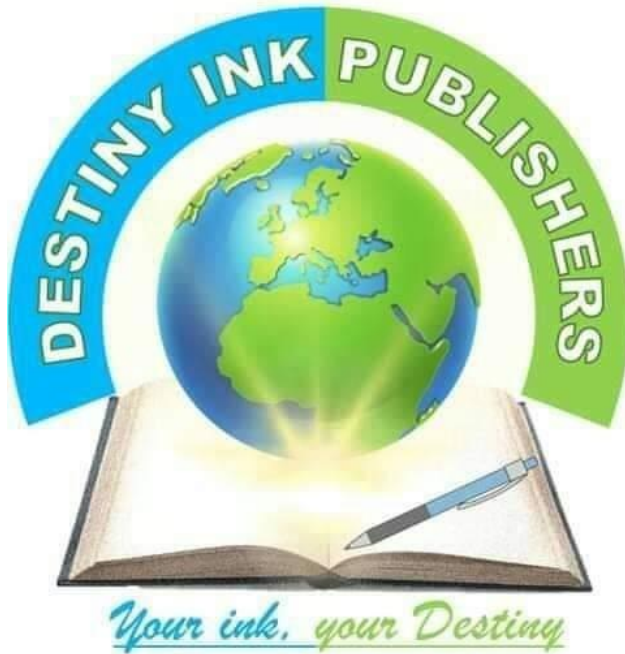


RELIGIOUS TRADERS ON RAMPAGE

Spiritual brokers and pulpit mediators faking the divine



• AFRICA • ASIA • AMERICA • EUROPE

PETER K. KEITANY, MBA.

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly they are ferocious wolves,” Mathew 7: 15, NIV.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	5
INTRODUCTION.....	6
FOREWORD	10
CHAPTER 1: TRUE CALLING	1
CHAPTER 2: RELIGIOUS TRADERS.....	4
CHAPTER 3: SIGNS OF RELIGIOUS TRADERS	20
CHAPTER 4: CHARACTER OF TRUE PASTORSAND OTHER MINISTERS	27
CHAPTER 5: SPIRITUAL WARFARE	30
CHAPTER 6 - DYNAMICS OF GENERATION ‘Z’MOVEMENT	36
REFERENCES.....	62

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the genuine servants of God and church leaders in the body of Christ who are a great source of motivation and inspiration to the church. They serve God as per the grace and calling with great zeal, passion, sacrifice and positive energy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My first acknowledgement goes to my heavenly Father for the abundance of grace and deep spiritual revelations through the Holy Spirit.

My recognition and appreciation also goes to my spiritual mentors, Bishop Julius Chepsat of Christ Dominion Church and Rev. Joseph Chepkoyo of Jesus Foundation ministry and other church leaders in Baringo county for providing their input and guidance in my spiritual journey of many years.

I further acknowledge Rev. Chepkoyo for giving me some important input on religious traders and Eric Kyalo who is Gen Z and CEO Destiny Ink Publishers, for his input of Gen Z movement in Kenya and worldwide.

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Finally, Destiny Ink Publishers Ltd you are friends and young game changers who have given this book the touch it deserved. Thank you so much for your reliable, timely, transparent and quality work done. May God bless you.

INTRODUCTION

Religious traders, pulpit mediators and spiritual brokers are everywhere on rampage in the world today. They exist only to trade the gospel of Jesus Christ for money, narrow interests and material gain. Their main aim is to buy and sell the gospel for their selfish benefits. They want to benefit on earth and are not keen to go to heaven because their mandate is to please people, get worldly pleasure and get higher social status. They preach water and drink wine, their destiny is hell. Some are even the merchants of immaturity, corruption and darkness in the church. This is a radical critic of the church by an insider; a pastor exposing the colleague pastors.

They brainwash and steal the minds of people for their selfish gains, create fear among church members and promote prayers' dependency syndrome. They force believers to give money using intimidation, manipulation, exploitation, condemnation, oppression and threats to get what they want. They are in the business of shameful selling prayers, handkerchiefs, anointing oil, holy waters, crosses, holy soil, fortune telling, payment for deliverance among others. This book encourages Christians to strive to attain spiritual freedom and liberation from the bondage of religious traders.

It also explains the great dynamics of the Generation Z movement worldwide and recommends that their energy, passion, intelligence and pragmatism should be tapped fully to bring technological, economic, religious, political and social transformation and stability in the nations of the world including Kenya. We need them to inject new blood in matters to do with integrity and good governance in the church and nation. We must exploit their positive energy and discourage negativity.

During the protests by Gen Zs in Kenya and in other countries there was a strong rebuke on political and religious leaders for wrong doings. This book therefore, links the Gen Zs movement with godliness worldwide and identifies it as divine. It explains who are

Gen Zs and the important role they play in bringing sanity in the world going forward.

There are true and false preachers or church leaders hence there is a need for believers to discern and reject them before they confuse, mislead or bring destruction to their lives. Some are self-appointed, self-declared, self-ordained and self-anointed preachers.

This book gives vivid information about demonic influence in Kenya, spiritual warfare, signs and effects of religious traders, and provides the necessary interventions. It also gives the characteristics of the true servants God in the church.

A holy discontent is moving across the church worldwide whereby Christians are looking for 'better ways of doing church' since the current status is no longer relevant or useful at all. Religious traders are a heavy burden to people in every way and they lack passion for righteousness but put themselves into leadership positions without the calling and grace of God leading to spiritual stagnation. Since they operate outside their calling, they make many mistakes and hurt people in a big way.

Religious traders are fake worshippers immersed in cheap entertainment and something radical needs to be done urgently to salvage and correct the anomaly. That is why the current church is on decline spiritually; there is more focus and shift towards external ways of worship instead of the spiritual, thus, many people today don't see the difference between the true church and the world. There is a need to expose the fake preachers so as to save the church from further slander, corruption, damage or being a laughing stock.

Religious traders preach false gospel which is full of heresy and foolishness. They are not doers of the Word but just casual hearers. The spread of the Word of God, making of new disciples and multiplying them is not their business. They are just empty vessels used by the Satan.

The traders share motivational sermons with more focus on contemporary material and prosperity so as to please congregations instead of sharing true revelations from God which transform lives of people. Their faith is full of hypocrisy and they are the modern day teachers of the law and Pharisees who display fake faith which focus on just externals. They don't practice what they say but they do things for men to see hence are candidates of hell. They clean outside the cup but ignore the inside. Some may operate under evil spirits or they are just immature, full of pride, ignorance and are beyond correction. Selfishness has spiritually killed many ministers or ministries. Religious traders produce bad fruits and deeds and we can know them by their fruits. They are not the light of the world and they shamefully usurp God's power and mismanage the church.

Today, most churches due to religious traders influence have misplaced priorities; spending much of her resources in useless projects, programs, buildings etc. while neglecting the spread of the gospel which is not the will of God. The church operates like a commercial bank where money is preached or sought with zeal from January to January, year in and out, instead of winning souls and making them disciples of Jesus Christ. The core business of the church is people and not money. They begin their life in the Spirit and end up in the body like the bewitched Galatians. Some of them even use demons to oppress and make people perpetually their slaves.

We must test the teachings like the Berean church, and be mature enough to test the spirits, discern the fake preachers (religious traders) and reject them. Religious traders have mismanaged the church over centuries making it dry, and empty without love, faith, and spiritual power.

The traders have backslidden; fallen from glory, they now operate outside the will of God focusing more time, human and financial resources on worthless things. The traders in some denominations have been made mediators between Jesus Christ, and the believers which is spiritually faulty. Many premature Christians follow,

worship and believe in them, the mighty men of God instead of the real God. There is too much hypocrisy and theory than deeds. Many preachers today share shallow teachings and they do not promote generous and cheerful giving by believers in church but instead threaten people to give. The religious traders do not honor or value marriage as something precious and hence they involve themselves in adultery, fornication, conflicts, sexual immorality or divorce.

It also dwells on the true calling, genuine servants of God and their character traits and spiritual warfare. It insists that we must fight ferociously to protect our faith in the current corrupt world and live right. Meanwhile, we leave the fake preachers to God to deal with them, to judge and punish them.

It is good to note that majority of the servants of God are genuine but the few have spoiled the great name and testimony of the church hence there is a need to expose them to salvage the true church of Christ. We cannot keep quiet anymore because it really hurts.

This book uncovers, reveals and exposes the dark secrets which have been operating in the church for many years. There is an urgent need for the divine spirit of discernment. Beware and don't fall into the trap of fake ministers. Run away from them and their denominations which are like their personal property.

FOREWORD

Times have verily changed. Everything almost becoming a scam. Christianity is not deserted apart in this. It is becoming a disgrace to true servants of God. Manifold of self-proclaimed men of God have turned gospel into a business. For one to receive a miracle, should plant a seed! For one to receive healing, plant a seed! When things ain't working well, you are bewitched! We're living in era whence teaching and analysing the Word of God is 'outdated' and the message of prosperity is the 'true gospel'. The mere motivation we are fed with as believers is not for the God's glory but for 'men of God' to be more recognised and get more seers. To them, success is riches and fame. That's wherefore the message of oil, water and clothing is becoming more rampant; the blinding of the God's generation. When will we hamper living this deceit?

The Church which is to operate independently, has been corrupted and intermarried by the government. Today, the pulpit is not deferenced it is political leaders platform to breathe abuses, deceits, spread propaganda and hatred, and blind God's body. Have we forgotten the fire that ignites from the altar? Manifold 'men of God' are bribed by these modern day 'Pharisees' to the extend their role and power of guiding, warning advising and giving the voice of the Lord to the government. Today's church is inactive, dormant, sleeping and led by gluttonous hyenas. What a disgrace to the body of Christ?

The Christianity is being mocked by other religions. Wherefore? Because it has become a joke. Yes, a joke it is. It is hide and seek game. The hyenas are playing with believers' minds and blinding their eyes. Only Christians who read Bible themselves will survive this menace. The pulpit brokers, 'men of God', who proclaim that only via them we can reconcile with God are here with us. Those

who will believe their sweet deceit, will have themselves to blame when the bitter veracity starts to linger.

