simply a caretaker of what belongs to God.**

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many church leaders today **build ministries around themselves rather than pointing people to God.**
- Some take **credit for growth, success, and transformation** instead of recognizing that it is **the work of the Holy Spirit.**

- True apostolic leadership means **acknowledging that we own nothing—everything belongs to God.**

Key Lesson: The highest form of leadership is to take no credit. True apostolic shepherds do not seek personal glory, but direct all praise to the Father.

2. Jesus Handed the Disciples Back to the Father

"Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are." – John 17:11

After three years of training, teaching, and discipling, **Jesus did not hold onto the twelve.** Instead, He **gave them back to God.**

- He did not **establish an earthly kingdom for Himself.**
- He did not **make Himself the final authority.**
- He did not **bind His disciples to Himself in ownership.**

Jesus understood that **apostolic leadership is about stewardship, not control.** The disciples were never **His—they were the Father's.**

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many pastors today **struggle to let go of leadership roles, fearing they will lose control.**
- Some leaders **become possessive over their followers,** instead of releasing them into their God-given calling.

- Apostolic shepherds must learn to **entrust their people back to God, rather than keeping them for themselves.**

Key Lesson: True leadership does not bind people—it releases them into their divine purpose.

3. Jesus Did Not Seek Personal Legacy – He Emptied Himself Completely

*"But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men." –
Philippians 2:7*

One of the most profound mysteries of Christ's leadership is this:

- **He made Himself of no reputation.**
- **He humbled Himself as a servant.**
- **He chose obedience unto death, rather than seeking earthly recognition.**

Jesus never built **a monument to Himself**. He did not establish **a personal kingdom**. Instead, He lived to glorify the Father—and because of this, **God highly exalted Him (Philippians 2:9)**.

Modern-Day Relevance

- Many ministers today **work to build their own personal legacy**.
- Some pastors **become consumed with growing their reputation, rather than humbling themselves**.

- The true apostolic call is **to be forgotten, so that only Christ remains.**

Key Lesson: True leadership does not seek to be remembered. The greatest leaders are those who disappear, leaving only the presence of God.

4. The Glory of Being Diminished to Zero

*"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name." –
Philippians 2:9*

Because Jesus **fully emptied Himself**, God **exalted Him above all**.

- He took **no credit**, yet received **all authority**.
- He claimed **nothing for Himself**, yet inherited **the Kingdom**.
- He diminished **Himself to zero**, yet **His name is the greatest in history**.

This is the final mystery of apostolic shepherding:

- **The one who humbles himself will be exalted (Luke 14:11).**
- **The one who loses his life will find it (Matthew 16:25).**
- **The one who becomes zero will receive the fullness of God (Philippians 2:9-11).**

Modern-Day Relevance

- The Church must return to **leadership that is about Christ, not about men**.
- True apostles and pastors must learn **to take no credit, but to give all glory to God**.
- Leaders who **fully empty themselves will receive the greatest authority in the Kingdom**.

Key Lesson: The greatest leaders are those who diminish themselves so that Christ may be fully seen.

Conclusion

The Final Revelation of Zero

Jesus Christ, the greatest leader of all time, **made Himself nothing.**

✓He did not take credit for His ministry.

✓He gave the disciples back to the Father.

✓He emptied Himself completely.

Because of this, **He was given the Name above every name.**

"He must increase, but I must decrease." – John 3:30

Reflection for Apostolic Leaders:

- Do I lead in a way that **points people to God, or to myself?**
 - Am I willing to **release those I mentor, rather than controlling them?**
 - Have I fully **diminished myself so that Christ may be fully revealed?**
-

Conclusion of the Special Episode Series

"Diminished to - Zero"

Paul **lost everything**, yet his impact remains today.
Jeremiah **suffered rejection**, yet his words still govern
nations.

Jesus **emptied Himself**, yet He is seated at the right
hand of the Father.

