A Christian perspective on Leadership

God's expectation on leaders

Fredrick G. Omondi

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Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from King James Version of the Holy Bible.
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INTRODUCTION

Many people in this world if you look at them, they have ambition to be leaders be they unsaved and saved alike and which is not bad (2 Samuel 15:1-12, 1 Timothy 3:1-7). But the big question is, do they have the necessary qualities for leadership? From this scripture (2 Samuel 15:1-12) you can see that many people have campaigned wanting to be leaders and others want leadership by hook or by crook (2 Chronicles 22:1-23:15).

Now it should be known from the onset that leadership is not easy as many people do think as leadership involves many things even sacrifice (Luke 19:10) and it has a myriad of challenges some of which can be found in the following scriptures: 1 Kings 3: 16-28, Numbers 16: 1-3, Exodus 14:1-14; 15:22-24; 16:1-3; 17:1-3, Joshua 7:1-15. Leadership also requires perseverance (Isaiah 53:2-8, Philippians 2:5-11).

Leadership is an issue of the heart (inwardly) and not of countenance (outwardly) (1 Samuel 16:1-7). Good and effective leadership comes as a result of having certain virtues some of which you are going

to find in this book and you will be surprised that it has nothing to do with one's education, riches or otherwise or stature which cannot in themselves make one to be a candidate for leadership.

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Chapter 1

The God Factor

God in his mind and heart he intended his children to be leaders in life (the head) and not the led (the tail) and with only one condition: that they be obedient to him to be promoted to be leaders.

In a nutshell leadership to a great extent is a calling. So when called, for God's sake please lead. If you don't lead, you will be led by those you are supposed to lead and yourself on the other hand will be misleading them as you lack/is not giving them leadership. Let us now look at the following scriptures on the same.

AND take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazer and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

Exodus 28:1-3

In the above scripture we do find that God himself was the one that appointed religious leaders (the priests) to minister unto him in that office. People did not appoint themselves as sometimes it is happening today. Read on.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;
One Lord, one faith, one baptism.
One God and the Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.
Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity, and gave gifts unto men.
(Now that he ascended, what, is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things,)
And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some pastors and teachers;
For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

Ephesians 4:4-13

Christ too is the one that calls his ministers to the 5 – fold ministry and one need call oneself claiming to be a minister as is getting common in our country now.

AND it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

And all those blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.

The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

The LORD shall establish thee a holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.

And all the people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.

And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

And **the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath, if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:**

And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

It is quite clear indeed and apart from being made a leader, one shall be blessed abundantly.

The promise was given to the children of Israel who were a shadow of the Church of Christ and we too who are now the true Israel (the spiritual Israel in Christ Jesus by faith). But the children of Israel failed. Let us look at the following scripture why?

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:5-8

Well, the children of Israel were in the flesh and had carnal minds which could not keep the commandments of God in obedience to him.

But now for the Church of Christ it is different (verses 1 to 4 and 9 to 10).

One of the things involved on leadership and very important has to do with an act of God. The question then is if one has been called by him into leadership or if one is a self-professed leader and hence a false leader!

You need to be reminded that some people who are unregenerate use money to buy voters for votes in their favor and others visit witchdoctors who use sorceries to try to influence voters to have them be elected as leaders. Remember Simon the sorcerer who came into preeminence by using sorceries on the people of Samaria city (Acts 8:5-11).

And he called the multitude, and said unto them, Hear, and understand: Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

Then came his disciples, and said unto him, knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?

But he answered and said, every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch:

Matthew 15:10-14

Leaders who are not in the faith of Christ Jesus are blind to holiness, righteousness and justice and therefore live hypocritical lives (Matthew 23:23) and therefore can only lead people into a ditch of: corruption, scandals and many moral ills which bring unnecessary miseries to those they lead as they still have the old nature which is potentially sinful. But those leaders who have been regenerated in Christ Jesus by faith can lead those they lead into righteousness as they have a new nature in them (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Hypocritical leaders are full of politics and preach water and drink wine as they live double standard lives.

It has been said that politics is a dirty game. It is so as long as the players are dirty. If the players are

clean their politics will equally be clean as they have a clean heart and a clean mind which is not corrupted in any way.

People the world over must stop giving their votes in any election to any person who has a questionable character in life in any way to become a leader as he or she will not be qualified to lead them well as God intends leaders to be. Why? Because all people were created by God in his image, after his likeness and those who want to over see the lives of others as leaders should ideally be above reproach.

People must stop being compromised in any election by prospective candidates in any way be it financially or materially or by any form of coercion. It is only then that they can expect to receive good leadership. Now let us look at some scriptures for some clarity on the possible source of good leadership.

Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? Not one.

Job 14:4

The above scripture describes the sinful nature of man as is weak in the flesh and which needs only God's intervention to remove the weakness.

Behold, I was sharpen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalm 51:5, 10

At the garden of Eden when man fell into sin he acquired a sinful nature and which all mankind have until they come to true repentance and acknowledgement of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in order to have a new nature as a result of a clean heart which has now been regenerated by God's spirit to be able to live a clean (a pure) life that can be pleasing to God (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Now as Jan'-nes and Jam'-bres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

2 Timothy 3:8-9

Those who are not in Christ Jesus their minds are corrupt and their conducts are highly questionable as the sinful nature in them controls their lives and if rise into any leadership position in the society their bad/poor leadership will be seen by all that they lead evidenced in all sorts of social and financial ills and injustices which are detrimental to those they lead and retard development. Such people will not stand to defend the truth and will indeed come up with bad policies for their people whom they lead.

Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

They profess that they know God; but in their works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Titus 1:15-16

Only by believing in Christ Jesus can one be pure with an undefiled conscience as the Spirit of God do a wonderful work in such a one and one can be obedient not only to the word of God but to the laws of the land as well and not living by impunity and behaving as one that is above the law but one being able to be doing good works.

BUT speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

Titus 2:1

One cannot speak sound doctrine unless one has a sound heart and mind and the only one that can make one to be so is God as God is holy. Please note that all that come out of the mouth do come from the heart and therefore if the heart is pure or impure it will just bring out proportionally pure or impure things (Matthew 15:17-20; 7:15-18).

My advice is this: If there are any positions of leadership to be filled, ideally let them be filled by truly God fearing people who personally know the Lord Jesus Christ in their lives and have a good report from within and without, if one truly expects

some good leadership or else only regrets and disappointments in life should be expected.

All people frankly need God and it would be even worse for one to lead without God thereby messing the lives of so many people! Such people without God are led by the flesh and reason by their stomach for personal gain and not by heart for the welfare of those they lead as they are selfish and not selfless individuals.

In the scriptures we do find God calling people into leadership and more so leaders in his church but not only that but in civil governments as well. Let us look at the scriptures beginning with the latter.

LET every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? Do

that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

For he is a minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath, but also for conscience sake.

For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

Romans 13:1-7

Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king or supreme;

Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.
Honor all men, Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

1 Peter 2:13-17

Leaders are God's ministers and that is the reason God calls people of all walks of life into leadership. From the above account it is quite clear that all leaders will have to give an account to God be they godly or ungodly and therefore no one will escape and that fact make it a necessity for all leaders to come to a personal knowledge of Jesus Christ in order to live godly lives walking in the commandments of God to be on the safe side and not to displease God by their bad reign on people.

AND Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his fathers a stranger, in the land of Canaan.
These are the generations of Jacob, Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock of with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's

wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colors.

And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:

For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

And his brethren said unto him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? Or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream

more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

Genesis 37:1-11

You can clearly see for yourself that Joseph received an inspiration from God who had talked to him in a dream that he will be a leader in life. And brought it to come to pass (Genesis 39 & 41) So before you aspire to be a leader ask yourself if God has talked to you. Don't aspire without an inspiration as we saw earlier that God is the one that elevates people into leadership.

NOW Moses kept the flock of Jeth'-ro his father-in-law, the priest of Mid'-i-an: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Hor'-eb.

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, here am I.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their sorrows;

And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good and a large, unto a land

flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Hit'-tites, and the Am'-o-rites, and the Per'-iz-zites, and the Hi'-vites, and the Jeb'-u-sites.

Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

Come now therefore and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Exodus 3:1-10

In the above incidence we do see Moses being called by God to be a leader to lead his people the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt where they were in bondage to a land which is both good and large and which by then was occupied by the heathen.

NOW after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children

of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

From the wilderness and this Leb'-a-non even unto the great river, the river Eu-phra'-tes, all the land of the Hit'-tites, and unto the Great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

Joshua 1:1-6

In that scripture Joshua the son of Nun was called by God to take over after Moses and to lead the children of Israel to the land God swore to their fathers to give them.

AND the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill thine horn with oil,

and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

And Samuel said, how can I go? If Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take a heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee.

And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Beth-lehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?

And he said, peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on E-li'-ab, and said,

Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him.

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth

not as a man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

Then Jesse called A-bin'-a-dab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, either hath the LORD chosen this.

Then Jesse made Sham'-mah to pass by. And he said, neither hath the LORD chosen this.

Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, be keepeth the sheep.

And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ra'-mah.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

In the above incidence we find God calling David to become a leader (a king over Israel). Please also note that when David was anointed by the prophet Samuel, the spirit of the Lord came upon David. In the Old Testament we find that God used to give his spirit both to the prophets and also to some kings and also to a few individuals for some special tasks. The prophets were given to help them discharge their duties effectively and the kings were given to help them also in discharging their duties such as in making judgments and so forth. But in the New Testament all who become believers in Christ Jesus (are born again) are recipients of God's spirit, to help them live a godly life. So if one is a leader and is not born again he or she will not have God's spirit and that is tragic in leadership which involves people being under such a leader and I wonder how or where he or she will lead the people!? Such a one need to have Jesus as it is only in him do one receive God's spirit.

For further reading you can go to the book of Daniel and read: Daniel 1 and 2 and also chapter 6 verses 1 to 3.