This stupidity has been seen by the Gen Z. This is wherefore they are bringing the inevitable change and veracity. Yeah, God is using now the sturdiest generation to return His glory to nations. It is time to kick the hyenas out of pulpits and administration, and install the right people worthy to execute the duty. The church has failed in its sole role and so now Gen z are fitting and connected those dots and gaps. What a disgrace to the body of Christ?

All this mess has been tapped in this book. In fact, if church was serious on its role, the Shakahola and other massacres would not have taken place. If Church stood on its position to advise the government, the current commotion in the country would not have happened. Veracity is bitter, it will never be sweet. It is better to live on bitter veracity than a sweet deceit. Yakimwangika hayazoleki, let's dance the tune.

Peter K. Keitany is a lad I've known for a while now. A sore straight forward lad, well focused on the agenda of the Lord, a lad you can rely on, a lad who can be trusted and who teaches the sound doctrine. He has been known as a singer, a church planter, a rural missionary and a preacher who also uses technology to spread the gospel. The pulpit brokers need to hamper the business and follow him as he follows Christ.

Spiritual Traders On Rampage is the bitter veracity for nations. It will leave nay stone unturned. It is an eye opener to preachers and the body of Christ as a whole. I invite all of you to read and implement this book for the well-being of the body of Christ.

H.E Amb. Prof. Eric Kyalo (destiny pusher),

C.E.O -Destiny Ink Publishers Ltd,

World Guinness Book of Records holder,

Award winning author, Counsellor, mentor, activist and Life Coach.

CHAPTER 1: TRUE CALLING

God calls, and uses people on earth to achieve His objective. Calling is a strong inner impulse towards serving God and it is accompanied by a great divine conviction.

The Bible tells us not to be ignorant of the spiritual gifts for they are used for a common good in the church, and in a proportion to the grace given by God and working outside the grace will be disastrous for anyone. We must know the genuine calling of God so that we get it right.

When God calls people, He empowers them by giving the anointing, grace, favor, power and authority to ensure we are effective. The whole duty of man is to serve God and obey His commands.

Every believer has been called, and set apart to serve God and transform lives of others on earth. Some are prophets, apostles, pastors, teachers, evangelists, miracle workers, intercessors, worship teams, administrators, healers, helps, workers of faith, people with word of wisdom and knowledge, people speaking in tongues and interpreting them, people discerning spirits etc. There are also serving and helps, exhortation, giving, mercy, visitation, reconciliation, social concern, literature, media and fine arts.

You must know your calling today to be effective in the ministry. People who operate outside their calling will make many mistakes and hurt people. Today, many people think that only pastors are called and others are just spectators because of the importance placed on that gift. They also believe that they reach God through pastors which is a fallacy. There are true and false preachers hence there is a need for believers to discern and reject them before they confuse, mislead or bring destruction.

“There are different kinds of gifts but the same spirit. There are different kinds of service but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working but the same God works all of them in all men...” 1 Corinthians 12:4-12, NIV.

Qualification to serve God cannot be confined only to education like with other professions. Even pastoral ministry cannot be based only on academic achievement but is based on calling, favor and the grace of God. In church, God equally calls academically educated and illiterate people into ministry.

Evidence of calling by God.

- The grace and favor of God is exhibited through breakthroughs and provisions.
- Spiritual power and authority with open doors.
- Anointing and goodness which brings acceptance to people.
- Heavy burden which brings stress if the assignment is not done by the person.
- Passion to perform tasks even in the midst of strong opposition or many difficulties.
- There is absence of much straining to achieve results.
- Absence of blame game or complaints.

In his book 'The Purpose Driven Life' Warren Rick (2002) says everything starts and ends with God and it is not about you. He says, **"You were born by His purpose and for His purpose. You are not an accident."** We must see life from God's view. The writer points out that the reason for everything is to show the glory of God because He made everything for His glory and created man for His own pleasure, enjoyment, benefit and purpose. You were brought into the world to serve God and make a difference using your grace or gifts and not just to consume and enjoy world resources.

God uses a nation's leadership to transform lives through the development agenda, and church leaders to transform lives of people through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with

gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues,” 1 Corinthians 12:28, NIV.

Everyone in the world has been called by God but many ignore it. A leader is a person who has influence from God to drive things to happen through other people.

Not all people have leadership skills to drive things. If you put into leadership people without the calling, and grace the work of God will stagnate. There are true and false leaders in the church; self-appointed, self-declared, self-ordained and self-anointed preachers.

Summary

- Leaders, both men and women, should function to advance the kingdom of God and help mature the church.
- Jesus is the head of the church, and not the leaders.
- Jesus served well in the 5-fold leadership gifts (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher). He was given all the five gifts or graces.
- Leadership may be a combination of the above gifts e.g. a pastor may also function as a teacher, and an evangelist.
- These are only job descriptions, and mere titles without the grace are nothing. Paul loved to be called a brother, and not an apostle. This shows great humility in genuine preachers.
- The leaders should be identified through prayer, revelation and discernment, and not through campaigns and elections like political leaders. We cannot accept a corrupt system borrowed from the world.

Biblical References:

Romans 16:1, 13:1, 12:8, Mathew 10:1-5, 28:18-20, 1 Corinthians 12:18-28, 1 Timothy 5:19, 5:17, 4:14, 3:1-13, Acts 14:23, 2:42, 14:13-14, 15:32, 11:28, 8:5-13, 20:28, Ephesians 2:20, 4:8-16, 1:23, 2:15, 4:13, Genesis 1:28, 9:1-7, 12:1-2, Titus 1:5-6, 1:9, 1 Peter 5:5, James 5:14, Luke 22:66, Ephesians 4:11-14, 1 Corinthians 12:1-28, Jeremiah 1:4-10, Romans 12:6, Mathew 6:19-21, Ecclesiastes 1:2-9, 12:13, Acts 13:1-3.

CHAPTER 2: RELIGIOUS TRADERS

Religious traders and spiritual brokers are everywhere on rampage in the world today. They exist only to trade the gospel of Jesus Christ for money, narrow interests and material gain. **“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Mathew 6:24, NIV.** Their main aim is to buy and sell the gospel for their selfish benefits. Apostle Paul describes them: **“For, as I have often told you before and now I say again even in tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things”** (Philippians 3:18-19). They want to benefit on earth and are not keen to go to heaven because their self-made mandate is to please people, seek worldly pleasure and social status. Others serve mere men or even the devil in very extreme cases which make their destiny is hell.

Jesus vehemently warned the hypocrites, the religious traders, their collaborators and sympathizers, **“I do not accept praise from men, but I know that you do not have love for God in your hearts”** (John 5:41-42).

They preach water and drink wine and their destiny is hell. Some are even the merchants of immaturity, corruption and darkness in the church. They preach fake love instead of agape love; which is envious, jealous, selfish, arrogant, harmful, boastful, and full of lies and gossip. The world today is full of fake love as opposed to genuine love which the Bible inspires us to have.

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good” (Romans 12:9).

Their calling is not genuine and only their qualification to serve God is confined only to their education and connection like in other world ordinary professions and their pastoral ministry is based only on academic achievement. They lure their church members with

worldly wisdom, their faith rests on shaky ground. In short, their preaching is full of trickery and wisdom of men; are misplaced in their assignment.

Apostle Paul desire was to preach the pure gospel so that believer's **“faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power”** (1 Corinthians 2: 1-4). These religious traders easily forget the instructions of Jesus: **“As you go, preach this message; the kingdom of heaven is near. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give”** (Matthew 10:7). It is very evil to sell the gospel.

Their calling is lacking the grace and favor of God, genuine spiritual power and authority or anointing and goodness. They are a heavy burden to people and lack passion for righteousness. There is too much straining to achieve results amidst blame games.

Religious traders are not genuine leaders who have influence from God to drive things to happen through other people. They do not have leadership skills to drive things in the right way. They fight and put themselves into leadership positions without the calling, and grace of God leading to church stagnation or misdirection. They fail to emulate the apostles way of life.

“Surely you remember brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked day and night in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you” 1 Thessalonians 2:9, NIV. True servants of God must work with their hands to create wealth instead of overburdening believers.

Leadership of religious traders

- a) Bossy and dictatorial.
- b) One man show display.
- c) Not based on gifting, calling, favor and grace of God.
- d) Appointed by men and not God.

- e) Prayerless.
- f) Hypocritical.
- g) Do not empower, coach or mentor disciples to be the next leaders.
- h) More reliance on loyalty, career progression, education or reward for long service.
- i) Do not grow church into maturity or help in multiplication of disciples.
- j) Do not hear God.
- k) Unfruitful.
- l) Spiritually immature.

NOTE: Run away from such stubborn, selfish, wild, dictatorial and evil leaders before they enslave or destroy you.

“These men are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them. For they mouth empty, boastful words, and appealing to lustful desires of sinful human nature, they entice people who are escaping from those who live in error” (2 Peter 2:17-18).

Religious traders drive with zeal fake worship which is full of hypocrisy, traditions and rules of men, worldly, secular, full of drama, and they do things just for attention which is in vain because it doesn't please God for it is just from the lips and not heart.

Today's church is full of cheap entertainment and fake worship. Something radical needs to be done urgently to salvage and correct the anomaly. That is why the current church is on decline spiritually; there is more focus and shift towards external ways of worship instead of the spiritual ones hence many people don't see the difference between true church and world. Like the time of prophet Amos, God is very clear on our worship assemblies; **“I hate, I despise your religious feasts; I cannot stand your assemblies. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps” (Amos 5:21-24).** There is an urgent need to expose the fake preachers to save the church from further slander, corruption and damage. They must carry their cross.

“Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written; The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry,” 1 Corinthians 10:7, NIV.

Religious traders are not full of the Word of God, they preach false gospel which is full of heresy and foolishness. Their church members are turning to **“...a different gospel –which is really no gospel at all,”** (Galatians 1:6-7). They declare and claim to prophesy to their congregation but with empty promises of prosperity. They don't use the Scripture for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training people in righteousness. They are not doers of the Word but just casual hearers.

The spreading of the Word of God is no longer their business, making of new disciples and multiplying them which is very key to the growth of church. Jesus said we cannot live or thrive on bread alone but by the Word of God; without it we are nothing but just empty vessels to be used by the Satan. They have forgotten that, **“All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,” 2 Timothy 3:16, NIV.** The Word of God plays a great role in our lives in all seasons.