The true test of **apostolic governance** is **not how much
a leader builds for themselves**, but **how much they
diminish so that Christ may be glorified.**

*"For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he
who humbles himself will be exalted." – Luke 14:11*

This is **the final revelation of apostolic leadership:**
**The one who truly rules is the one who has made
himself nothing.**

The Call to Apostolic Shepherds

**The future of apostolic governance is not in
human strength, but in complete surrender.**

**The greatest leaders are those who disappear so
that Christ may be fully seen.**

**True apostolic shepherds do not take credit, but
return everything to the Father.**

Author's Cross – The Threefold Calling

Call of a Prophet

While I was just about to complete writing my previous book, *“Ephphatha! – Liberation from Autism; In the Light of Scripture”*, I was deeply engrossed in the book of **Jeremiah, Chapter 20**. As I read through this chapter, **verses 7-13** touched my heart in a profound way. These words seemed to **mirror the life of Apostle Paul**, a man I have always admired and whose journey I will detail further in my second calling as you continue reading **the callings of my 'Author's Cross.'**

As I meditated over these verses, the **Spirit of the Lord** spoke to me, saying:

- * *"I have given you everything you asked for and required, but forget not the book of Jeremiah—it is your life."*
- ❖ *(All that I asked for and claimed are the mighty blessings of the Lord from the Bible which is explained in my 1st Book – **“Battle-Axe of God-Dust to Steel; Forged for War”**)*
- * *After Receiving everything I asked from God, He said “All that is required from you is only that you walk in the Humility of Jeremiah and never seek for glory because of the **Blessings & Gifts** I have bestowed upon you”*
- * *“THE GLORY IS MINE & MINE ONLY” –*
SOLE DEO GLORIA!

Those words **overwhelmed me**. They carried the weight of a divine assignment—one that I could not ignore. **To**

be chosen as a vessel in the courts of Heaven is not a matter of privilege, but of purpose. Jeremiah's life was not one of honor before men, but one of **sorrow, rejection, and unshaken obedience to the Lord.** His ministry was not measured by **success in the eyes of the world, but by faithfulness in the eyes of God.**

The Lord made it clear: **My calling was not for self-exaltation, but for the burden of truth.** Just as Jeremiah was called to speak words that many would reject, **I understood that my own journey would require unwavering obedience, even in the face of opposition.**

Yet, I did not resist this calling. Instead, I embraced it, knowing that **to walk as a prophet is not to walk for oneself, but to walk in the will of God, carrying the weight of His Word with reverence and fear.**

Call of an Apostle

The story of **Saul to Paul** is not just a biblical transformation—it is **the true story of my life**. I was born into a Christian family, **well-versed in the Scriptures from a young age**. I attended **Bible schooling, excelled in theology, and was recognized as a scholar**. But **my knowledge was not yet refined by the Spirit of the Lord**.

Like Saul of Tarsus, I was **filled with pride**. I excelled in many **skills, talents, positions, and achievements**. I relied on my **own strength, wisdom, and reputation, thinking that my knowledge of Scripture made me righteous**.

But just as Saul was **struck down and humbled on the road to Damascus**, I too encountered a moment where **God completely broke me, revealing that everything I had accomplished in the flesh was worthless without true submission to Christ**.

It was in this brokenness that the Lord revealed His true calling over my life—**not to be known for my own knowledge and achievements, but to be sent as His vessel for the obedience of the nations**.

Through **Romans 1:5-6**, He made it clear:

"Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ."

The calling of an apostle is not about **titles, positions, or personal elevation**—it is about **dying to self, forsaking all, and becoming a vessel through which Christ's name is glorified among the nations**. It is a call to **pioneer, to establish, to strengthen, and to send**. It is a calling that demands a life fully surrendered to God's will.

Then came the **final confirmation**—the Lord led me to
Acts 9:15-16:

"But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake.'"

This Scripture was not just about Paul—it was about **me**.

God made it known that **being His apostle would not be a path of ease and recognition, but a path of suffering for His name**. Just as Paul was **called to bear Christ's name before the nations, at the cost of his own comfort and life**, I understood that **this was my journey as well**.

Apostleship is **not a call to power—it is a call to suffering for the sake of the Kingdom**. To be an apostle is to be **a servant of Christ, enduring trials, persecutions, and rejection, yet pressing forward with unshakable faith**.

As I accepted this calling, I knew that **my life would never be my own again**. My ambitions, desires, and personal plans had to be **laid at the feet of Jesus**. From this moment onward, **I was no longer my own—I belonged fully to the One who called me**.

Call of a Disciple

*"Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter,
'It is the Lord!'"*
—John 21:7

From the very beginning, I have always believed **I am the disciple whom Jesus loved**. It was never about **self-proclamation**, but rather a deep assurance that **I belonged to Christ in a way that transcended mere calling—it was a relationship of unwavering trust**.

Throughout my journey, I have **trusted in His promise never to leave me nor forsake me**. Even in my lowest moments, even when I strayed or faced immense trials, **He remained faithful**.