We have seen that God can remove a person wherever he or she is and bring him or her into a leadership position at the right time and therefore there is no need for one to campaign to be a leader and worse still there is no need at all in trying to get into leadership by crooked means like going to visit a witchdoctor for that cause. Such people who do involve in such unorthodox means to be in leadership if at all succeed in their schemes bring a lot of misery to those they lead and their reign too can be short-lived and if not I thank the Lord as for sure he will judge them accordingly at his time.

Chapter 2

The Humility Factor

God our Creator highly esteems humility and if you are in leadership and you do not humble yourself, I do believe God does not approve of your leadership. Get to know that leadership is not bullying and any leader that bullies those he or she leads by mistreating them and so on need to be sure that God will deal with such squarely. By humbling oneself in leadership one gets much respect from those one leads and I believe honor and acceptance from God.

Let us now go to a few scriptures what it says before we go further to see examples of leaders who had humility of heart and those who were proud in heart.

For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Luke 14:11

The solution to continue being up there in leadership lies with humbling oneself, how simple! Yet many forget that very act and always try to play

the boss. By the way God has power not only to put a person into leadership position but also to remove that person out of the same position, such that he or she becomes from ‘a somebody’ to ‘a nobody’.

Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 16:18

Now that is a warning more to leaders who are already up and not down, why? as one cannot fall from down but from up somewhere. As a leader you begin with pride and for sure you will fall down and be destroyed with all your reputation gone to the drain. But those not in some leadership position also need to take note and just humble themselves down there wherever they are to be lifted up by God at some opportune time and at God’s discretion (James 4:10, 1 Peter 5:6).

If one refuses to humble oneself and more so in leadership God will resist such a one and if God resists you as a leader, the question is where will you be then?

Let us now look at a few examples of those leaders who were humble.

NOW before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

After that he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

Jesus answered and said unto him, what I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet.

Jesus answered him, if I wash thee not, thou hast no part in me.

Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, know ye what I have done to you?

Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

John 13:1-15

Now Jesus Christ did that act on his disciples to teach them a lesson on humility as he was their Master and Lord them being his followers, yet he

went ahead stooping so low as to wash their feet as well as to wipe them with a towel. Another lesson was to teach them on servitude; that leaders are supposed to be servants to those they lead and not just to play their part as bosses only, which is not enough.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Philippians 2:5-9

Jesus Christ was so humble making himself of no reputation on in such a way that he took the likeness of a mere man though he was the Son of the Most High God and in that way was obedient even unto death on the cross. God therefore highly exalted him in such a way that his name was and is above all names between heaven and earth.
That shows us one thing that God his Father is a humble being. If God who is our Creator is humble and He as God is above all as the Alpha and Omega, who are you or who am I to refuse to humble?

AND Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the E-thi-o'-pi-an woman whom he had married: for he had married an E-thi-o'-pi-an woman.
And they said, hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? Hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it.
(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out.

And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

And he said, hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed.

And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as

snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

Numbers 12:1-10

Another man who was not only humblest of all men was Moses the son of Amram. That should tell you why God was so upset when Aaron and Miriam decided to talk ill of Moses who was their brother. It seems the two forgot that Moses was not merely their brother but was also a servant of God and in the office of a prophet.

These played with fire and for sure as we see from that incidence, one of them was burned and ended leprous. These had touched that which is holy (a true servant of God) and therefore sort of played with fire and God was not amused but was mocked (Psalm 105:15) and we have seen how God was angered and sprung into action.

Some people have mistaken humility for weakness which is not true. When things go the wrong way is when you can come to know that the one you thought was weak because of humility turn out to you to be actually strong and not weak as you thought. He or she will speak out or move into

action as necessary (Exodus 32:17-33, Mark 11:15-19).

IT came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Am'mon-ites, came against Je-hosh'-a-phat to battle.

Then there came some that told Je-hosh'-a-phat, saying,

There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side of Syria; and, they be in Haz'-a-zon-ta'-mar, which is in En-ge'-di.

And Je-hosh'-a-phat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

And Je-hosh'-a-phat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,

And said, O LORD God of our fathers, are not thou God in heaven? And rulest not thou over all the

kingdoms of the heathen? And in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

Art not thou our God, who didst drive the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,

If, when evil cometh upon as, as the sword, judgement, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.

And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Se'-ir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

O our God, wilt thou not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that comest against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones their wives, and their children.

Then upon Ja-ha'-zi-el the son of Zech-a-ri-ah, the son of Be-nai'-ah, the son of Jei'-el, the son of Mat-ta-ni'-ah, a Levite of the sons of A'-saph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;

And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Je-hosh'-a-phat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

Tomorrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Je-ru'-el.

Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear

not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them: for the LORD, will be with you.

And Je-hosh'-a-phat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshiping the LORD.

2 Chronicles 20:1-18

The rest is history if you read down further from verse 19 onwards. King Jehoshaphat humbled himself before God by seeking to get help from him. He was serious in it and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. Get to know that they too had an army that would have gone to battle but this king took that course to humble himself. He acknowledged God and his dependence upon God and he said so (verse 12) and God because he humbled himself so much, God took over the battle and it was not now their battle against those against them but God's battle against those invading armies.

God told them that they need not fight but just go and set themselves and see how God will fight on their behalf.

Now as for those leaders who were in pride and could not humble themselves, they had their equal share from God as necessary. Those were the likes of Sennacherib (2 Chronicles 32:1-21), Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4), Belshazzar (Daniel 5), Rehoboam (1 Kings 12:1-19) and Herod (Acts 12:20-23).

Chapter 3

The Servanthood Factor

Many people seem to be mistaken by what it means to be a leader and take it to mean lordship and which is not true (1 Peter 5:1-4) as in leadership there is more in serving than merely in directing and commanding people that one leads (Mark 10:35-45, Luke 22:24-27). It is so because one need to lead others by doing and not just sitting.

Therefore, one who aspires to be a leader need to have a heart to serve and not just to be served. Such a person need not to be led into leadership for selfish ambitions expecting to get some financial or material gains and so on. Also going for leadership should not be driven for prestige or such like motives.

And James and John, the sons of Zeb'-e-dee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire.

And he said unto them, what would ye that I should do for you?

They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.

But Jesus said unto them,

Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? And be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?

And they said unto him, we can. And Jesus said unto them, ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized:

But to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give; but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared.

And when the ten heard it, they began to be much displeased with James and John.

But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them,

Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentile exercise Lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.

But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:

And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.

For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark 10:35-45

In the above scripture you can see that the two disciples wanted to have some status when Jesus came to his glory just as some of us want in this world. But they were all mistaken as many of us are. Why? Because they did not understand what it means to be a leader and more so they seemed not to grasp what Jesus would go through in life and that is why Jesus posed a question to them. Jesus knew very well the trials and persecutions as well as the crucifixion that faced him (He was going to be engulfed in much suffering) and yet the two disciples wanted to be associated with him! The two disciples answered back without much thought that they could undergo all that. Jesus agreed with them for he knew very well in advance what would befall the two (Acts 12:1-2, Revelation 1:1-20).

You can also see that the other ten disciples heard about the ambition of these two and began to be much displeased, but why? I believe they too had the same, same ambition to be in some big position. Now Jesus knew that some trouble was brewing among his disciples and in order to remove the division and hatred which was imminent, he decided to talk to them or more to say, to lecture them. He explained to them how the world (the Gentiles) view leadership and that for them (the believers) they need to follow a different pattern all together.

With them, the one that want to aspire for a leadership position need to be ready to willingly minister (serve) the others. He went further and told them such a one need to be ready too to lay down his life for others in serving them (be ready even to sacrifice in life). Just as I said in my introduction section, many people want to be in leadership positions be they the saints or the heathen.

And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.

And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise Lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.

But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger? and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.

For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? Is not he that sitteth at meat? But I am among you as he that serveth.

Luke 22:24-27

You can see that there was a strife among the disciples of Jesus on who should be accounted the greatest among them. Those disciples are not alone as in this dispensation the strife for greatness has gone a notch hire more so in our continent of Africa as you can find even bigger number of people vying for one position and some end up even plotting to kill and even end up killing their opponents, which is most unfortunate.

Jesus advised his disciples to be ready to serve not expecting any benefits or gains from their service as assumed by many who are still living in the flesh

and not in the spirit. In a nutshell leadership is service to others.

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
Neither as being Lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock.
And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 Peter 5:1-4

The body of Christ the leaders are advised in the above scripture to feed God's people not yearning for some worldly gains and to serve willingly not as forced and to wait for a bigger gain when their Master comes. Let them wait the more for the big thing- a crown of glory that fadeth not away.
Now to me that is better and real great gain. How about you? Remember as I also remember what the

scripture say in the epistle of Saint John (1 John 2:17).

My advice to those who find themselves in leadership positions and are not yet believers in Christ Jesus that God's standards are the same. God has entrusted you to take care and serve his heritage (the citizens) and not to Lord over them making their lives miserable or else you will face him at the judgement day to account for your actions. Ask yourself this question now, will you be rewarded or judged? I advise you to believe in Christ Jesus repenting of your sins to God asking for forgiveness and inviting Jesus into your life to save your soul and to do the needful now and to await for better gains when he, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, Jesus Christ comes in his glory (Revelation 22:12-14). God had delegated to you authority and power to be able to serve as a father and as a shepherd to the people you lead, so please, for your own good, serve well, very well.

Chapter 4

The Love Factor

Let love be what motivates one to be a leader and not anything else. It is only genuine love can make a leader to succeed well in caring for those he or she leads as has a genuine concern for their welfare in his or her heart.

Many go for leadership positions not because of the love they have for the people to serve them and better their lives but only to have an opportunity to amass as much wealth as possible for themselves and their families. If they are rich and wealthy they do so as to be in power to be able to safeguard their riches and wealth and other interests like their business empires.

In this segment I am going to give an example of one great leader or better still the greatest leader ever who for sure and without an iota of doubt served out of love the love of God which is Agape love. He was completely different from all leaders that were before him and will be after him so to speak and is our perfect example in leadership. If you are in the Spirit, I guess you already know him

very well in that you have acknowledged him in your life.