NOTE: The current church loves fun and entertainment more than the word of God. Bible study has become boring for many and they rely on only Sunday sermons which is not sufficient for spiritual nourishment. This has led to the current immaturity in the church. In the early church, Bible study was done daily in homes which made the difference. Many preachers also share motivational sermons with more focus on contemporary matters and prosperity so as to please congregations instead of sharing revelations which transform lives and people. The church must repent again and come back to the right track.

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you don't know," Jeremiah 33:3, NIV. We will live in great ignorance if we do not depend on God.

Religious traders are prayerless and they ignore fasting or meditation which is very key in church growth and intimacy with God. They are, therefore, unable to hear God due to sin, the hardness of heart, unforgiveness, disobedience, pride, evil prayers, lack of faith and carnal minds. They lack transformational faith; their faith is full of hypocrisy. They are the modern day teachers of the law and Pharisees who display fake faith.

Jesus condemned them saying they love long garments, places of honor in parties, titles of honor in public places and praises from the people. Jesus accused them of not exercising what they say but do things for men to see. Jesus called them blind fools, snakes and whitewashed tombs with dead bodies who will not escape hell. He said they don't enter heaven but they shut others from entering. They win souls and prepare them for the hell, they love material things but hate the spiritual matters and they clean outside the cup but ignore the inside. They appear righteous outside but are full of wickedness inside. It is Biblically clear that those who exalt themselves will fall down and the greatest person is the one who is a servant (Read Matthew 23:1-39).

They do not walk in the Spirit; they rarely understand God. They are in the flesh, pleasing the sinful desires of their bodies. The early church was empowered by the Holy Spirit for effective ministry, and played a major role during the ministry of Jesus Christ who was anointed by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the good news, drive out demons and heal the sick.

The Holy Spirit speaks, teaches, testifies, guides, intercedes and sends ministers. We dearly need the Holy Spirit to convict sin, help in repentance, salvation, prayer, ministry, life transformation, understanding the Bible, spiritual gifts and display of the fruit of its fruits, signs and wonders, healings, evangelism and true love. Life outside the Spirit is powerless.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and

Samaria, and to the ends of the earth,” Acts 1:8, NIV. Christianity without spiritual power is in vain.

A believer without the Holy Spirit is a non-starter because he or she will be the agent of flesh or darkness. No Christian believer or preacher will do anything spiritually meaningful without Holy Spirit's empowerment. False preachers (religious traders) may operate under evil spirits or are just immature, full of pride and are beyond correction.

They do not overcome the works of the flesh for they don't die to self. They are slaves of sin and they do not surrender all to follow Jesus or die daily and live under His Lordship. Dying to sins means being in a total freedom from sinful behavior. Selfishness has spiritually killed many ministers and ministries.

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me,” Luke 9:23, NIV. Christianity without great sacrifice, true repentance and denial is fake.

They produce bad fruits and deeds. The Lord said we will know people by their fruits. False prophets, teachers, apostles, evangelists, gospel singers, intercessors, brothers, preachers etc. are known by their fruits.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to receive the fruit of the Spirit which helps us eliminate spiritual bareness, escape corruption so as to partake the nature of God, and grow spiritually so as to be serious and powerful witnesses to the unbelievers.”

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law,” Galatians 5:22-23, NIV. We must live a fruitful life and not fake lives all the time as believers in God.

The Bible teaches us that Christians are the light of the world and like a city on top of a hill which cannot be hidden. We are a lamp on

the table to shine before men by good deeds. We can only win the world by good attractive deeds. This is a test all religious traders have failed.

They believe the true church is a denomination but not the body of believers in the whole world. The church, to them is a mere constructed building and not the believers. They also believe they are the head of the church instead of Jesus Christ, and go ahead to shamefully usurp His power and mismanage the church. Tough consequences await them.

“Not many of you should presume to be teachers my brothers because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly,” James 3:1, NIV. It is a warning to all preachers that if you preach the gospel of Jesus the accountability levels are extremely very high.

Today, many churches have misplaced priorities by spending much of her resources in projects, buildings etc. while neglecting the spread of the gospel which is not the will of God. In some quarters they spend about 70 -80% of church finances on church buildings and programs while ignoring the great commission. The church operates like a commercial bank where money is preached or sought with zeal from January to January, year in and out, instead of winning souls and making them disciples of Jesus Christ. The church core business is people and not money.

Religious traders do not embrace being a new creation; are stuck in the old nature which is full of corruption, deceit, hatred, falsehood, anger, laziness, slander, malice, gossip, theft and evil talk. New nature is associated with holiness, righteousness, kindness, compassion, forgiveness and spiritual riches. They sit on the fence to watch corruption in the nation, practice corruption in the church and even receive corrupt or dirty money or donations from politicians in church. They compromise everything evil as part of their life.

“No one sews a patch of un-shrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment making the tear worse,” Mathew 9:16, NIV. Religious traders are in the unsustainable business of mixing the new and old garments, new wine and old wine skins.

“And no one pours new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the fresh wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled and the skins will be ruined, Luke 5:37, NIV.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come,” 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV. Religious traders love the old nature and they believe old is gold even if it is sinful.

People who look back live in the old nature, and are in carnality. They begin their life in the Spirit and end up in the body like the bewitched Galatians. They are in bondage and prisoners in captivity; they don't embrace the real truth. **“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free,” John 8:32, NIV.** Let's not live a lie or fake sinful lives.

Characteristics of religious traders.

1. Engaged in evil.
2. Sinful activities are very common in their lives. They deceive, con and manipulate people.
3. Full of pride, selfishness and carnality.
4. Hardness of heart and unable to forgive others.
5. Love for evil traditions, systems and tuck in the old nature.
6. Love material prosperity i.e. money.
7. Live in fear of people, demons or the unknown.
8. They are stressed throughout and they stress others.
9. They glorify problems in life.
10. They have no grace from God; depend solely on their academic and human connection and abilities.
11. They have many idols which fully control them like relationships, wealth, other people etc.

12. Built on a weak and shakable foundation; their fall is always greater and louder.
13. Do not practice true Christianity just like the Pharisees and scribes who ignored important spiritual matters and concentrated on external practices.
14. They depend more on their wealth rather than God.
15. Lack of intimacy with God.
16. Doing things using their minds and abilities.
17. Unable to understand spiritual things.
18. Poor relationship with saints.
19. Entertain demons without their knowledge.
20. Unable to receive revelation and wisdom from God.
21. Weak, and ineffective in areas of calling e.g. in preaching, worship etc.
22. Facing many defeats in spiritual warfare.
23. They are lone rangers and hate working in a team.
24. They lack a father's heart to mentor others to be servant leaders.
25. They kill the vision and ministry of others.
26. They are theoretical hypocrites preaching what they don't practice.
27. They condemn, curse and divide people.
28. They lack integrity in their lives and love sinful lives.
29. They serve for selfish gains like titles, power, money and material things.

NB: We must be set free from religious trading so as to live genuinely victorious and fulfilling life as Christians.

“No, in all things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us”. Romans 8:37, NIV. We are victors because of Jesus Christ who died for our sins.

Those people who love the world and its pleasure are enemies of the Lord, and He will fight them and their destiny is hell. They will suffer in this life and in the next.

"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock," Mathew 7:24, NIV. We become wise by practicing the Word of God.

In his book 'A Church Every ½ a Mile', Jon Zens (2008) dwells on how the American church has backslidden from glory and now operates outside the will of God. He says the church left the great commission to put more focus, time, human, and financial resources on worthless physical church buildings. He says the basic pattern of Christianity today is local buildings, leadership, pulpit, finance, institutions, headquarters, and programs across denominations meeting separately because of their peculiar traditions, doctrine and distinctive experience. Every denomination strongly believes that they are closer to some important truth, ideology, and theology than others; they set up a shop for their brand of Christianity. This comes with much expense since every group wants to have their land, buildings, personnel etc. instead of spending the billions in the spread of the gospel, and welfare of the needy in the church; there is extravagant expenditure on physical infrastructure and religious programs. Overspending on physically meaningless buildings by the church, and neglecting saving lives or addressing the needs of the needy is corruption of the highest order.

He states that just like in Israel where they cried for a king, a section of the current church has crowned the special pastor as their king, and professional playing a central role in church affairs. The pastor is a special person delivering a monologue frequently and is in charge of almost everything in the church and is on call 24/7 as a center of communication, operates as a mini-Vatican Pope. Pastors, and other ministers in some denominations have been made mediators between Jesus Christ, and the people which is spiritually a faulty setting. God wants us to recognize all His servants or ministers but not exalting them too much, and forgetting others who are equally important in the church.

He adds that many pastors have become so busy in ministry such that there is little time to cultivate closeness with God or family. They also see the local church as an extension of their own personal ministry, and calling. This is why Christianity today is personality-based and church matters are structured around talent, vision, direction and teaching of one person. It is a one-man-show business like manufacturing companies which is not the will of God.

In his book ‘Pastoring the Flock of God’ Dr. Rueb J. (2016) provides the sharp difference between pastors who are called, and those who are merely trained professional pastors. He insists that for effectiveness, pastors must first receive salvation, then sanctification, and a calling from God. He says the position of pastor cannot be an ordinary career choice but must be divine. **‘You can quit a job but not a calling from God’.**

Ronald L. Durham (2023) says according to recent studies 4,000-5,000 pastors in USA quit each year from ministry because they are overwhelmed with mental exhaustion relating to bearing the Spiritual burdens of people. This is because they work outside the grace and favor of God.

Zens J. (2008) says that the church forsook the way of Christ, backslided leading to tragic shifts to a hardened institution with a fixed and complex hierarchy, a uniform conception of church offices which separated clergy from laity, state religion and to a church which trusts itself as a very powerful institution with a set of many rigid rules, rites, and offices. The religious traders are the major players in this unfortunate set up.

He says one-man-show ministry is not healthy because it is like expecting one organ like the legs to make human body function normally while disabling all the other organs. The system also focuses more on traditions, and intellectual attainment instead of Christ-like character, and spiritual revelation. The church service and architecture revolve around the pulpit, and the climax is the sermon though there is no Biblical evidence to support this.