True discipleship is not just about **following Christ**—it is about **abiding in Him**. It is about knowing that, even when the storm rages, even when the path is unclear, **He is near**.

Many desire to be **great in the Kingdom**, but they forget that **the greatest in the Kingdom are those who walk as true disciples—fully dependent on their Master, not seeking their own will, but submitting to the will of the Father**.

Jesus showed me the path to **life in abundance**—not through earthly riches, power, or recognition, but through **a life fully surrendered in discipleship**.

Just as **John the Beloved rested his head upon Christ's chest (John 13:25)**, I have rested in the love of

my Savior. It is in this love that I have found my **true identity—not as a mere servant, but as a son of the Kingdom.**

The Cross of the Calling

To be **a prophet, an apostle, and a disciple** is not a privilege—it is **a cross.**

It is **to be rejected, to be misunderstood, to be broken, and yet to remain steadfast. It is to walk as Christ walked, with no desire for self-glory, but only to fulfill the will of the Father.**

The **Author's Cross** is not a burden I carry alone—it is the path **every true believer must take.**

Just as **Jesus diminished Himself to 'zero,' taking no credit before the resurrection but handing over all to the Father (John 17:12),** so must we.

For in becoming **nothing, we gain everything.** In losing **our lives, we find them.** And in forsaking **our will, we enter into the fullness of His purpose.**

The cross is not just **a moment in history—it is the journey of our calling.** And in the end, **to bear this cross is to be found in Christ alone.**

Credits & Acknowledgments

*“For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things,
to whom be glory forever. Amen.”*

—Romans 11:36

First and foremost, **all glory, honor, and thanksgiving belong to the Lord God Almighty—the Author and Finisher** of my faith, the One who called, refined, and established me in His purpose. Every word written, every revelation received, and every step taken has been by His **grace, mercy, and divine guidance**.

Acknowledgments

To the Holy Spirit—My Teacher, Counselor, and Guide

I acknowledge and honor the **Holy Spirit**, who has been my unfailing **teacher, counselor, and guide**. Every word in this work has been inspired and illuminated by **His wisdom, correction, and power**. Without Him, I would have been blind; without His leading, I would have strayed. **He alone** has authored the deep revelations found in these pages.

To My Spiritual Covering & Mentors

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to those whom **the Lord placed in my life as spiritual coverings and mentors—pillars of wisdom, discernment, and divine counsel**. Through their guidance, correction, and

impartation, I have been shaped into the vessel God has called me to be.

- **Sister Angelica** – My **Spiritual Mother**, who nurtured my calling with **wisdom, prayer, and divine insight**.
- **Mother Leema Rose & Sister Anita** – For imparting **fire, discipline, and depth** into my walk with the Lord.
- **Dr. Albert Jones** – A mentor whose **life and actions spoke louder than words**, teaching me lessons that only experience could reveal.

To My Brothers & Sisters in Christ

To all those who have **prayed, interceded, and stood by me** in the journey of faith—you are **more than friends; you are family in Christ**. Your encouragement, endurance, and unwavering support have strengthened me in the mission the Lord has set before me.

To the Readers & Disciples of Christ

This book is not just **a work of writing—it is a calling, a mission, and a commission**. To those who have read these words, I pray that they become **a fire in your bones, a light in your path, and a sword in your hands**.

May you rise to walk in your own **God-ordained calling**—whether as a **prophet, apostle, disciple, or warrior of Christ**. And may you carry the **cross of your calling** with boldness, humility, and unwavering faith.

To the Kingdom of Heaven—My True Home

All that I do, I do for **the glory of the King**. My citizenship is not of this world, and my labor is not for earthly recognition. May every word written here **serve the eternal purposes of the Lord**, bringing souls into the inheritance of **the Celestial Kingdom**.

"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness."

—Psalm 115:1

**In His service,
The Author**

Final Exhortation & Conclusion

The journey of **Apostolic Shepherding** is not one of self-exaltation, nor is it a pursuit of personal achievement. It is a **calling into servanthood, suffering, and self-denial**, all for the glory of God. Every episode, every lesson, and every truth shared in this book has led us to one defining reality: **A true shepherd does not lead by authority alone, but by the Spirit of God, through obedience, humility, and sacrificial love.**

A Call to Apostolic Alignment

The governance of the Church is not a matter of hierarchy, but of divine order. Christ, the **Chief Shepherd**, entrusted His apostles with the responsibility to **build, equip, and guard** His flock—not as overlords, but as **stewards of His grace** (1 Peter 5:2-3). The apostles of old laid a foundation that remains unshaken today, and every leader in the Body of Christ must align with that **apostolic pattern** if they are to **govern in righteousness**.