AT that time Herod the te'-trarch heard of the fame of Jesus,
And said unto his servants,
This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do show forth themselves in him.
For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for He-ro'-di-as' sake, his brother Philip's wife.
For John said unto him, it is not lawful for thee to have her.
And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.
But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of He-ro'-di-as danced before them, and pleased Herod.
Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask.

And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, give me here John Baptist's head in a charger.
And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given to her.
And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison.
And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother.
And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, and went and told Jesus.
When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities.
And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion towards them, and he healed their sick.
And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying. This is desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves victuals.
But Jesus said unto them, they need not depart; give ye them to eat.

And they say unto him, we have here but five loaves, and two fishes.

He said, bring them hither to me.

And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the leaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.

And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

Matthew 14:1-21

In the above scripture we do find two different types of leaderships and leadership styles. That of Herod which is autocratic and selfish and on the other of Jesus which is theocratic and selfless as motivated by pure love. The leadership of Herod is manifested in recklessness in deeds and talks as he is careless in talking simply by a mere dance by the daughter of Herodias an adulteress and giving a criminal command to have John the Baptist be

headed in prison where he Herod himself took him in trying to subvert the truth which John the Baptist honestly told him. Instead of repenting for his immoral act he did what he did.

Herod had the power to revoke his earlier oath to Herodias' daughter than to have John the Baptist beheaded simply to please his guests at the birthday- to him probably he thought foolishly by his command he was proving to his guests that he is a leader who keeps his words. But his words were quite nonsensical and he was totally misplaced in his actions for he cared not for the lives of the citizens. Herod failed in the test for righteousness which is mandatory for all leaders as he refused sound counsel/advice from John the Baptist. A leader who has no respect for true servants of God are not leaders and have no business to remain in leadership as are going to cause great damage in their reign.

It is totally different when it comes to the leadership of Jesus by what he did to the multitudes first by healing their sick and then feeding the multitudes and all he did having compassion on the

people and willingly served them all. Now that is the leadership required in this sick world of ours and which as I have said in some other segments of this book, is lacking.

This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.
Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:12-13

Pure love (agape love) is but a commandment of God and no-one is exempted from that commandment not even leaders as all people are under the commandments of God and not above them.

The commandments of God are supreme to all other laws (Matthew 15:1-9, Act 5:12-42). Now let me give you just a few examples of the demonstration of love by fellow human beings as is recorded in the Scripture.

And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgement; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

And the LORD said, because the cry of Sodom and Go-mor-‘rah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?

And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken up on me to speak unto the LORD, which am but dust and ashes:

Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

And he said unto him, Oh, let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall

thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

And he said, Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

Genesis 18:16-33

In the above scripture Abraham had been visited by three angels and after giving them hospitality as they were leaving, Abraham communed with the Lord touching on the people in the city of Sodom. To be specific, he was interceding for the people to be spared by the Lord who was going to destroy for their wickedness. Now Abraham had compassion / was concerned for their lives and hence all those efforts to save them. The question for one aspiring

to be a leader or already is one, does he or she have much concern for people to be able to humble himself or herself and make all efforts to fight for their welfare? Let us see another similar example that demonstrates one's love for his people.

AND when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, up, make us gods which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.
And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.
And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron.
And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, these be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.

And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves:

They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshiped it, and have sacrificed there unto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt.

And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiff - necked people:

Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them: and I will make of thee a great nation.

And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy

people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand?

Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people.

Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it forever.

And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

Exodus 32:1-14

In the above scripture Moses the servant of God had gone to mount Sinai to commune with him and God gave him his ten commandments written by God himself and before his departure before the face of God, something bad, very bad occurred with Aaron and the children of Israel which was actually

idolatry, as Aaron did not have leadership qualities and led the people astray. But Moses cared for the people of God for he had love for them and although God gave him a suggestion, he turned it down as he was not egocentric and he began to talk sensibly and thereby interceding for them before God and God repented of the thought he had for the people.

How about you, do you have the quality Moses had which in the scripture touches on love for people?

Let us see another example.

AND David said, is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

And there was one of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Zi'-ba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, Art thou Zi'-ba? And he said, Thy servant is he.

And the king said, is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God unto him? And Zi'-ba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Zi'-ba said unto the king, Behold, he is in the house of Ma'-chir, the son of Am'-mi-el, in Lo-de'-bar.

Then King David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Ma'-chir, the son of Am'-mi-el, from Lo-de'-bar.

Now when Me-phib'-o-sheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Me-phib'-o-sheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

And David said unto him, Fear not; for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy grand father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

And he bowed himself, and said, what is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

Then the king called the Zi'-ba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Me-phib'-o-sheth thy master's son shall eat bread always at my table. Now Zi'-ba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

Then said Zi'-ba unto the king, according to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Me-phib'-o-sheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.

And Me-phib'-o-sheth had a young son, whose name was Mi'-cha.

And all that dwelt in the house of Zi'ba were servants unto Me-phib'-o-sheth.

So Me-phib'-o-sheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

2 *Samuel 9*

On that scripture, I have never heard of any king to be as kind as king David was on this planet earth. All that kind of royal treatment and more so to a disabled- a lame on both his feet and not for a day

or a week or a month, but continually, as some people despise such people in the society!!!? It is but amazing. David as a king, he was truly loving. Some may say that he was merely reciprocating his love because of the covenant he had with Jonathan when Jonathan was alive. Far from it, why? because Saul when he was alive and was reigning in Israel, he was jealous of David and on very many occasions he tried to do away with his life but David found good opportunities to kill king Saul but he did him no harm. David had no grudge for Saul and therefore he loved the descendant of Saul as well. How about you and I? Do we have such love for people to qualify as leaders!? Do we show kindness and love to all people even the disadvantaged in the society and those they leave behind at their departure as king David did?

If you are a leader and you find you do not have selfless love I advise you to come to Jesus and he will give it free of charge to you through his Spirit (John 7:37-39, Galatians 5:22-23).

Jesus Christ have great love for mankind and that is why he gave out his life on the cross so that you

and me can once again come to a better life after we fell into sin (Romans 3:23-26; 6:23, John 10:9-10).

May the Lord God bless you abundantly as you heed this divine call, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 5

The Righteousness Factor

Righteousness is equally a very important factor in life as God our Creator is all righteous and expects righteousness from all people and that of course includes even the leaders who are expected to be role models for others to follow. Jesus Christ who is our perfect example in life was equally all righteous just like his Father and we need honestly to emulate him.

Law, order and justice can only be maintained in absolute righteousness and nothing short of that. It would be hypocritical to try to maintain law and order while at the same time doing all sorts of unrighteous as it wont work but can just backfire as then there would be no justice at all in such an environment which is not conducive at all. That is why in many instances you find the people who are led end up resisting their leaders as they have double standards expecting those under their authority to obey rules and regulations and yet they themselves do not follow such rules and regulations. It follows therefore that in many

countries you can find that there is no stability. In such countries where the leaders practice impunity even prosperity of that country is adversely affected as a result for it also affects productivity and the end result is a decline of the economy of those countries because only productivity creates wealth and therefore the growth of the economy.

Let us now look at the scriptures and see the righteousness of God the Father and God the Son respectively.

THE LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice, let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgement are the habitation of his throne.

Psalm 97:1-2

We are told in the above scripture that God in his reign only dwells righteousness and justice. How about you who is a leader, what comes out of your reign? Is your life righteous and do see to it that there is justice for all and that no body is above the law? or is your reign full of selected justice where

others are judged and others are treated as sacred cows???

Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.

Psalm 119:137

Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth

Psalm 119:142

God is righteous throughout in all generations and into eternity and he judges rightly as he is a God of justice. You who is a leader ask yourself this question, Is there justice in your reign?

The LORD is righteous in all ways, and holy in all his works.

Psalm 145:17

As a leader are you righteous just in some ways, or are you righteous in all ways? Do you fear God in whatever you do or just do things any howly?

Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the scepter of thy kingdom is a right scepter.

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Psalm 45:6-7

The above scripture talks of what was to be fulfilled by the life of Jesus Christ who would show to love righteousness and to hate wickedness and thereby being made to be above all men and of course all angels included as well as he being superior to all of them, as a third of all God's angels fell and were cast out of heaven (Revelation 12:3-9) same to the first man Adam and therefore all the human race fell as well and he was sent forth out of the garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-6, 22-24). It follows therefore that God would not be pleased to see unrighteousness / wickedness from those who have been given the responsibility of leading the others as role models to behave as such, as he would judge them as he judged king Ahab and his queen (1 Kings 21:1-2,9, 2 Kings 9:30-10:17) king Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4), king Belshazzar

(Daniel 5), and king Herod (Acts 12:1-23) and as he will do the same to others in this generation as well on the judgement day (Revelation 20:11-15). Therefore, anyone in leadership should fear the Lord and surrender one's life to Christ Jesus to make one righteous in order to rule in righteousness and not face God's wrath on the judgement day.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgement and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9:6-7

The above was a prophecy by the prophet Isaiah concerning the reign of Christ Jesus and he

described how it would be that it will be established with judgment and with justice for ever and ever.
If you are a leader can you say with all sincerity that you have established your reign, with judgement and justice? Many leaders seem to establish their reign with injustices which is unfortunate and most regrettable.

AND there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;
And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of the ears:
But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reigns.

Isaiah 11:1-5

The prophet Isaiah went on to prophesy further that Jesus will be anointed by God and that his life will be characterized in righteousness and faithfulness. Now those are some of the characteristics of a true leader and who gets God's approval.

Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:
But in every nation, he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all:)
That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judea, and began from, Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Acts 10:34-38

Jesus Christ in his public ministry he went on ministering righteousness to the people as recorded above. He was also involved in bringing about justice as well in the society (John 8:1-11). Those are just samples and is not all he did while on earth in human body.