He adds that there was also total absence of special buildings to meet in and saints met in houses, and demonstrated true love and mutual concern for each other, but with the advent of Constantine of the Roman empire around A.D. 325 everything changed for he made institutional Christianity the state religion. There was use of state funds to erect church buildings, and to support the clergy. Today many church buildings are constructed with money majorly contributed by political leaders. Some of the key religious traders, enjoy money from politicians and facilitated the drift and slept with state hence lost divine focus. The state and religion must work separately all the time because their values and standards are like day and night.

Zehr A. (2019) talks about a holy discontent moving across the church worldwide whereby Christians are looking for a 'better way of doing church' since the current status is no longer relevant at all. We must repent and come back to the right track as church instead of copying from the world.

According to recent reports the church in Europe, and the West is facing great decline while Islam is growing at an alarming rate. It is projected that if nothing is done by Christians Islam will become the leading religion in Europe by the year 2030.

The call for a church transformation all along in church history has caused a stir, rebuke, opposition, and persecution by church leaders who defended the status quo but change came anyway. Even today we expect the same to happen. The church was dynamic then and should remain so even today because God is not static.

Many religious traders are stuck in a printed rigid and fixed church program mechanically run the same way during every Sunday worship service throughout the year proofing that they are spiritually static. This is the height of carnality and stagnation.

The religious traders are spiritually immature and reckless in doing evil. Many premature Christians follow and believe them, the mighty men of God instead of God. In immaturity Christians love milk and not solid, they know the truth but they don't follow. They love only motivational preaching and follow miracles, signs, and wonders. There is too much hypocrisy, and theory than deeds.

Some religious traders even don't value family as the basic unit in society started by God to transform the world. Some tie the knot in a union of two people based on connection and social status instead of true salvation, testimony or even join gay marriages for selfish or evil interests. They even entertain the current emerging issues of gays, lesbianism, homosexuality etc. (LGBTQ) which are an abomination trying to challenge the original plan of God. The Sodom and Gomorrah was destroyed by God because of such sinful Acts... (Read Romans 1:20-27). They ignore the plain truth that marriage is a lifelong commitment between two adults, male and female, which only death can bring it to an end or the second coming of Jesus Christ.

"Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her," Ephesians 5:24-25, NIV. Humility and submission are great values for any Christian.

"And He said I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven," Mathew 18:3, NIV. Children are innocent and genuine in their dealings and we must live in humility as believers. Some religious traders are full of pride and they do not work with their hands to create wealth to be able to meet their family needs but are deeply engaged in laziness and over-exploiting the church.

They do not promote generous and cheerful giving by believers in church but instead they put on much pressure, and threaten people

to give. Christians should be mature enough to know how to give correctly.

All brethren and preachers should work to raise income to be able to eat, raise their families, and give to support ministry. The Bible is against any form of idleness because the devil will take advantage. God will bless the work of our hands and God loves a cheerful giver.

"All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on," Luke 21: 4, NIV. Any giving in the church must be generous from our hearts and not by compulsion.

Religious traders ignore the great commission (preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ) and make it a less priority. The harvest is great, and we have few workers. We learn from Jesus Christ who was a soul winner. God will hold us accountable if we don't evangelize.

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them," Romans 10:14, NIV. These are very pertinent questions for the church today because we have neglected the great commission and shifted to cheap prosperity gospel and useless church programs.

If we ignore the gospel of salvation, we will not escape the wrath of God. The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing but power to those who are saved. Jesus came to the world to save sinners (lost). He has given us the mantle as the disciples of today to advance the good news on earth before His second coming. This is the most important assignment for any Christian on earth though it is no longer a top priority in the church today.

Warren R. (2002) says we were made by God for missions on earth to reach out to unbelievers. Become a world class Christians by seriously getting involved in the great commission of making

disciples for Jesus, being global thinkers, having concern for others, focusing on eternity, and having a purpose driven life.

Religious traders are unaware that secular music can adversely influence them and their members negatively because they go silently and secretly into the sub conscious mind. They listen to music or sing and watch videos which do not add value to their spiritual lives. Secular music has caused many Christians to backslide from their salvation into the deep world of sin. It is relating to the world; temporal and is not designed to worship the living God e.g. praising people (leaders, friends), country, environment, culture, livestock, wildlife, current affairs, etc. The main purpose is to entertain people and the world, and are mainly for monetary gains or selfish intentions.

The Bible warns us of the religious traders in the last days. Some false preachers have misled people like in the Shakahola case in Kenya, Uganda, and USA incidents which have led to suffering, slavery and deaths of people. Some of them have become end time specialists by preaching it 24/7, and all the years despite the fact that there are many more messages in the Bible. Some preach about leaving everything like working, education etc. so as to wait for the second coming of Jesus Christ which is very un-Biblical.

Some preachers even claim that the end has already come and the book of Revelation is just reporting history which is a very shallow approach and distortion. Others believe that heaven is about inheriting the current world, and its riches which is very crazy and foolish opinion. They reject the standard Biblical teachings and go ahead to misinterpret the Holy Bible to satisfy their narrow and selfish ends.

World Map (1993) provides the following as the signs the end times;

- There will be many false prophets and christ performing signs and miracles deceiving many.
- Many believers will leave their faith in God.

- There will be increased wickedness, violence, hatred, divisions, selfishness, pride, lust, and greediness among people.
- People will become merciless, and inhuman.
- Love of money, pleasure, cheap stories, and fake gospel will be rampant.
- People will love what their itching ears want to hear.
- Children disobey their parents, and make their own bad decisions.
- People love outward religion, and fake worship than true genuine spiritual worship.
- Like the days of Noah people will be caught up unaware while enjoying pleasure, eating, drinking, and in marriage ceremonies.
- No one knows the day, not a man, angels or the Son but only God the Father. Any man claiming to know the day is an outright liar.
- God will kill the body, and soul.
- Destruction will be like the one for Sodom and Gomorrah, and during Noah's time.

"Therefore, keep watch, because you don't know on what day your lord will come," Mathew 24:14, NIV. We must prepare for eternity while in this world and should not be carried away by the common and strong negative world influences

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Biblical References

Mathew 10:8, Proverbs 22:16, 23:5, Luke 8:14, Mathew 24:15, Mark 13: 22-23, John 10:11-15, 1Timothy 4:14-16, 1 Thessalonians 2: 4-13, 1 Peter 4:11, 1 Timothy 3:2-13.

CHAPTER 3: SIGNS OF RELIGIOUS TRADERS

The following are the most common signs of religious traders;

- They put themselves in the place of God and say you cannot be blessed by God unless you go through them.
- They brainwash and steal the minds of people for their selfish ends.
- They create fear among members and promote prayers' dependency syndrome.
- They create raised places i.e. the altars or the holy place which is used only by one man.
- Forces believers to give money using intimidation, manipulation, exploitation, condemnation, oppression and threats to get what they want.
- They are in the business of selling prayers, handkerchiefs, anointing oil, holy waters, crosses, holy soil, fortune telling among others.
- They also make people to drink anointing oil.
- They push people to pay for deliverance from demons and witchcraft, open heavens, prophetic declarations, return of stolen stars and to see the pastor or man of God.
- They threaten anyone asking any questions about the running of their ministry.
- They even determine the offering amount you must give in the church by marking it on envelopes ranging from Ksh. 200 to several thousands.
- They also implement inappropriate tithing in church.
- There is no room for generous, voluntary, free will offerings or freedom to worship God.
- Recognition of members is based on their social and economic status, family or friendly connections.

- They love to work and die in office and they don't prepare any one to take over from them because they believe no one can fit into their shoes.
- They despise the members who are poor, humble and they abuse, dishonor and mishandle them because they don't gain anything from them.
- They preach people, politics, wealth and current affairs instead of the gospel truth; they preach what people want to hear so as to please them.
- They display extreme comedy and fail to take spiritual things seriously.
- They go beyond the set spiritual and Biblical borders; they lack self-control.
- They claim the glory of God without caring; with pride and exalt themselves even above Christ.
- They are full of pride and blinded by evil and their selfishness.
- They are abusive; make the members their slaves, they can slap, kick, insult, step on them, push them to fall down during prayer or even cause actions of sexual indecency.
- They shout about others as false preachers in an effort to hide their identity.
- They judge others but they sin differently with impunity.
- They are not ready to pay the price in their ministries but they just exploit the members.
- They are in ministry just for money or material prosperity.
- They enjoy conversing with demons to show off and claim that they control the spirit world.
- They have little Word, fond of shallow Biblical teachings, spiritual content, and make many serious spiritual blunders.
- Their sermons are full of confusion, unbiblical application, interpretation, insults and threats.

- They are all over in many nations worldwide faking everything including signs, miracles, the gospel, love, worship, relationship, church, ministry, calling, family etc.
- They live in secret evil, carnality, immoral and sinful lives, can divorce and become casual about marriage until they are exposed by people or media.
- They have more focus on fake miracles and even to the extend of coaching or hiring people to give them; doctor miracles to deceive people that they are with God.
- Using powers of darkness like divination to create miracles.
- They are involved in many conflicts in church over land, leadership positions or money which sometimes leads to violence or physical fights.
- They carry the Pharisees' spirit of hypocrisy wherever they go.
- They put more focus on external religious practices than the spiritual ones i.e. public show, special clothing, gowns, collars, caps, chains, rings, walking sticks among others.
- They are keen on showing off their material gains like flashy cars, clothing, gowns, collars etc. as a priority.
- Their word is law, rigid and final, and cannot be changed. They are final.
- They are very aggressive and must get what they want; they push people very hard and there is no room for the grace of God in their ministries. Most of their members are just listeners, spectators, cheerers and dormant spiritually.
- They don't recognize other ministers even if they are called.
- They are a burden to many and never a blessing, since they condemn, curse and threaten people.
- They make evil, selfish and bad prayers e.g. praying for people to die without knowing that their key role is to protect lives.

- They distort and mislead on the events leading to the end times.