Spiritual Leadership in a Corrupt Age

We live in a time when leadership has been redefined by **self-interest, manipulation, and ambition**. The enemy has infiltrated even the highest levels of religious structures, distorting the role of shepherds into positions of power rather than servanthood. But **true apostolic governance cannot be corrupted**, for it is led by the Spirit of God, built on the unshakable truth of Scripture, and upheld by **leaders who fear God more than men**.

The Zero Principle – Becoming Nothing to Fulfill All

The series "**Diminished to Zero**" was not merely a discussion, but a revelation of **the divine mystery of true leadership**. Paul, Jeremiah, and Christ Himself embodied this principle: that in order to **carry the true weight of God's kingdom**, one must first be emptied of **self**.

- **Paul, once a Pharisee of status, became nothing so that Christ would be all in him.**
 - **Jeremiah, though filled with divine revelation, bore the sorrow of being unheard and rejected.**
- **Jesus, the Son of God, emptied Himself entirely, proving that only in total surrender can true authority be revealed.**

This is the **apostolic way**. This is **shepherding by the Spirit**.

A Final Charge

To every leader, disciple, and believer who has read this book, I leave you with this charge:

1) Shepherd with the Heart of Christ.

Do not lead by **title** but by **example**. Do not seek **dominion** but seek to **serve**. Do not build for **your name**, but for **His kingdom**.

2) Govern by the Spirit, Not by the Flesh.

The Holy Spirit is the **true leader** of the Church. Any governance that does not come from Him is **man-made**

and void of power. Seek the Spirit. Obey His voice.
Walk in His wisdom.

3) Be Willing to Be Forgotten.

If your name must diminish for Christ's name to be glorified, **rejoice in that calling.** If your reputation is lost for the sake of truth, **you are in good company.** If your works are unseen by men but honored by God, **your reward is eternal.**

The greatest apostolic leaders in history were not the ones who built **monuments to their own name.** They were the ones who built **altars to the Living God,** where His presence alone was glorified.

This is **Apostolic Shepherding.** This is **Spirit-Led Governance.**

May the Lord raise up **shepherds after His own heart** (Jeremiah 3:15) in this generation and beyond.

To God be the glory, now and forever. Amen.

Final Prayer

Heavenly Father,

*I come before You with a heart open to receive Your truth. You are the **Good Shepherd**, the One who leads me beside still waters and restores my soul. Thank You for guiding me through this book and for unveiling the deep wisdom of **Apostolic Shepherding**—a call to govern with Your heart, serve with humility, and lead under the power of Your Spirit.*

*Lord, I surrender myself to Your will. Teach me to be **a faithful steward** of all that You entrust to me. Whether in ministry, leadership, family, or my personal walk with You, let my heart be **aligned with Yours**. Remove from me any pride, ambition, or selfish desire that does not bring glory to Your name. Instead, fill me with **wisdom, love, and a servant's heart**, just as Christ demonstrated.*

*Holy Spirit, anoint me to walk in **true apostolic leadership**, not by my own strength, but by Your power. Let me shepherd those You have placed under my care with patience, discernment, and compassion. Equip me to **stand firm in truth**, to **govern with righteousness**, and to **build up Your Kingdom on earth**.*

*Help me, Lord, to remain **humble** in times of success, **faithful** in times of challenge, and **obedient** in all seasons. May I never **misuse authority**, but always seek to uplift, encourage, and strengthen those around me. Let my leadership reflect the **heart of Jesus**, who laid down His life for the sheep.*

*Father, I ask that You open my eyes to see the **bigger picture of Your Kingdom**. Give me discernment to recognize **Your ways** and courage to reject **every false governance and deception**. Let me be **a vessel of truth**, a light in the darkness, and a voice that speaks **only what You command**.*

*Lord, as I go forth from this book, may the revelations within it take deep root in my heart. Transform my understanding, renew my mind, and set my feet upon the right path. I choose to walk in **Your wisdom**, to lead as **a servant**, and to live only for **Your glory**.*

*I seal this prayer in the mighty name of **Jesus Christ**, my Lord and Shepherd.
Amen & Amen.*