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the

winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:11-16

Apostle John was shown by God what would happen at the close of the Great Tribulation on earth how Jesus Christ would come down to establish his Millennium rule on the earth and that he will be accompanied by the resurrected saints and he goes on to say that the name of Jesus is Faithful and True as well as The Word of God. As a leader what other name do people know you going by how you conduct yourself?

Let us now look at a few scriptures touching on the need for righteousness before finally and we look at a few examples of leaders who practiced righteousness.

The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

Proverbs 15:29

Now that scripture is not selective in that God will hear the prayer of any righteous person be it a leader or not a leader and therefore discriminates not when it comes to righteousness as he is a just God. But he is far from the wicked as he is holy and therefore will not answer their prayer (John 9:31, 1 Peter 1:15-16). If you are a leader and do wickedly God will be far from you and will not hear your prayer so you will be doomed. I said you will be doomed as leadership need to depend upon God and now you have closed that door by wickedness and God cannot reach out to you and help you in your reign as sin has blocked Him.

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

Proverbs 29:2

Yes, people mourn when a wicked person is in the reign as they are on the receiving end of his evil deeds which augur, not well for their welfare.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

Psalm 66:18

How will God hear you if you are a wicked ruler? Never.

Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshiper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

John 9:31

I know many leaders do flock into church services on a Sunday to worship God but the big question is, Are they doers of God's will? If not, then God will not hear their prayers. I also know in Israel there were many leaders who went to worship God and truly feared God and did his will and God heard and answered their prayers, how about you who is a leader now in the Government or in an Organization which is non-governmental?

Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Proverbs 14:34

If you are a leader and want your nation, organization or church to be lifted up, then do righteousness and preach righteousness and those you lead shall do the same and blessings will follow. Also, a good name can only come out of righteous deeds (Proverbs 11:5-6; 22:1; 10:9).

NOW it came to pass in the third year of Ho-she'-a son of E'-lah king of Israel, that Hez-e-ki'-ah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.
Twenty and fire years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Abi, the daughter of Zach-a-ri'-ah.
And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.
He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Ne-hush'-tan.

He trusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.

For he clave to the LORD, and departed not from following him, but, kept his commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.

And the LORD was with him; and he prospered withersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Syria, and served him not.

2 Kings 18:1-7

We are told that Hezekiah did that which was right in the sight of the Lord. Now that is righteousness. We are also told that God prospered him as he kept the commandments of the Lord (Deuteronomy 8:18; 28:1-14). It is beneficial to remember God in your doings by obeying his commandments.

JO-SI'-AH was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Je-di'-dah, the daughter of A-dai'-ah of Bos'-cath.

And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the ways of David his

father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Jo-si'-ah, that the king sent Sha'-phan the son of Az-a-li'-ah, the son of Me-shul'-tam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying, Go up to Hil-ki'-ah the high priest, that he may sum up the silver which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the people:

And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of the house,

Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

And Hil-ki'-ah the high priest said unto Sha'-phan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.

And Hil-ki'-ah gave the book to Sha'-phan, and he read it.

And Sha'-phan the scribe came to the king, and brought the word again, and said, Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.

And Sha'-phan the scribe showed the king, saying, Hil-ki'-ah the high priest hath delivered me a book. And Sha'-phan read it before the king.

And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes.

And the king commanded Hil-ki'-ah the high priest, and A-hi'-kam the son of Sha'-phan, and Ach'-bor the son of Mi-chai'-ah, and Sha'-phan the scribe, and As-a-hi'-ah a servant of the king's saying,

Go ye, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.

So Hil-ki'-ah the high priest, and A-hi'-kam and Ach'-bor and Sha'-phan and As-a-hi'-ah, went unto Hul'-dah the prophetess the wife of Shal'-lum the son of Tik'-vah, the son of Har'-has, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they communed with her.

And she said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell the man that sent you to me,

Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:

Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

But to the king of Judah which sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall ye say to him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, As touching the words which thou hast heard;

Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before the LORD, when heardest

what I spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before me; I also heard thee, saith the LORD.

Behold therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word again.

2 Kings 22

You can read further the other good things (reforms) that Josiah brought in his reign in chapter 23 from verse 1 to 30. Josiah was also a righteous leader and heeded the word of God in the Holy Scripture and obtained God's favor. Please do note that both him and Hezekiah ruled for many years 31 and 29 years respectively.

IT pleased Da-ri'-us to set over the kingdom a hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

And over these three presidents, of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

Then Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

Daniel 6:1-4

These days it seems we really are lacking such leaders as Daniel. They are hard to come by as the world has continued to reel in corruption and all forms of unrighteousness. But one can decide not to walk in that wide road and be like the man Noah and be counted among the righteous (Matthew 7:13-14, Genesis 6:5-9).

Chapter 6

The Visionary factor

It is important for one in leadership to be visionary by being able to see situations at hand with a wide focus and to be able to plan ahead for the future very well for any eventualities and thereby avoiding an MBC (management by crisis) situation where one has been overtaken by events as one lacked advance safety measures in place. Let us look at this scripture what it has to say.

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Proverbs 29:18

Those people that are led by a leader who lacks vision end up perishing, but those that have a leader who keeps the law of God such a leader will be happy because his or her people are doing well. It is so because such a leader would receive a message from God through a vision or a dream and because he or she is knowledgeable in the word of God (the law) would be able to have understanding and therefore be able to act on that understanding and to

save himself or herself and those that he or she leads and be a happy man or a happy woman for having heeded God's instructions. Mind you God is the beginning and the end of all things and therefore can instruct a leader accordingly and if understands act and save lives. Let us now go to a scripture which illustrates the same.

AND it came to pass at the end of two full years that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river.

And, behold, there came out of the river seven well-favored kine and fat-fleshed; and they fed in a meadow.

And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill-favored and lean-fleshed kine did eat up the seven well-favored and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke.

And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good.

And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.

Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

Pharaoh was wrath with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker:

And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

And there was there with us a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard a say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.

And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph,

In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river:

And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fat-fleshed and well-favored; and they fed in a meadow:

And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill-favored and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness:

And the lean and the ill-favored kine did eat up the first seven fat kine:

And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but they were still ill-favored, as at the beginning. So I awoke.

And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good:

And, behold, seven thin ears withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

And the thin ears devoured the seven good ones: and I told this unto magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.

And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath showed Pharaoh what he is about to do.

The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years; the dream is one.

And the seven thin and ill-favored kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine.

This is the thing that I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he showeth unto Pharaoh.

Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:

And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous.

And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.

Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years.

And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.

And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom the spirit of God is?

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath showed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

Thou shalt be over my house, and according to thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it up on Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 41:1-43

So it was that the Egyptians perished not because their king Pharaoh appointed for them another leader to rule over them. This time round there was at least a visionary leader in the name of Joseph and who was a young Hebrew and who knew his God and that God, was with him. Unlike king Pharaoh who was a heathen and could not understand the things of God. God often speaks in visions and dreams and can do so using symbols and only one close to Him who fears and obeys Him can be able to understand and interpret what message has been communicated by God. Please note that all along God had been with Joseph and Potiphar the officer of Pharaoh saw it and later Pharaoh himself also came to see after the dream he dreamt was interpreted by Joseph (Genesis 39:1-3, 20:22; 41:38-40). Why Joseph could interpret Pharaoh's dream is because God is a Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:11-14).

What Pharaoh did at first (calling all the magicians and the so called, wise men of Egypt) was a big mistake which the king of Syria also did. Both these approached the wrong people to solve the

problems at hand (Genesis 41:1-8, 2 Kings 5:1-7). The same, same mistake are being done today by some of our leaders.

A wise leader needs to be going to true servants of God often for counsel whenever they are faced with difficult situations so as to get answers. Those so called, wise men were just full of the wisdom of the world and not of heaven (of God). Joseph was humbled and did not want to share the glory of God (Genesis 41:14-16) same humility was seen in Daniel (Daniel 2:26-29).

From the above we can see clearly the necessity of being visionary in leadership so that those led do not have to perish and the people and the land to prosper.

A leader needs to be visionary to be able to move those he or she leads from one point to another point such that they don't remain in the same situation year in year out. The leader need be a problem solver of sort having good intervention measures. One who is able to bail out people from social and economic problems facing them. A visionary leader is one who has connected

himself/herself to God in order to be able to foresee problems before they occur and to prepare well to avert/thwart them by always seeking God for help. It is for that reason that we find that a leader has to depend upon God, a factor which we are going to get in chapter 9.

God is visionary as the Creator of all things and saw that man was going to fall in sin and he came out with a solution (John 3:16, Romans 5:6-8). God also saw that human kingdoms are doomed to fail and organized to have his kingdom established eternally (Daniel 2:44).

God also saw how the earth would be polluted and he was determined to bring a totally new order both in heaven and on earth (Isaiah 24, 2 Peter 3:10, Revelation 21).

Chapter 7

The Integrity Factor

Integrity is another factor required in leadership as in leadership one must be uncompromising and incorruptible but being just honest in all his or her dealings with all people and therefore be found blameless before them. Now what does the scripture say? Let us look at the Scripture.

Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them.

And I spake unto you at that time, saying, I am not able to bear you myself alone:

The Lord your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude.

(The Lord God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and bless you, as he hath promised you!).

How can I myself alone bear your cumbrance, and your burden, and your strife?

Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you.

And ye answered me, and said, The thing which thou hast spoken is good for us to do.

So I took the chief of your tribes, wise men, and known, and made them heads over you, captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties, and captains over tens, and officers among your tribes.

And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren, and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him.

Ye shall not respect persons in judgement; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgement is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it.

Genesis 1:8-17

From the above scripture you can see that Moses the servant of God and a leader to his brethren the Israelites found that he was overwhelmed with the

work of leadership and he advised them to nominate others to assist him in leadership, but that they must be people of integrity who will uphold justice and righteousness at all times and not to respect any person in their judgements as God the Creator is just and righteous. Similar scripture follows below.

Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgement.
Thou shalt not wrest judgement; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.
That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Deuteronomy 16:18-20

No taking of a bribe when going to execute judgement as it negatively affects judgement such that it is wrongly executed by the jury.