NB: You will know them by their fruit, we must discern them with the inner eyes. While some ministers are evil and immoral, others are just suffering from immaturity having been raised in wrong or weak Biblical foundations. They hide behind the collar while either serving the devil, their carnality or buried deeply in their selfishness. Religious traders may possess all the above characteristics in very extreme circumstances or just some of them.

Signs of Churches where religious trade is practiced

The following are the signs of churches where religious trade is practiced;

- Preaching about politics, worldly wealth and current affairs to please people.
- It is platform for insults by politicians instead of a place of encouragement through the Word.
- Everyone is blinded by the fake preachers, devil and their selfishness.
- Worship of the pastor, preachers and the denominations as idols.
- There is a fierce fight for material and church positions.
- Members serve the preacher instead of God.
- It is a full pledged entertainment zone with great fun and exaggeration.
- There is much display of materialism, carnality, un-biblical and ungodly behavior.
- Open involvement in evil, immorality and one man show leadership model.

- One gift is in operation and is given great prominence while other gifts are ignored and silenced.
- Intense sale of items like handkerchiefs, anointing oil, water among others.
- Members are compelled to give offerings, tithes and project funds. The amounts to be given are printed on the envelopes. There is no room for generous or voluntary or free will giving.
- There are shallow Biblical teachings and application with more focus on fake miracles.
- Spiritual content (sermons) is given with wrong Biblical interpretation.
- Exaltation of other things rather than Jesus Christ e.g. miracles, personalities, fortune telling, powers of darkness, divination, prophecies, revelations, conflicting and confusing activities.
- Spiritual immaturity, hypocrisy and immorality is a common feature.
- Members don't use their conscience or brains but they follow their spiritual leaders blindly.
- The leader has a final say and anyone asking questions in the church will face threats.
- Focus more on external blessings and meaningless religious rituals which don't touch the heart of God or add any value.
- Existence of too much confusion, condemnation, oppression, cursing, threats and exploitation of people.
- Isolation of members in the church and discouraging them from partnering with other believers in the body of Christ.
- The church members are raised like their leaders without values due to poor spiritual parenting, mentoring and coaching e.g. dishonesty.

- Some members are just suffering from spiritual immaturity and not necessarily under demonic influence.
- More focus on deliverance ministry and the preachers insist that members are not free but they are still in bondage and that demons dwell in them full time.
- The church may be fast growing in numbers but not in quality or spiritual maturity.
- Members lack very important moral values.

NB: The signs of religious trading may be seen partly or in full depending on the situation.

Effects of religious trading

The following are the effects of religious trading;

- Feeding believers with wrong or sub-standard teachings causing immaturity among them.
- Worship of pastors or preachers instead of the living God leads to failure in ministry.
- It is prone to conflicts over material wealth and church positions.
- Church becomes a place of confusion, fear, condemnation, oppression, threats, exaggeration and entertainment.
- Church members become slaves of ‘men of God’ and are greatly exploited.
- There is much display of materialism, darkness, corruption, hypocrisy and immorality, carnality and ungodly behavior.
- Members follow their spiritual leaders blindly and build them to become dictators.
- More focus on rules of men or the denomination rather than the Word of God.
- Church becomes mainly a business place for selling prayers or items instead of the gospel.

- Isolation of members in the church from other believers in the body of Christ.
- Emerging Christianity without ethics or moral values.
- The Biblical standards are lowered for the convenience of men.

“There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers,” Proverbs 6:16-19, NIV.

Most of our political and religious leaders have become experts in lying something which God hates with passion.

“ The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful,” Proverbs 12:22, NIV. Any form of lying is sinful and makes one a potential candidate for hell.

“If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him,” Deuteronomy 18:22, NIV. Do not fear, listen or obey the false prophets, pastors, teachers or preachers in the church. They waste your time and they will take you nowhere. Just reject their prophetic lies of ‘you will get this and that, you will drive, you will fly’ but be able to discern and believe in the true prophets of the Lord.

CHAPTER 4: CHARACTER OF TRUE PASTORS AND OTHER MINISTERS

In his book 'Pastoring the Flock of God' Dr. Rueb J. (2016) who has been a practicing pastor for 40 years, provides the character traits of pastors, other ministers or church leaders as indicated below;

- Able to teach and give instruction in sound Biblical doctrine with clarity, passion and love.
- Not quarrelsome or double-tongued but should be self-controlled and restrained and not quick tempered.
- Sober-minded and disciplined so as to create a good environment for ministry.
- Not a drunkard or an addict; they should be drunk in the Spirit and not with wine or alcohol.
- Respectable inside the home and in the public arena with moral consistency and integrity.
- They must be morally upright even when no one is looking at them.
- Not a lover of money or greedy for personal gain; their lifestyle must be free from such love.
- Pure and honorable in marriage; relationship with the spouse is good.
- Managing his house well; having a Godly family and raising children well.
- Gentle and non-violent; filled with the love of God, exercising patience and treat others with gentleness.
- Hospitable; making friends and drawing people closer because they value relationships.
- Loving what is good and always working hard for it.
- Has proven faith in God.
- Not a recent convert or spiritually immature.
- They must be tested before they are trusted to serve God like Joseph in the Bible.
- They must be humble and not arrogant or stubborn.
- Holding firm on to the Word of God as their foundation and refuting any false teaching.

- Above reproach and blameless i.e. personal purity and integrity.
- They must be holy with hearts which are pleasing God and are a blessing to their followers.
- Confirmed by God and the church to serve.
- Called by God with grace, equipped and empowered to serve others.

“ An elder must be blameless, the husband of one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer is entrusted with God’s work, he must be blameless-not overbearing, not quick tempered, not to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it,” Titus 1:6-9, NIV. All church leaders must be honest, blameless and above reproach so as to be effective.

Evidence of God’s call

Dr. Rueb J. (2016) further gives the following as the evidence of God’s call in church leaders lives;

- They must know their gifts and ministry belong to God who calls and gives the gifts.
- They must understand that their words are not their own but derived from God.
- They must please God and not men.
- Their ministry operates with the power and strength of God.

Bishop Cyprian Mutsvene (2006) in his book ‘The Character of a Leader’, says that church leaders or all ministers must have the following;

- The grace of God so that they become effective.
- They must tap into the grace or suffer trying to use one's natural ability.
- They need total commitment in their work.
- Must embrace team leadership and avoid divisions in the church by embracing unlimited room for diversity.
- Ministers must know that they are Christ's ambassadors on earth with the main mandate to spread the gospel.

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ,” 1 Corinthians 3:11, NIV. Any minister whose true foundation is not Christ will never stand the test of the time.

The author says conflicts normally occur due to personality clashes and un-forgiveness. Competing as Christians is the work of the flesh and not the Spirit. He adds that frustrations and guiltiness is a result of trying to conform to someone's personal standards instead of God's. A legalistic ministry where main focus is rules and regulations has killed many ministries, and believers' passion for Christ and joy.

“ ... You know that those who were regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over to them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many,” Mark 10: 42-45, NIV. Beware leaders who make us their slaves.

CHAPTER 5: SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Warfare is a fight between enemies. Darkness fights the light while the light resists darkness. Spiritual battles are real and we must put on the full armor of God so as to triumph. Christians are on the side of light led by Jesus as the commander while Satan and demons are on the side, the darkness side. The devil fights to take us to hell through deception, temptation and lust while God fights to take us to heaven. To fight effectively you must know your enemies and their strategies.

Adam and Eve faced warfare and fell into sin. Israelites faced warfare in Egypt and Babylon leading to great oppression, slavery and suffering. Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar represented the kingdom of darkness and the devil, Global Disciples (2022). Warfare can lead to great suffering in our lives even today. **"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take you stand against the devil's schemes," Ephesians 6:11, NIV.** Warfare is real for any Christian and we must fight to survive in this corrupt world and maintain the faith.

War is written 1240 times in the Bible. Job was a righteous man in the land of Uz but he faced tough test, warfare and suffering from Satan. He fought a good fight of faith and won. You can even face war as a Christian for doing the right thing. Jesus Christ and Moses among other servants of God faced warfare at birth and the devil wanted them to be destroyed early but God saved them. Apostle Paul and other disciples of Jesus Christ faced immense warfare in the early church. They faced persecution leading to great suffering and deaths. Many were stoned, flogged and jailed. Stephen was stoned to death because of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The young and adults both physically and spiritually face warfare in life. New believers begin war with the devil on first day of their salvation hence they need spiritual support to overcome. David faced stiff warfare while building the temple for the Lord and almost gave up but God gave him victory. Even today servants of God face tough war while serving God but let's depend on God for victory.

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world," 1 John 4:4, NIV.

War began in heaven between angels of God and the devil and Satan was defeated and thrown to the earth where his main work is to bring suffering and death to people.

Many believers struggle with warfare and sin leading to backsliding and they need repentance and restoration. The body of man also fights the Spirit and is one of the great enemies.

The Bible teaches us to be strong in the Lord and to put on the full armor of God so as to stand and win on an evil day. Everyone has an evil day to face. The war is spiritual and is fought through the truth, righteousness, gospel, faith, salvation, word of God and prayer. The Bible says in life there is time for peace and war for the man. The devil can cause war amongst people, Christians and family members by encouraging divisions, hatred, enmity, conflicts and strife.

Demons enter people to oppress and make them their slaves hence the need of deliverance. The devil can also use sickness, drugs, alcoholism, harmful cultural practices, devil worship and accidents to enslave or kill people. The devil can also use disobedience by children to their parents to bring warfare. God can also punish people for sinful acts through diseases, earthquakes, Tsunami or war between nations etc.

The Bible teaches that in warfare wisdom is better than ordinary weapons. This means in Spiritual war we use wisdom and we don't fight with foolishness. We should fight a good fight of faith which is spiritual with the love of God. We live in peace with all people as advised by apostle Paul.

We are watchful as spiritual soldiers and stand in the gap to save the land. We resist the devil and he will flee from us. God tells us to be strong and courageous in warfare and to abstain from evil desires. Darkness and the light has no fellowship or connection hence we must make our right choices and stick to the light.

God promises us that we are more than conquerors and no weapon formed against us will succeed. We are fighting a war which is already won by God. So fight wisely, forgive people, learn how to deal with offense using agape love and don't surrender to the devil.

Know your war, if it's from the devil resist, depend on God and if it's punishment by God repent and receive forgiveness. Those people who love the world and its pleasure are enemies of the Lord and God will fight them and their destiny is hell. They will suffer in this life and in the next. King Jehoshaphat fought and won his war spiritually by praising and worshipping God.

Ingram (2021) says in warfare trials are inevitable and can either make us or break us and calls upon Christians to be survivors (victors) and not victims. 'If you are going through adversity, difficulty, pain or other challenges look at your trials through Biblical lens. God uses adversity to mature and drive us towards Christ-like life. It enables us to witness the power of God and provides an awesome testimony to the unbelieving world. We must believe in God to triumph, admit you are stuck, ask for God's wisdom and know you can't succeed without God. To slay the dragon of discouragement, get God's perspective in everything and know you are not the victim but the survivor. Faith indicates that God is in control, hope reminds you of God's promises and love enables you to suffer because of God.

Warren R. (2002) says God loves to use weak people and many ministers have a bundle of physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual flaws and imperfections. The secret is to admit your weaknesses and allow God to assist you.

Demons and cults

World Map (1993) defines demons as seducing spirits that tempt us to sin. People become demonized by worship of idols and get involved in the works of the flesh. Unbelievers often sacrifice to demons. Demons are able to do miracles to deceive people. In

divination (witchcraft, magic and spiritism) also miraculous signs and wonders can be performed. Believers should command demons to leave people in Jesus name. We need to pray and fast to be able to chase away some stubborn demons. We must know how demons work and how to deal with them.

The devil uses cults to fight the church and there is a need for believers to know the following signs of cultic preachers;

1. They oppose critical thinking and normal life like working for a living, education, health, wealth etc. They don't want people to use their minds.
2. Isolating members from other people e.g. relatives and other Christians.
3. They threaten, condemn or penalize members for non-participation or leaving their church.
4. Emphasis on special doctrine outside the scriptures. They are not keen on Biblical standards.
5. Seeking inappropriate loyalty to church leaders on a one-man-show arrangement.
6. Dishonor the family unit.
7. Personality cult where one man owns the church and has a final say on everything.
8. Authoritarian leaders who cannot be corrected even when they are wrong.
9. Focus on strange spiritual encounters in form of dreams, prophecies and visions.
10. Selling of fear to members about their current and future lives.

K. Gerner (1997) in his book, *Spiritual Warfare*, explains how Satan and demons operate in the world and how to counter them. He says the works of the flesh are attributed to demonic powers but clarifies it is wrong to conclude that every sick person is as a result of demonic powers. Demonic powers are associated with spirit of divination, seducing spirits, wicked spirits, spirit of fear, unclean spirits, spirit of infirmity and spirit of jealousy. He says the avenues of entrance for demonic power are; hereditary, occult, divination, magic, spiritism, witchcraft and rebellion.

He also adds that the qualifications of the Christians who will be able to deal with demons are; being submissive to God, supernaturally endowed, self-denying, with God's authority and able to see their victory in Christ.

“No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper,” Isaiah 54:17, NIV. Victory is a promise given to us by God and we are victors.

He also gives methods of rebuking unclean spirits as a loving approach to the individual, a clean life behind the spoken word, casting out, operating by faith, being prayer and fasting, infilling with the Holy Spirit, fellowship with Spirit-filled believers, putting on the full armor of God, and pre-occupation with Jesus while ignoring demons.

“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves,” Mathew 10:16, NIV. God wants us to be wise so that we do not fall into the dangerous traps of the devil.

Rt. Rev. Dr. David M. Githii (2007) in his book, *Exposing and Conquering Satanic Forces over Kenya*, points out that Kenya has deviated from reverence to God to idolatry and the practice of evil activities like witchcraft. Therefore, our godliness is bleak in a satanic age. He identifies the following as satanic symbols and images in Kenyan Parliament; snakes (evil), tortoise (laziness), witch doctors horns (witchcraft), a charging bull and rhino (occult symbol of sexual strength and spirit of turmoil). There has been talk of witchcraft amongst members of parliament and the shutting of schools over witchcraft claims in some parts of the country.

He says these satanic powers have held our nation captive in all spheres, therefore, calls for repentance and going to the true sovereign God to heal the land and to bring prosperity. He says

Kenya has faced the following extreme problems for many years which must be tackled;

- Unrivalled corruption.
- Tribalism.
- Poverty.
- Joblessness.
- Poor infrastructure.
- High crime rate.
- Sexual bondage.
- Drug addiction and alcoholism.
- Ecological disasters.

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me,” John 10:27, NIV. Jesus wants us to listen and follow Him. We should not follow the devil, false teachers or preachers.

The writer calls upon the church to take a bold stand, condemn all evil and work towards healing the land, ministering to the needs of the oppressed people, fighting to free people in both church and nation, from the shackles of sin, injustice, promote integrity, fair laws and reconciliation through the gospel. The current church is going through a period of the dark age where sin was compromised and spiritual priorities were upside down.

We need a national cleansing and repentance fronted by the church. The church should not sit in the fence or compromise with the world. The church in Kenya, Africa and word wide should build an army of intercessors to engage and defeat the powers of darkness, and open way for end time revival, righteousness, economic boom and good governance.

“Dear children, keep yourselves from idols,” 1 John 5:21, NIV. All makers of idols will be put to shame,” Isaiah 45:16, NIV. Idol worship in form of wealth, things and leaders or people, has brought down and destroyed many Christians. So, beware.

CHAPTER 6 - DYNAMICS OF GENERATION ‘Z’ MOVEMENT

The recent fierce protests by the Generation Z over governance issues in Kenya and among 60 other countries of the world is an eye opener that no one can ignore the contribution of this generation to society. The fact that they organize successfully and in a short time their massive protests using technology (social media); without visible leadership or being ethnic or tribal-based, requires keen attention since this is a new and unique energy in the nation. It has been confirmed by a good number of spiritual leaders that the Gen Z movement is divine; God is using it to bring real transformation in Kenya and all over the world. No one can afford to ignore them in the affairs of the country. This generation should be supported and mentored to ensure their push for radical transformation becomes useful and not harmful to the companies or countries of the world.

The generation is stepping into a large vacuum of oversight left by the church, parliament, county assemblies and civil society. It shows that not all is well in the nation and the church should wake up from spiritual slumber with true repentance; arise to provide direction and leadership during this delicate and redefining moment for the country. Kenya is currently at crossroads, with many things going wrong and requires urgent spiritual intervention. It is, therefore, important to find out who the Gen Zs are and their key divine role.

Who are Generation Z?

Generation Z (or Gen Zers) is colloquially known as Zoomers, born between 1997 and 2012, and it is the demographic cohort succeeding Millennials and preceding Generation Alpha. Researchers use mid-late 1990s as the starting birth years and the early 2010s as the ending birth years; which is an age range of 12-27 years of age. Anyone born between 1981 and 1996 is considered a Millennial with the range of 28-43 years of age. They are primarily the children of Generation X (of mid 1960-late 1970s or 47 to 59 years), demographic cohort following the Baby Boomers and preceding the Millennials.

In Kalenjin community this generation is mainly called *Nyongi* who are presumed to be the freedom fighters of the 1960s, which means Kenya has gone a full social cycle and the freedom fighters are now back. This is, therefore, the courageous and patriotic generation of the late President Jomo Kenyatta. They are sons to *Sowe* male age-set and *Chesirian* female age-set.

In Kenya Generation Z constitutes a population of over 18.3 million people (33.4%) while Millennials are over 12.1 million people (22%). Since this is the largest group worldwide countries must listen and involve them in development and governance of the nation and church.

In USA Gen Z is a record breaking generation as the most racially and ethnically diverse, and globally they are the largest generation. They value education, fashion and choose their own unique part i.e. they want shorter, affordable and career-connected path ways.

Characteristics of Generation Z: Who are they?

The following are the important characteristics of Generation Z;

- The most racially and ethnically diverse group in the world.
- Globally they are the largest generation.
- More pragmatic i.e. focus more on practical affairs.
- They mature faster, earlier than the previous generations.
- They are more cautious in their career choices and in making decisions.
- They grew up with rapid digital changes and experienced the boom of smart phones and other disruptive technological devices as teens. This makes them well informed.
- They embrace new technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) as part of life.
- They are growing up and climbing the corporate ladder with interest on governance issues.
- Some are acquiring property e.g. buying homes and starting families.
- They prioritize saving money.

- They use their voices and platforms (social media and online communities) to push for change.
- They love to travel and have fun.
- They are prone to anxiety.
- They love gaming and hobbies.
- They shape culture through the social media.
- It is an emerging HR issue worldwide.
- 96% of the Gen Z employees believe it is critical to feel recognized, included and engaged at work place.
- 80% of the Gen Z employees prefer a career that allows them to explore and acquire new diverse skills rather focusing on a single ability.

Factors defining Generation Z worldwide

- Social media networking.
- Embracing shared family responsibilities.
- Presence of fast digital environment i.e. technology.
- A truly global generation.
- Facing economic recession.
- Climate change and sustainability matters.
- Some are involved in negative events i.e. involvement conflicts, terrorism and war.

Gen Z awakens the world from slumber.

In his book, *Black Tuesday: God's Sledge Hammer For Nations*, Eric Kyalo (2024) says that Gen Z is awakening the world from slumber in the following ways;

- There is a surging of hope throughout the world due to the efforts of young people. They have organized protests, crowd funded and run national and global campaigns through social media.
- They are giving a model of what community should be all about, accommodation during protests, fact checking and educating us through their ingenious use of TikTok and other social media.

- They have disrupted the usual way of proceeding and the world owe them their collective thanks for awakening her from slumber and stupor.
- Gen Z across the world are calling out the hypocrisy and the dysfunctionality of leaders, policies and structures that exist to shore up the status quo.
- They inherently understand that everyone is deserving the basic human rights of food, shelter, clothing, health care, safety and security and thus inequality can only be addressed through the lens of inter-sectionality. They insist that no one should be left behind.

What people misunderstand about Gen Z.