AND in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, it is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Proch'-o-rus, and Ni-ca'-nor, and Ti'-mon, and Par'-me-nas, and Nicolas a proselyte of An'-ti-och:

Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

Acts 6:1-6

Even in the New Testament which of course includes our dispensation the qualification is the

same: wisdom and honesty. The foolish and the dishonest (lacking integrity) have no place in leadership or else people will suffer so much in their reign.

I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me?
I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.
I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn a side; it shall not cleave to me.

Psalm 101:2-3

One who is a leader must be and talk like the psalmist David in the above scripture. One must behave wisely with a perfect heart and not compromising on anything by not being a party to any corrupt dealing in life.

Leadership is not just a position one holds in a society but it is also good behavior as well not enriching oneself at the expense of the others. Leadership is good manners.

He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.

Proverbs 10:9

If you want to be sure or want to maintain and sustain your leadership do work noble things - walk uprightly and not crookedly perverting your ways. If you don't do so, sooner or later it will be known and exposed. Many leaders in the nations of the world have been involved in scandal after scandal and have been investigated and found guilty and charged in courts of law and some because of embarrassment have resigned from their positions. They had walked (lived) crookedly and not honest in what they said or doing in society.

Thou shalt not wrest judgement; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.

That which is altogether just shall thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Deuteronomy 16:19-20

God is not a respecter of persons and never takes a bribe (a “gift”) as bribery is sin. But some judges and leaders are tempted and do take “gifts” and wrest judgement thereby as they have respect of persons, so let them watch out as God sees all their wickedness. They simply lack integrity of heart and badly need the Savior Jesus Christ to save them from such vices. Let such give their lives to Jesus Christ to redeem them now before it is too late. Jesus Christ told his disciples that he is the truth (John 14:1-6). One need Jesus Christ who is the truth to be able to execute justice fairly without fear or favors. Even Pilate who found no fault in Jesus Christ yet because he had respect of persons, he bowed to pressure being afraid of the people and delivered Jesus to them to be crucified, no wonder he at one time asked Jesus “What is truth?- he had not truth in himself of course and also followed a custom of the Jews and not the law of the land (John 18:28-29:19).

In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

Titus 2:7-8

Yes, incorruptness is required of leaders as they must be sincere in their doings and be principled in their speech not talking muddily so that there is no occasion left for anybody to accuse him or her of any wrong doing or word.

Let us now go to some examples of leaders who walked uprightly and not abusing the office they held. We all know that many leaders have abused and misused the authority and power given to them by virtue of being in leadership.

NOW Na'-a-man, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper.

And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Na'-a-man's wife.

And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Sa-mar'-i-a! For he would recover him of his leprosy.

And one went in, and told his lord, saying, thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.

And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Na'-a-man my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.

And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? Wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.

And it was so, when E-li'-sha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

So Na'-a-man came with his horse and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of E-li'-sha.

And E-li'-sha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

But Na'-a-man was wroth, and went away, and said,

Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

Are not Ab-a'-na and Phar'-par, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said,

My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? How much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant.

But he said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it; but he refused.

2 Kings 5:1-16

The prophet Elisha did what was right in the sight of God because he feared God and walked in integrity of heart. The prophet knew very well that healing comes from God and not from any man's power and therefore should not be charged

anything. He obeyed exactly what Jesus told his disciples when he sent them out (Matthew 10:1-8).
Living in integrity of heart involves walking in strict compliance to the laws of God and the laws of the land and refusing to be involved in all forms of corruption which are now so rampant in this dispensation. Refuse to have your name tainted by evil. You can go further and read also these scriptures: Psalm 15:1-4, Proverbs 12:22.

AND Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.
And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and gray headed; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.
Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.

And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken aught of any man's hand.

And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found aught in my hand.

And they answered, He is witness.

1 Samuel 12:1-5

Now just tell me my reader, how many of our leaders can do what the prophet Samuel did by challenging all the people in the land to point a finger at him for any wrong doing? The prophet never took any bribe from anybody and definitely never gave any bribe to anybody. He never defrauded anybody or taking anything from any body in discharging his duties. All the people of Israel answered back saying it is true we have no any report which is bad from the prophet, none at all. I wish that would be so in this land of ours.

Many leaders stopped being honest long time ago except for just a select few.

AND Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Pot'-i-phar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, and Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ish'-mae-lites, which had brought him down thither.

And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

And his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not aught he had, save the bread which he did eat.

And Joseph was a goodly person, and well-favored.

And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, lie with me.

But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

There is none greater in this house, than I; neither hath he kept back anything from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her to lie by her, or to be with her.

And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within.

And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

Genesis 39:1-12

Although Joseph was just an overseer, he proved himself a real hero by refusing to compromise and

could not at all lie with the lustful wife of Potiphar who was his boss. If he had lied with her, he would have done a most dishonest thing.

Dishonesty is sin before God who will judge all dishonest men and women the youths included. Joseph was a young man who walked uprightly in the integrity of heart. All our youths need to emulate him fully and refuse to be compromised or to compromise in life and be clean (Psalm 119:9-11).

Now if you go further and read the book of Genesis in chapter 41 you will find that God did promote Joseph for his honesty and he was given a second in command position by king Pharaoh of Egypt.

From the account of Joseph, I do find that integrity is accompanied with prosperity as it has been said 'Honesty pays'. If so, then why do many continue to live dishonestly? Let all of us ask ourselves that one question.

I do wonder, that is why most probably some countries have been known to be poor yet they have a lot of resources including mineral resource in vast quantities. The problem most likely emanates from

the leadership that is dishonest and those led too follow the same pattern of dishonesty and those countries are left in deplorable conditions.

Those that know they don't have integrity of heart should stop vying for any leadership position so as to save people from many unnecessary burden and headache.

All tax payers are ever burdened because dishonest leaders are in power and misuse and mismanage almost all the resources available in those countries and living in extra ordinary extravagance and leaving the populace in poverty. For God's sake those kinds of bad (immoral) behaviour must stop, In Jesus' name.

Chapter 8

The Faithfulness Factor

Faithfulness is an important factor in life and therefore it would be a big shame for one to be in leadership and be found to be unfaithful to those he or she leads and become an embarrassment too and the people be not proud of his or her leadership. Let us look at the scriptures and see what it has to say as well as see those who were faithful in their lives for us who are in leadership to emulate.

NOW it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed,
That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many.

Nehemiah 7:1-2

And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the Singers, that did the work, were fled everyone to his field.

Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place.

Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries.

And I made treasurers over the treasuries, Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah: and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah: for they were counted faithful, and their office was to distribute unto their brethren.

Nehemiah 13:10-13

In the above two scriptures you can see that those who were appointed by Nehemiah to be in charge of Jerusalem and the treasuries were faithful men. It follows therefore that only trustworthy people need to be allowed into leadership or else it is a disaster-grabbing of pieces of land, plundering treasuries, name it.

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's who shall give you that which is your own?

Luke 16:10-12

Many leaders unfortunately do have a corruptible heart and it is sad as they have been entrusted with much with authority and power and it is a sad situation for them to misuse it. One's faithfulness in life can be measured in little things and not necessarily in big things and that is why the scriptures say that to be faithful in little is to be faithful in much too.

One big, big area where you find people failing the test in their lives touch on money matters and that is why the scripture have intentionally mentioned money (mammon) in illustrating to us the act of being faithful or otherwise in life.

I am going to give a few examples of those mentioned in the Bible who were leaders and were found to be faithful, to the glory of the Father.

WHEREFORE, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;
Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

Hebrews 3:1-2

Jesus Christ the Son of the living God was faithful and is still faithful today and forever just as his Father. Moses too who God appointed to be a leader over the people of God the children of Israel he too followed the same pattern.

AND Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Pot'-i-phar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard an Egyptian, brought him of the hands of the Ish'-mae-lites, which had brought him down thither.
And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.
And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not aught he had, save the bread which he did eat.

And Joseph was a goodly person, and well-favored.

And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.

But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

There is none greater in this house, than I; neither hath he kept back anything from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her to lie by her, or to be with her.

And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within.

And she caught him by his garment, saying, lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth,

That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in a Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice:

And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home.

And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me:

And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out.
And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, after this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.
And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison.
But the LORD was with Joseph, and showed him mercy, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.
And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.
The keeper of the prison looked not to anything that was under his hand; because the LORD was with him, and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

Genesis 39

It is good, really good to be faithful as then, only then can people begin to have full trust in you. We have seen that God was always with Joseph

wherever he was and also prospered whatever he did.

Therefore it is better for us to be faithful always so as not to be left on our own.

Joseph proved himself faithful where there seemed to be no chances at all for one to be faithful (cornered by his master's wife to lie with him and no man was around who could find them in the act and report to his master). He proved faithful in little (things in the house of his master) and went further to prove himself faithful in much by not lying with his master's wife (who was but part of his master's body). Joseph's faithfulness brought him even more into leadership even in prison and was indirectly propelling him into big leadership into kingship (mind you he was made a leader not among ordinary prisoners but among the king's prisoners!). It is equally possible for faithfulness to have one remain in leadership for quite a long time in life (as Joseph was second in command after the king of Egypt the rest of his life after God removing him out of prison. Because Joseph was faithful in other people's things and so on, God

rewarded him with his own after coming out of the prison (Genesis 46:29-12).

God is much if one proves to be faithful before him.

Be always faithful in life and your promotion is forth coming be sure of that as Joseph's life portrays it all. In faithfulness expect great things ahead from God the faithful one.

NEBUCHADNEZZAR the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Then the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image

that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,

That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of music, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live forever.

Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image:

And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. Then they brought these men before the king.

Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery,

and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answered nd sid the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Daniel 3:1-18

Now the three Hebrew boys were quite faithful to their God the God of Israel. They did not mince their words but put them clearly to the king that they will not serve his gods nor worship the golden image he had set. Why? It is because they knew their God to be a great God and above all creations as he is the Creator. They were not bothered by the king's rage and fury as well as his command to

have the fire be increased in intensity sevenfold in the burning furnace. I thank God that he showed Himself quite powerful by delivering the boys with a great deliverance for all and sundry to see and the king had no alternative but to bow down to the God of gods and King of kings and promoted the trio (verses 19-30) as God whom they served saw good quality in them for leadership. Also to note is that many leaders today have followed the way of king Nebuchadnezzar as they want to live by impunity not caring about anybody and thinking they are above the Law and behave as demi gods, quite sad indeed s they need to leave pride and to sober up and know that they are nothing and not superior than the citizens he or she is leading and only God has given them that opportunity to lead and not to mislead or misbehave as they do. An image made by mortal man to be worshiped is but an idol and not to be served nor worshipped as it is sin (Deuteronomy 5:1-10, Matthew 4:1-11)

IT pleased Da-ri'-us to set over the kingdom a hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

Daniel 6:1-4

Now before I say anything, I envy Daniel. How beautiful his faithfulness is described in that scripture and wish it would have been me. Daniel was not appointed into leadership for something else but because of being a really faithful man and he was given a top position in that kingdom out of the one hundred and twenty three big positions he

was among the top three being a president and not a prince, moreover he was listed as the first among the presidents and that made the other presidents and princes to not only envy him but plotted to fix him (to have him out of that office).

Please note that king Darius preferred Daniel against all the rest and thought to set Daniel over the whole realm (the whole kingdom).

Now to me that is how powerful faithfulness is as God honors it.

A safeguard at all times and remembering that God is with you wherever you are and is watching you seeing every step you move and having with you the word of God to measure up your words, actions, motives and thoughts. Don't look at opportunities and just jump on them but remember also before you do to look at God first.

A leader is somebody who has been entrusted at his disposal with immense resources from human to financial to material and it is paramount that he or she is found faithful in all of them.

Chapter 9

Dependence on God factor

In Leadership ideally one must depend upon God both for direction and intervention and not to depend on one's own wisdom or might or else one will fail miserably. Sound decisions/judgments can only come by the help of the Holy Spirit who has all the capabilities of counseling, encouraging and strengthening not to mention teaching among others. Therefore, to lead people without Him is to somehow lead people nowhere or in other words to mislead them.

The Holy Spirit is paramount as leadership is not merely being in there in a position in the society or in an Organization and human skills alone may not be good enough as that is merely the wisdom of this world which often comes to nought as we all were corrupted from the garden of Eden when man first fell into sin and therefore our lives can be made better only by the person of the Holy Spirit as we are all weak as flesh and blood but God is both all wise and mighty as well and by Him we can do great things which are good for mankind. Apostle

Paul at one time told the church at Philippi that he can do all things through Christ who strengthen him (Philippians 4:13). How about you if you are a leader, can you do things well by your own strength? So, as I said in beginning, we need God who is a Spirit and that is, we must be born again (John 3:1-6) so that we can be polished and become good leaders.

Let us now navigate through the scriptures to see for ourselves what it has to say on this matter.

AND the LORD said unto Samuel,

How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

And Samuel said, how can I go? If Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take a heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

And all Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee.

And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Beth-lehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Camest thou peaceably?

And he said, peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on E-li'-ab, and said,

Surely the LORDS anointed is before him.

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as a man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

Then Jesse called A-bin'-a-dab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, neither hath the LORD chosen this.

Then Jesse made Sham'-mah to pass by. And he said, neither hath the LORD chosen this. Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

And Samuel said unto Jesse,

Are here all thy children?

And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, be keepeth the sheep.

And Samuel said unto Jesse,

Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ra'-mah.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

From the above scripture you can see that God had provided himself a king among the sons of Jesse

and that was David whom he chose and Samuel anointed him with oil as was instructed by God and God's spirit came upon David from that day forward. Why was it so? It was so for David to be fully equipped and prepared for leadership. Only the Holy Spirit can equip and prepare one for any work in life, most adequately (Exodus 31:1-11). Get to know that only the Holy Spirit is the skilled One and there is no other like Him. So, as I said earlier, our knowledge, skill or strength is not good enough.

We definitely need God who is our creator to bring real good work out of us. Now if you take time and read on the life of David you will find that he was most likely the best king that Israel ever had in history. Solomon the son of David took over after him.

And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

And the king went to Gib'-eon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon the altar.

In Gib'-eon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

And Solomon said, Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between

good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

And God said unto him, because thou hast asked for thy long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

Behold, I have done according to thy words: Lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honor: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.

And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt

offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto the king, and stood before him.

And the one woman said, O my Lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house.

And it came to pass on the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house.

And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.

And she arose at midnight and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.

And when I arose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son which I did bear.

And the other woman said,

Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son. And this said, No; but the dead is thy son, and

the living is my son. Thus they spake before the king.

Then said the king, the one saith, this is my son that liveth and thy son is the dead: and the other saith

Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living.

And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king.

And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my Lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said,

Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.

And all Israel heard of the judgement which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment.

1 Kings 3:3-28

Now the above scripture has some interesting lessons. In it we find that Solomon when he was enthroned to Kingship, he realized his inadequacy and acknowledged it to God in his own words (verse 6 to 9).

What Solomon asked God was a very noble thing called wisdom (Proverbs 8:11). He asked the right person as true wisdom only comes from God.

It is good to have advisors in such top positions but they are mortal men and only if they are religious leaders who are filled with the Holy Spirit are they better.

God is a Spirit and therefore true wisdom is found there in and not in some vacuum (Exodus 31:1-2). Now we should not think that Solomon asked God for wisdom simply because he was a little child as he said, I believe he was a young man then. But all the same even the mature and elderly men and women who are leaders badly need God's wisdom and which they must strive and get by a new birth as I said earlier. If not, they will be like Solomon at that time who knew not how to go out or come in.

The reason has been given (verse 9). In leadership one need understanding and discernment without which one will mane many blunders in one's reign. We have clearly seen how Solomon was faced with a most difficulty case as I believe during those days, there were no such tests as DNA test which we now have among many others. Thank God that case came after God had given him what he asked for and the people of Israel saw that the wisdom of God was in him. The spirit of wisdom from God helped him to judge rightly as he the Spirit is a spirit of discernment and an excellent spirit. I can now recall back what one leader confided in me while I was in formal employment. He said this 'It is easier to manage livestock, that to manage human beings. But many do think that management which may be compared to leadership is easy or simple as bread and butter. The truth of the matter is that there are a lot of headaches in them and the person of the Holy Spirit comes handy as he is a helper to assist one in life, advising, teaching, guiding name it, including comforting.

Now let us go back to David the father of Solomon once again.

And when the Phil-is'-tines heard that David was anointed king over Israel, all the Phil-is'-tines went up to seek David.
And David heard of it, and went out against them.
And the Phil-is'-tines came and spread themselves in the valley of Reph'-a-im.
And David inquired of God, saying, Shall I go up against the Phil-is'-tines? And wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto him; Go up; for I will deliver them into thine hand.
So they came up to Ba'-al-per'a-zim; and David smote them there. Then David said, God hath broken in upon mine enemies by mine hand like the breaking forth of waters: therefore they called the name of that place Ba'-al-per'a-zim.
And when they had left their gods there, David gave a commandment, and they were burned with fire.
And the Philistines yet again spread themselves abroad in the valley.

Therefore David inquired again of God; and God said unto him, Go not up after them; turn away from them, and come upon them over the mulberry trees.

And it shall be, when thou shalt hear a sound of going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt go out to battle: for God is gone forth before thee to smite the host of the Phil-is'-tines.

David therefore did as God commanded him: and they smote the host of the Phil-is'-tines from Gib-eon ever to Ga'-zer.

And the fame of David went out into all lands; and the LORD brought fear of him upon all nations.

1 Chronicles 14:8-17

We can see clearly that when David became king the Philistines all came for him. That tells us that once one ascends into leadership one will have many enemies who will want him or her to fall and will even attempt to take away his or her life.

We also have seen that David inquired of the Lord when he heard that those people were after him. David was wise as he was full of God's spirit and

did the needful- he inquired of the Lord who gave him an okay.

David then succeeded in defeating the enemies. After that sweet victory, David did not boast about it but humbled himself and to destroy his enemies. Why then can't many leaders today acknowledge God's supremacy in their lives so as to be used by God as David did?

Enemies don't tire so easily just as Satan is who will keep on tempting people unto their go to the grave. The enemies of David made yet another attempt to attack David and David did not go by the earlier victory by ignoring the enemies. David instead, he still did the wise thing and inquired of God who not only gave him an okay but how to go about it, that is, strategy. Just as before this time round David smote his enemies and obtained yet another victory.

Suppose he did not inquire from God and only depended on the armies of Israel imagine what would have happened it would most likely have been a different story all together. David showed clearly his dependence on and trust in God. By not

depending upon God one can make blunders. Just consider the second attempt by the Philistines and God saving David by telling him to take a different approach for success!

SO A-bi'-jah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and A'-sa his son reigned in his stead. In his days the land was quite ten years.
And A'-sa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God:
For he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:
And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.
Also he took away out all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him.
And he built fenced cities in Judah: for the land had rest, and he had no war in those years; because the LORD had given him rest.

Therefore he said unto Judah,

Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, and towers, gates, and bars. While the land is yet before us; because we have sought the LORD our God, we have sought him, and he hath given us rest on every side.

So they built and prospered.

And A'-sa had an army of men that bear targets and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bear shields and drew bows, two hundred and fours core thousand: all these were mighty men of valor.

And there came out against them Ze'-rah the E-thi-o'-pian with a host a thousand, thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Ma-re'-shah.

Then A'-sa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zeph'-a-thah at Ma-re'-shah.

And A'-sa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy

name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee.

So the LORD smote the E-thi-o'-pian before A'-sa, and before Judag; and the E-thi-o'-pian fled.

And A'-sa and the people that were with him pursued them unto Ge'rar: and the E-thi-o'-pians were overthrown that they could not recover themselves; for they were destroyed before the LORD, and before host; and they carried away very much spoil.