- A generation that is too coddled and “soft.” Gen Zers were called “snowflakes” and “unwilling to grow up.” But much of that negative judgment came from a misunderstanding of what it is like to grow up in today’s world when compared with how their elders grew up.
- Lazy because they don’t have after-school or summer jobs. But many Gen Zers have been earning significant money online through a variety of activities.

Helpful things other generations can borrow from Gen Zs in workplaces.

- To recognize that these new colleagues are used to working collaboratively and flexibly, with an eye to being efficient in getting the job done.
- They are pragmatic and value direct communication, authenticity and relevance. They also value self-care.
- They are so used to finding what they need on their own.
- They are not always right; often they don’t know what they need, especially in a new setting, and this is where inter-generational dialogue can be so helpful.

- Both the older and the younger colleagues can learn from each other, in each case by listening with more respect, appreciation and trust.

Challenges of Gen Z

- Communication gap due to differences in preferred communication channels and styles. Bridging this gap is essential to tap into their skills and ideas effectively.
- Gen Z often prioritizes work-life balance and flexible work arrangements. Companies need to adapt to these expectations to retain and engage Gen Z talent.
- This generation may require specific mentorship and guidance to channel their entrepreneurial spirit effectively. Companies can play a vital role in nurturing their development.
- While Gen Z has a penchant for entrepreneurship and freelancing, many will still enter traditional workplaces. Companies need to create environments that cater their diverse needs and preferences.

Coups steered by Gen Z in Africa.

Eric Kyalo, Black Tuesday, provides the following Gen z fronted coups in Africa;

- Gabon.
- Niger - on July 26, 2023, the military announced that they had overthrown President Mohamed Bazoum. General Abdourahamane Tiani becomes the new strongman of the country.
- Burkina Faso: two putsches in 8 months -On January 24, 2022, President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré was ousted from power by the military, Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba was inaugurated president in February.

- On September 30, 2023 Damiba was in turn dismissed from his position by the military, Captain Ibrahim Traoré was invested as transitional president until a presidential election scheduled for July 2024.
- Sudan - On October 25 2021, soldiers led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhane chased out the transitional civilian leaders, who were supposed to lead the country towards democracy after 30 years of dictatorship of Omar al-Bashir, himself deposed in 2019.
- Since April 15, 2023, a war due to a power struggle between General Burhane and his former deputy Mohamed Hamdane Daglo has killed at least 5,000 people in the country.
- Guinea - on September 5, 2021, President Alpha Condé was overthrown by a military coup. On October 1, Colonel Mamady Doumbouya became president.
- Mali: two coups in 9 months -On August 18 2020, President Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta was overthrown by the military, a transitional government was formed in October.
- Military in Bolivia overthrows the government and occupies the nation. Bolivia is a military state now though outside Africa.

NB: Any push for radical transformation must be managed very well to ensure it becomes useful and not harmful to any nation. No one should throw their country to the dogs no matter the situations or anger.

What international leaders said about the Kenyan demos

- The United Nations Secretary General called on Kenya's police and security forces to "exercise restraint." He added that he was "deeply concerned over the reported violence."
- The African Union Commission called on all stakeholders to refrain from further violence. A statement from the body said

its chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat urges “allstakeholders to exercise calm and refrain from further violence. The chairperson also appeals to national stakeholders to engage in constructive dialogue to address the contentious issues that led to the protests in the supreme interest of Kenya.”

- The protests come as Kenya’s standing gains global prominence as US President Joe Biden designated the country a “major non-NATO ally” marking the first time a sub-Saharan African nation has received this status.

Issues Gen Z are struggling with.

- Bullying.
- Social problems.
- Peer pressure.
- On-Screen violence.
- Depression.
- Sexual problems.
- Drug abuse.
- Alcoholism.
- Academic problems.
- Health issues.

Advantages of a leaderless group

- The advantages of a leaderless group or movement are;
- Better decision making
- Effective virtual interaction
- Promotion of positive attitudes like increased creativity and motivations
- Can avoid ideological disputes and infighting

Disadvantages of a leaderless group

- The disadvantages of a leaderless group or movement are;
- Limits physical interactions.
- Struggles with direction and communication.
- May have excess frustrations.
- May become ineffective in decision making.
- Conflicting personalities may disrupt work.
- Easy to get disorganized.
- Has challenges of stress and responsibility for failure.
- Resistance to change.
- Difficulty in delegation.
- Problem of isolation.
- May have ineffective and indifferent teams.

Gen Z concerns and demands in Kenya

The Gen Zs raised the following concerns and demands;

1. Well educated youths but jobless.
2. Inflation and high cost of living.
3. Fertilizer scandals among other corrupt practices in the country.
4. Unaffordability of basic needs.
5. The burdening Finance bill.
6. Parliament has become the puppet of the State House. Some Mps bribed to push for unpopular 2024 Finance Bill.

7. It was claimed most of the Cabinet Secretaries were millionaires, corrupt, incompetent and prominent political class, and not hustlers as promised during the 2022 campaigns.
8. Political appointments based on tribe and political connection without competence or relevance.
9. Loss of 30% of the national budget to budgeted corruption as per governance experts.
10. Too much government wastage on Chief Administrative Secretaries (CASs) positions, fund raisings (harambees), allowances, extravagance, travel and advisors. This should be abolished.
11. It was noted that the mega fund raisings (harambees) breed corruption.
12. Cutting the size of government (Cabinet Secretaries) to save on the huge national costs.
13. Stinking rot of corruption in high places, church and bad governance, claiming the government system was completely rotten to the core.
14. Protest against Uasin Gishu-Finland scholarship scandal where many students were duped and lost millions of money.
15. Display of lavish wealth by the political class.
16. Many broken promises by the government.
17. Huge public debt.
18. Billions of money stolen and hidden in the offshore accounts.
19. Demand of reconstitution of Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC).
20. Demand for reduction of salaries for the political class and scrapping of some positions terming it as waste of funds.
21. Complete overhaul of Kenya Kwanza administration.
22. Firing of corrupt cabinet secretaries.
23. Life style audit of flashy state officers.
24. Abolition of the housing levy.

25. Creating more opportunities for the youth.
26. Abolition of funding for the first and second Ladies offices.
27. Displaying opulence and arrogance to suffering and hungry Kenyans which the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua calls it 'vomiting on hungry.
28. Shifting of goals by the political class in many critical issues and lack of accountability.
29. Misuse of county government motor vehicles use for private work while critical service delivery was greatly hampered e.g. lack of fuel for hospital ambulances, project implementation etc.
30. Reduction of the number of counties from 47 to 25 to save on the current huge national expenditure, reduce tribalism and improve on governance.

Events

The following were the events which marked the Gen Z movement in Kenya;

1. Invasion of parliament and occupying it, chasing out MPs and putting it under siege. They ate, took pictures and streamed live.
2. It was a protest of a magnitude never seen in Kenya's history or in East and Central Africa or in many parts of the world.
3. Confronting the police bare-handed and overcoming them.
4. The massive protests were staged in almost all the 47 counties and were joined by other political and civil society interested groups.
5. However, the action unfortunately led to loss of many lives and property, both private and government installations worth many millions. Some MPs offices and homes who voted for the unpopular Finance Bill were targeted. 60 people are confirmed dead, and 66 missing as per Kenya Human Rights commission

6. Goon and criminals infiltrated and hijacked the Gen Z demos causing reigning terror on Kenyans, causing chaos, looting, mayhem, burning of cars, offices and business premises.
7. Kenyans raised Ksh 25 million in a few days to cover hospital bills of Kenyans injured during the Anti-Finance Bill demos in June, 2024.
8. Hundreds of youths thronged Kenyatta National Hospital to donate blood for those injured during the anti-finance bill protests.
9. Some MPs were forced to flee in panic the parliament building in ambulances.
10. The President of Kenya addressed the nation thereafter and declared that he had conceded and won't sign the Finance Bill and instead sent it back to parliament for withdrawal. He also asked the National Treasury to prepare Supplementary Appropriations Bill that will reduce national expenditure.
11. The President also referred back the Division of Revenue Bill to parliament for reduction, meaning the equitable share to the 47 counties may be adjusted downwards.
12. He also proposed a team of government, civil society and the youth to begin dialogue.
13. The appeal by the deputy president and other leaders to the Gen Z youth to put off the next protest was not heeded at all.
14. The church was also accused for not doing enough in her oversight role in matters integrity, good governance, righteousness, hearing God and giving divine direction in national issues.
15. Blame game was seen in the government cycles over the mess and mismanagement of the situation and some leaders were called upon to resign.
16. Public apologies were delivered by some Members of Parliament (MPs) for voting to support the bill or attacking Gen Zs unfairly.
17. There was a human face displayed by the Gen Zs by escorting two MPs out of parliament, (PLWDs), who could not flee like the others to safety without harm.

18. Deployment of the military, Kenya Defense Forces (KDF) to the streets to maintain law and order after the chaos and to protect critical installations and infrastructure.
19. Matters of police actions and KDF went to the court for proper constitutional directions.
20. The youth single handedly mounted a serious protest in absence of the king and father of protests and second liberation in Kenya, Former Prime Minister, Hon. Raila Odinga.
21. Religious leaders were touched and met the president and appealed for national dialogue.
22. The group demanded that churches should not invite politicians to church functions which led to cancelation of some of the planned functions. They accused politicians for corruption and using the church pulpit to insult their political enemies.
23. A musician from Tanzania released a song praising the boldness of the Gen Z in facing the tough governance issues head on in Kenya.
24. The protests even got the attention of the international media like BBC, CNN, Aljazeera among others who featured the events worldwide.
25. Tanzania's opposition leader Mr. Tundu Lisu admired Kenya's democracy. He said it was mature.
26. There was hashtag 'occupy parliament and state house', 'reject the finance bill' and shouts about the exit of the current government.
27. It was equated to political mega protests witnessed in recent years in China, Russia and France etc.
28. Claims by Gen Zs and Human Rights bodies of arbitrary arrests, abductions and killings by the police.
29. Businesses also stopped in Nairobi and other cities due to the chaos.
30. Heavy and sharp rebuke of the political class for ignoring the wishes, opinion, stand and plight of the people.