And they smote all the cities round about Ge'-rar; for the fear of the LORD came upon them: and they spoiled all the cities; for there was exceeding much spoil in them.

They smote also the tents of cattle, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 14

Do you know why God gave Asa rest for all those ten years?

It is because Asa hungered for righteousness (verse 2 to 4, Matthew 5:6) and also he trusted in the Lord and not on his vast army (verse 8) but rather ran to

God seeking refuge (verse 9 to 11) moreover he used the name of the Lord to approach the Ethiopians and the victory was theirs as God fought for them as earlier in verse 11 he had literally handed over the battle to the Lord (Proverbs 18:10, 1 Samuel 17:41-45).

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
But John forbade him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus Christ prior to beginning his public ministry in chapter 4 he was first filled by the Spirit of God

the Father as he was going to be the head of the Church (Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 5:23b).

Please also note that in the early church those who were chosen by the apostles or rather by other disciples (believers) to serve as deacons the qualifications required was that they be honest, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom (Acts 6:1-6) who were to serve in giving provision to the widows.

So, in all those circumstances you can see that the help of God was required.

Now anyone who is in leadership and don't want to depend upon God I can liken to some one who is making attempts to commit suicide which is a very precarious situation indeed!

The Lord God is everything and one can't afford to exclude Him in One's leadership (Psalm 24:1-2, Daniel 2:1-24, Matthew 28:18).

Chapter 10

The Faith Factor

Faith is of utmost importance as well when it comes to the issue of leadership. Faith go hand in hand with righteousness. You can hardly have one and not have the other (James 2:14-24, Hebrews 11:7).

Faith is a must in leadership so that one is able to stand in a time of crisis being calm and not panicking and then acting decisively over the matter.

Straight away I am going to take you to the scriptures and give a few examples of leaders who had faith and acted on their faith. When I talk of faith I mean the faith one has in the Lord God and which pleases Him and make him to act or intervene in a situation.

AND the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Speak unto the children of Israel, that they turn and encamp before Pi-ha-hi'-roth, between Mig'-dol and the sea, over against Ba'-al-ze'-phon: before it shall ye encamp by the sea.

For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.

And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honoured upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD.

And they did so.

And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?

And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him: And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.

And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with a high hand.

But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his

army, and overtook, them encamping, by the sea, beside Pi-ha-hi'-roth, before Ba'-al-ze'-phon.

And when Pharaoh drew nigh the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

And they said unto Moses,

Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? Wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians?

For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

Exodus 14:1-13

There you are. Moses had faith in God who spoke to him and did not panic but was calm and

encouraged the children of Israel not to fear. Suppose he had no faith would he have said such words of encouragement at such a time? No rather he would have been tongue tied not knowing what action to take or what to tell the children of Israel who were blaming him so much.

NOW Jericho was straightly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none come in.

And the LORD said to Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valor.

And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout

with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

And Joshua the son of Nun, called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the Ark of the Covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.

And he said unto the people,

Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.

Joshua 6:1-7

Now the rest is history if you go on to read the rest of the chapter, that is, from verse 8 onwards. If Joshua was not a man of faith as a leader, he would not have acted on the words of the Lord which to the people who lack faith in God would have looked to them as ridiculous and a big joke.

And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

For Israel and the Phil-is'-tines had put the battle in array, army against army.

And David left his carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

And as he talked with them, behold, there, came up a champion, the Phil-is'-tine of Gath, Go-li'-ath by name, out of the armies of the Phil-is'-tines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

And the men of Israel said,

Have ye seen this man that/ is come up? Surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, what shall be done to the man that killeth this Phil-is'-tine, and taketh away the reproach of Isra from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Phil-is'-tine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

And the people answered him after this manner, saying, so shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

And E-li'-ab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and E-li'-ab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest down hither? And with whom hast thou left those, few sheep in the wilderness?

I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

And David said, what have now done? Is there not a cause?

And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Phil-is'-tine.

1 Samuel 17:20-32

Now I can call that great faith, why? Because David was just a youth and he was not bothered with the champion of Gath by the name Goliath from the armies of the Philistines and whom all the soldiers in the armies of Israel fled from. David scorned at the Philistine giant referring to him as uncircumcised.

Now if you read further from verse 33 onwards, all became history in that David surely fought the champion and killed him swiftly.

David was earlier a leader leading the sheep of his father and recently God had raised him to be a leader of the people of Israel and he had been anointed by a prophet of God named Samuel as God instructed him. Meanwhile he was waiting/warming up for the kingship which was still with Saul.

From the fore going it is quite apparent to all leaders that they must have faith in God to be able to accomplish great things in their reign. If they do not have faith, they can get it without paying a penny. They just have to believe the gospel of

Christ Jesus with all sincerity of heart and there they go soaring up in Jesus' name (Romans 10:13-17, John 1:6-13, Zechariah 4:1-6).

In Christ Jesus there is power and not man power (might) but God power which comes by the faith in Christ Jesus and which equips one for greater works.

You have nothing to lose if you don't have the faith of Christ you can go to him and let it straight away (Acts 2:36-38).

Chapter 11

The Patriotism Factor

It would be quite a good thing if all leaders were patriotic in heart and even the more on any leader who is in high position so as to be able to defend his country. If not, he or she may note care much and the country would be left in a jeopardy which is not good at all for any country.

Many leaders are not patriotic at all and some are less patriotic (not patriotic enough).

Such crop of leaders cannot help a country and to some extent they are a liability.

On this subject I am going to present only one example of a person (actually a leader in waiting) who was really patriotic and defended his country because he had a heart for his country and his country men and women and children. Read on.

And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?

And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? Intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.

And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye re come so soon today?

And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.

And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? Why is it that ye have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread.

And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.

And she bare him a son, and he called his name Gershom: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land.

And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

NOW Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the

backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses, And he said, Here am I.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Moreover he said, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face: for he was afraid to look upon God.

And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

And am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Exodus 2:11-3:10

Now if we look in the first chapter in the book of Exodus, we find that Moses after his birth his life was in danger going by the orders of the king of Egypt. But we also find that God preserved his life miraculously and he ended being brought up in the house of the king and when he was grown up he went out to look at the welfare of his brethren, the Hebrews and saw their burdens and was patriotic enough to the extent he made efforts to deliver them though in a crude way by killing an Egyptian

who was hitting a Hebrew and the king heard of it and wanted to slay him. But in all this God saw to it that he lived. God had a divine plan to deliver the children of Israel out of bondage by appointing Moses to lead them out of Egypt. Quite tremendous, no wonder Moses in his life began to show leadership qualities as both a liberator and an administrator and judge! He was concerned about his brethren and by extension his nation Israel.

THE words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month of Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace,
That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.
And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.

And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before God of heaven,

And said, I beseech thee, O Lord God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:

Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.

Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst Moses thy servant, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations:

But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.

Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand.

O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

Nehemiah 1

Now if we look at that scripture we find that Nehemiah was so much concerned about his people the Hebrews and their nation Israel that although he was an employee in the king's palace and would have been complacent in life as I believed he lived a comfortable life, yet he asked to know the welfare of his brethren. But when he got the report of their

welfare he was so much moved such that he sat down not to relax but to weep, mourn, fast and pray for days before the God of heaven who is the only one who could change the situation and God herd his prayers and granted him favor before the king for him to do something about it. Now that is to be really patriotic in life. Now if we go to chapter five of the book of Nehemiahm we find that Nehemiah was promoted as governor by that king. Now the truth is that it was not the king but God was at work on Nehemiah's life seeing his heart and his efforts. Now Nehemiah was like Moses too who did not just sit back and enjoy life in the king's palace but came out and did something to improve the welfare of his brethren the Jews as he saw it fit to suffer with them than to enjoy life alone in the king's palace (Hebrews 11:23-26).

NOW the Phil-is'-tines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Sho'-choh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Sho'-choh and A-ze'-kah, in E-phes-dam'-mim.

And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together and pitched by the valley of E'-lah, and set the battle in arry against the Phil-is'-tines.

And the Phil-is'-tines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and there was a valley between them.

And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Phil-is'-tines, named Go-li'-ath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

And he had a helmet of brass upon his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand sh-ek'-els of brass.

And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders.

And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spears head weighed six thousand sh-ek'-els of iron: and one bearing a shield went before him.

And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, why are ye come out to set your battle in array? Am not I a Phil-is'-tine, and ye servants to Saul? Choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.

If he be able to fight with me, and kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.

And the Phil-is'-tine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

When Saul and all Israel, heard those words of the Phil-is'-tine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Now David was the son of that Eph'-ra-thite of Beth-lehem Judah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of Saul.

And the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were E-li'ab the firstborn, and next unto him A-bin'-a-dab, and the third Sham'-mah.

And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem.

And the Phil-is'-tine drew near morning and evening and presented himself forty days.

And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an e'-phah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren;

And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look now thy brethren fare, and take their pledge.

Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of E'-lah, fighting with the Phil-is'-tine

And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

For Israel and the Phil-is'-tines had put the battle in array, army against army.

And David left his carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

And as he talked with them, behold, there, came up a champion, the Phil-is'-tine of Gath, Go-li'-ath by

name, out of the armies of the Phil-is'-tines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

And the men of Israel said,

Have ye seen this man that is come up? Surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, what shall be done to the man that killeth this Phil-is'-tine, and taketh away the reproach of Isra from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Phil-is'-tine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

And the people answered him after this manner, saying, so shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

And E-li'-ab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and E-li'-ab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest down

hither? And with whom hast thou left those, few sheep in the wilderness?

I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

And David said, what have now done? Is there not a cause?

And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Phil-is'-tine.

1 Samuel 17:1-32

Now that to me, is what I call being patriotic. What do you think? David went against all odds not caring more of his life but only for his country and his fellow countrymen. Who then in this our country Kenya who is patriotic in heart? Let him or her stand up to be counted.

It seems to me that Saul who was still in the throne as well as the rest of the people in the armies of Israel were not patriotic enough and were not only dismayed by this one giant (champion) called Goliath and were not only afraid but fled when he approached them yet they claimed they were soldiers who are defending their country of Israel!? Quite absurd!

Chapter 12

The Other factors

i) Courage

For sure and for obvious reasons one need to be courageous in leadership so as to instill faith and confidence in those one leads. If you are afraid of things being a coward who can follow you? Remember that leaders are the ones to initiate action motivating and inspiring them to move into action. But a coward just imagine, can he or she initiate action say when going to war against the enemy? He or she will hardly, have the guts as he or she will be in fear just by mention for war! Let us now look at some scriptures.

AND Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel.

And he said unto them, I am a hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the LORD hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

The LORD thy God, he will go over before thee, and he will destroy these nations from before thee,

and thou shalt possess them: and Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as the LORD hath said.

And the LORD shall do unto them as he did to Si'-hon and to Og, kings of the Am'-o-rites, and unto the land of them, whom he destroyed.

And the LORD shall give them up before your face, that ye may do unto them according unto all the commandments which I have commanded you.

Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel,

Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which the LORD hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shalt cause them to inherit it.

And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee; fear not, neither be dismayed.

Deuteronomy 31:1-8

In the above scripture we see Moses instructing Joshua to be strong and of a good courage as he is the one to lead the people of God to go and inherit the land which God had sworn to their fathers to give them. We note that Joshua was to be the initiator in inheriting that land as you don't lead from behind but from the front being in the front line as their commander. We are also going to see that after Moses and slept God did encourage Joshua on the same task that was at hand.

NOW after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.
From the wilderness and this Leb'-a-non even unto the great river, the river Eu-phra'-tes, all the land of

the Hit'-tites, and unto the Great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days, of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 1:1-7

God himself is the one that chose Joshua the son of Nun to be a leader to lead his people the children of Israel to the Promised Land and in the above scripture he goes on to tell Joshua to be very courageous (verse 7) it follows therefore that all leaders must be courageous if they are to achieve anything.

NOW Jeph'-thah the Gil'-e-ad-ite was a mighty man of valor, and he was the son of a harlot: and Gil'e-ad begat Jeph'-thah.

And Gil'e-ad's wife bare him sons, and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jeph'-thah, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman.

Then Jeph'-thah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jeph'-thah, and went out with him.

And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of Ammon made war against Israel.

And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gil'e-ad went to fetch Jeph'-thah, Come, and be our captain that we may fight with the children of Ammon.

And Jeph'-thah said unto the elders of Gil'e-ad, did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my fathers house? And why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

And the elders of Gil'e-ad said unto Jeph'-thah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of

Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gil'e-ad.

And Jeph'-thah said unto the elders of Gil'e-ad, If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the LORD deliver them before me, shall I be your head?

And the elders of Gil'e-ad said unto Jeph'-thah, The LORD be witness between us, if we do not so according to thy words.

Then Jeph'-thah went with the elders of Gil'e-ad and the people made him head and captain over them: and Jeph'-thah uttered all his words before the LORD in Miz'-peh.

Judges 11:1-11

The above scripture I find it quite interesting as I have come to learn many things from it. First it reminds me of the case of the son called Ishmael who had to be chased away from the house of Abram (Genesis 16). I do presume Ishmael according to the words of the angel was to be a wild man and he would be against every man, because her mother Hagar fled for her life to the wilderness and also because of the hatred by Sarai

who mistreated her, the child would likewise mistreat other people (every man) in retaliation!? No wonder terrorist activities are done more by his descendants.

For people I do say, this extra-marital life is that bad, as it has far reaching consequences. God forbids such irresponsible act (Deuteronomy 5:18). The scripture further reminds me of the case of Joseph son of Jacob (Genesis 37:1-36; 42:1- 50:26). The case for Jephthah for sure he was the son of a strange woman, why? for obvious reasons harlots are not normal but abnormal women in that they go to sleep with any man at a fee, unlike normal women who settle with one man as their husband (John 4:1-18, Proverbs 7:1-27, Genesis 2:18-25).

In both the houses of Jacob and Gilead the siblings did not know that they would later in the future need each other as brothers and sisters.

My advice to siblings, be wise and not otherwise and watch your words and actions.

NOW Na'-a-man, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and

honorable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper.

2 Kings 5:1

Naaman was a captain of the army of Syria and therefore he was a leader although he was a leper. But God it seems gave him the grace for courage and by it he performed his duties perfectly well. Therefore, again we see that leadership needs courage or else one achieves nothing or very little if any at all. You can also read the case of David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17:1-37) where David who had been anointed to be the king of Israel but not yet enthroned showed much courage and faced Goliath who was not only a giant but also a seasoned fighter.

ii) Responsibility

Many want to be leaders yet they cannot own up as they don't want to be accountable and find it easier to shift blames on others instead.

But it should be known that all of us will have to give account to God on our life on earth. So it is

both better and safer to own up now and not later. Let us read these examples.

AND the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, there were two men in a city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds.
But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.
And there came a traveler unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.
And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:
And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.

And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

And I gave thee thy master's house and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? Thou hast killed U-ri'-ah the Hit'-tite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of U'-ri-ah the Hit'-tite to be thy wife.

Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbor, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.

For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.

And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David,

The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

2 Samuel 12:1-14

In the above scripture we do find a rare occurrence in that a leader was found who accepted responsibility by owning up and which many leaders find hard to do.

Exemplary

A leader needs to be a role model to those he or she leads or else the society end up having rotten morals as the people so led do portray the mirror image of their leader as they do what he or she does.

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12

In the above scripture apostle Paul advised Timothy to be an example to fellow believers in life. The same do apply to other leaders who need be an example to all that they rule over. Apostle Paul as a leader in the universal body of Christ also was exemplary in life as the following scriptures say.

Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example.

Philippians 3:17

Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ

1 Corinthians 11:1

From these scriptures above we can be sure the apostle was serious when he sent those epistles to the churches at Philippi and Corinth respectively. He said that he was following the footsteps of Christ in his walk and we very well know Jesus

Christ is the perfect example not only to his Church but to the whole world (all mankind).

iii) Consistency

Now in leadership one need to be consistent in what one does so as to be able accomplish one's goals and also not to confuse those one leads by double standards and the like.

I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; I reach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

2 Timothy 4:1-5

Apostle Paul advised Timothy in that second epistle that what he was doing as an evangelist preaching the word of God he needs to be consistent in doing it so as to make full proof of the work (ministry) in doing so. Same to any leader in the Church of Christ or in Government as the principle applies to both Governments. Another scripture which also touches on being consistent is an epistle to the church at Corinth.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:58

One's labor may be in vain as a leader if one keeps on changing from one thing to another not having a uniform / standard of doing it.

V) Knowledgeable

In leadership one need to be in the know being well informed and not bring ignorant of things or issues.

As a leader many people go to him or her to seek information of all sorts and if a leader does not have the information, they may ask who has? (Matthew 2:1-12, Exodus 18:13-16). Now I hope you will not ask me 'How can a leader have such knowledge?' Well, it has been said that 'Readers are leaders' It follows therefore that a leader need be one who is fond of reading books and also having time to listen to world news and so on in addition to getting information from his or her informers who must be faithful men and women who can be trusted.

(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)
Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

1 Timothy 3: 5-6

Apostle Paul wrote that epistle to Timothy the qualifications of a Bishop to oversee the church of God what Timothy should look for in them before them being ordained and in verse 6 it is said he should not be a novice. In leadership it is bad, very

bad not to be equipped with all kinds of knowledge to be able to deal with various issues.

vi) Teachableness

A leader needs to have a teachable spirit one who is ready to listen to people and from it be able to learn and so on. If a leader is not a good listener and has pride with the attitude of superiority complex (The know it all attitude) one will be missing a lot as few will have the will to approach him or her and talk. Mind here is yet another opportunity to not only get information which may not be forthcoming from other sources but also those necessary such as a rebuke or an exhortation and so on.

THIS is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, apt to teach;

1 Timothy 3:1-2

A leader must be apt to teach.

vii) Delegating of authority

And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.
And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What is this thing that thou doest to the people? Why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even?
And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to inquire of God:
When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws.
And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good.
Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.
Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the

people God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:

And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, and rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.

So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did that all he had said.

And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of

thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

And Moses let his father in law depart; and he went his way into his own land.

Exodus 18:13-27

Now that was a good and timely counsel that Moses' father in law gave to Moses. Many leaders overburden themselves either ignorantly as Moses or feel they will lose their authority or respect by delegating some work and authority to someone and which is ridiculous as work needs to be divided amongst the workforce and involves a leader also delegating some of his small work to someone who is God-fearing, trustworthy and faithful to lead the other staff as their supervisors and to report to him. In that way, a leader will have more time to handle weighty matters and to assess work done and to plan for the future and so on. Now I call that good time management. Work will flow nicely and people who come to be served will not need to

spend a whole day to get the service they require as they will be served promptly and go back to do other daily activities.

Moses heeded the advice by his father in law and which was wise on him. He was a good leader for he took time to listen and found the suggestion useful and grabbed it and used it. A leader must be a listener. He or she need take time to listen to those he or she leads and use his or her discretion on what to take and what to leave and to take action as is necessary making right decisions accordingly.

Notes to the reader

I thank you for reading this book and hope it has been of great help to you. If you have any comments feel free to write to us using the address given below.

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A Christian perspective on leadership

'Leadership is not easy but is a heavy task indeed! (Numbers 11:10-15).

Many in society want to be leaders yet hardly qualify to be candidates for leadership. In this book you are going to see for yourself what is involved. If you intend to be a leader this book is for you. Be inspired before you aspire for leadership so as to get direction as to how.

The Author Fredrick Geoffrey Omondi is a born- again Christian aged 62 years. He is married and they have 4 children. He is a preacher and teacher of the word of God and holds a Diploma in Biblical Studies from Emmaus Bible School and Voice of Prophecy in Nairobi. He is a life member of the Scripture Union of Kenya and fellowships in an altar of the Ministry of Repentance and Holiness.

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