31. The protestors carried vuvuzela, national flags, sang patriotic and freedom songs, national anthem and called on national leaders to resign.
32. The youths made the declarations ‘no retreat, no surrender’.
33. New songs and poems were composed and released by the youth on various matters relating to transformation on social media.
34. They replayed from the internet the broken promises made earlier during 2022 political campaigns.
35. Kenyans abroad protested in 60 counties including United Kingdom, Netherlands, Canada etc.
36. Over 22 persons were charged in court for criminal activities while about 200 were in custody for various crimes.
37. The Directorate of Criminal Investigation (DCI) released photos of 40 wanted criminal suspects in relation to the violations of the law of the land.
38. The government, through the former Interior Cabinet Secretary (CS), Kithure Kindiki, pledged to carry out thorough investigations to ensure justice was done for everyone whose rights were violated during the national protests. He said that each lost life must be accounted for and any police officer who used excessive force leading to loss of lives will face the law.
39. The president was called upon by Gen Zs, National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) and the opposition to sack the perceived corrupt cabinet secretaries instead of making cosmetic changes which were too little, too late.
40. The Gen Zs promised to take up key leadership roles in the year 2027 general elections by fielding candidates so as to displace what they called ‘political party slavery and lazy parliament’.

41. Celebration of the fallen heroes during Saba Saba day on 7/7/2024 in Nairobi and Mombasa attended by thousands of youths who condemning police brutality.
42. The Gen Zs strongly rebuked the corruption going on in church and pledged to also face it head on.
43. They condemned the church for abandoning her important spiritual role of wining souls, condemning evil in society and instead shifting to material prosperity and fake promises.
44. The Gen Z complained of sexual harassment and sale of jobs in the country, putting them in a great despair.
45. They said they were tired. So, they were stepping in for the previous freedom fighters whose struggle has not brought much fruitful returns, making this the third and final liberation.
46. It was decided that public servants and state officers should not actively participate in public fund raisings (harambees).
47. Some churches cancelled planned fund raisings to be graced by political leaders.
48. 47 parastatals with overlapping functions are earmarked for dissolution or transfer to respective ministries.
49. Hiring of Chief Administrative Secretaries (CAS) was suspended.
50. There will be no extension of contract for civil servants after the attainment of the mandatory retirement age of 60 years.
51. Suspension of new motor vehicle purchase by government.
52. Stopping the funding on non-constitutional offices like the First Ladies.
53. Auditing of national public debt.
54. Stopping of confidential budget allocations.
55. Funding of stalled projects, county debts and pension schemes.
56. Hiring of intern doctors and Junior Secondary School (JSS) teachers.

57. Reduction of government travel expenses and avoiding non-essential travel.
58. Reduction of presidential advisors by half.
59. Reduction of renovation budget for government by 15%.
60. MPs rejected salary increase by the Salaries and Remuneration commission (SRC) which came during the period.
61. The president of Kenya engaged the Gen Zs in the X-Space platform to listen to their issues.
62. Formation of a National Multi-sectoral forum to initiate dialogue and resolve the Gen Z conflict.
63. The Gen Zs dug much deeper than their fathers and elders, strongly condemned the injury, arrests, abductions and killing of protestors.
64. The president dissolved the entire cabinet due to the immense pressure and they were removed from the Cabinet Secretaries website.
65. The Gen Zs have begun devolving their protest activities to county governments to address similar issues of bad governance.
66. The government spokesperson, Hon. Isaac Mwaura told the media that Ksh. Six (6) billion was lost by Kenya Revenue Authority as revenue during the three weeks Gen Z demos while the Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Wetangula said the damage cost during invasion of parliament was Ksh. 94 million.
67. The youth constantly engaged on social media during the protests was over two (2) million.
68. Some radical critics in the opposition opposed any form of dialogue or government of national unity while calling for complete exit of the Kenya Kwanza government. They termed the government of national unity as the regrouping of the common political comen.

69. Heightened security alert in both counties and national capital Nairobi city during the demos.
70. Movement of motor vehicles on the eve of the demos by county governments to safer grounds, closure of offices and business premises.
71. The Gen Zs gave employees free work holidays since they failed to report on duty due to fear of violence.
72. A Member of a County Assembly (MCA) said in public that he feared God and Gen Z.
73. County government vehicles which had private registration for long time were reverted to the required government number plates.
74. Chase cars for political VIPs were reduced drastically.
75. The Kenya Police banned demonstrations in Nairobi Central Business District due to looting of businesses and arson by goons.
76. The Communications Authority of Kenya (CAK) issued a stern warning to media houses flouting the law, code and ethics of reporting including promoting incitement of the public that they were to face serious consequences.
77. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) regretted for the Kenya protests saying some of their policies may have contributed to some hardships in the third world countries.
78. Some teachers pointed out that the Gen Zs were created by the leaders in the education sector who insisted that schools must be run democratically; involving the children in the running of schools i.e. counseling them without corporal punishment, being keen on child rights, including them in school board as members, teachers were told to adjust to students demands etc.
79. They claim this is the group which was pampered, given authority early in life and later they began rejecting principals, so made them what they are.

Observations

The following were the observations made by various leaders on the Gen Z movement;

1. It is a birth of a new revolution and the youth were ready to pay the heavy price to attain total political and economic freedom.
2. The agencies (i.e. the police) appeared demoralized in managing the crisis amid claims of either lowering the guard or using excessive force.
3. The protestors treated well the two MPs who live with disability, (PLWDs), who were abandoned when the other MPs fled parliament buildings during the invasion by the protestors. They later expressed much gratitude for being treated with humanity.
4. The security agencies were overpowered, proving that guns or weapons cannot always stop people.
5. The Gen Z movement had no clear leaders but staged a very serious and historic protest effectively using online platforms like X-Space, Facebook, Tiktok, Twitter among others. It was party-less, leader-less, tribe-less and faceless revolution because most of the youth fear to be targeted for oppression or bribery.
6. The youths condemned and criticized leaders online who were not in their favor.
7. The national political and religious leaders including those who had earlier condemned the Gen Z movement began to praise them as heroes who should be heard and supported.
8. Religious leaders appreciated the youth were disappointed with the church having failed to live right as the light of the world.

9. Many leaders strongly condemned the chaos and violence but supported the youthful led demonstrations as democratic and something good for the country.
10. Many religious and political leaders got scared and panicked due to the boldness and courage of the youthful movement.
11. The international community raised concerns over the violence in Kenya.
12. Prophets from Malawi, Nigeria and others parts of the world advised the church in Kenya to go to her knees in repentance so as to save the land from suffering and destruction because instability in the nation also means also instability in the church.
13. The prophets had earlier warned of the current crisis but no one took them seriously.
14. The tough onslaught against the finance bill 2024 was based on facts and even some lies.
15. Kenya was an island of peace in the region hosting refugees for many years from Somalia, Uganda, Burundi, Congo, Sudan among others and there was a need for concerted efforts to ensure we don't lose the coveted status.
16. There was a need to protest and preserve the nation because there was nowhere to run to if we destroy Kenya which is in the midst of a troubled region.
17. Our political and religious leaders are not in touch with the ground or the real voice of the people and must repent and turn to the right way.
18. The church which should have been above reproach was terribly exposed by the Gen Z movement and rebuked strongly for wrong doing.
19. The church in Kenya and world over has found herself in the wrong side for many years forcing demons to laugh at her sarcastically.

20. Kenya is pregnant and must give birth to a new nation with a new transformed life.
21. In politics everyone is chasing their selfish, narrow, greedy and unpatriotic interests.
22. Corruption in the country has spread like fire to all sectors.
23. The political leaders have lost focus on what they had promised the hustlers.
24. Education has opened the minds of Gen Zs who carried out protests in a unique way and made them a moral army.
25. Many religious leaders were guilty for allowing politicians to use their pulpits to preach politics and hurl, throw insults on others instead of making churches the salt of the world by fighting the many vices in society.
26. Pastor T. Mwangi (Kenya) said Gen Zs were staging a very radical revolution in the country which was to bring great political transformation. He says they are the sledge hammer to deal with the things the political leaders and the church refused to deal with so as to pave way for spiritual revival in Kenya. He added that we need to pray for them while mentoring them to be effective in their actions and to preserve the nation.
27. Dr. Myles Munroe referred to pastors as spiritual politicians operating with insecurity.
28. Other people claimed that some Gen Zs are the product of free education who missed the cane in school and then staged a wave of strikes in high school including arson during their time. They have also read very controversial and negative books about parliament and other institutions.
29. Change must come to Kenya and other countries in Africa. The Gen Z movement's influence will definitely spread to many other nations of the world.
30. The president's advisors may have been incompetent or not working well hence the storm got everyone unaware.

31. The Gen Zs are God's battle axe hating the fake church with passion. The movement is divine.
32. The Gen Zs are the real deal which will make Kenya great again.
33. Not all churches give politicians their pulpits to misuse. There are exceptions doing the right thing, the will of God.
34. Anglican Church Archbishop in Kenya, Jackson ole Sapit, challenged the Gen Zs to take up critical roles in the church to realize meaningful changes in the church so as to effectively transform the country.
35. The invasion of parliament by Gen Zs was discussed by the parliament of Ghana who insisted on passing good laws to avoid facing the same scenario or wrath.
36. President William Ruto was facing the pressure of Kenya's numerous and immense challenges which have piled up since independence in 1963.
37. The former President Uhuru Kenyatta had warned when he was in power that unemployment in Kenya was going to be a time bomb if nothing was done to mitigate it.
38. Political positions are not rosy anymore and some politicians have contemplated quitting.
39. Kenya must think out of the box in the long term to revive the economy and industrialize so as to come out of the current quagmire.
40. We must work hard as nation to achieve the intentions, aspirations, objectives and visions of the former fathers of the nation and the freedom fighters who paid huge prices for our liberation.
41. Kenyans must learn from the previous and current blunders and their rich history.
42. The church must be separate from the state as society's watchdog. Though it should honor and pray for the

- government of the day so as to influence divinely, it should not collaborate with her.
43. More youth-biased programs be implemented to win back their confidence.
 44. Gen Zs like independence, liberalism, open minded and cannot allow anyone to push things by force down their throats, hence we must engage them and respect their space.
 45. Corruption is getting out of hand in counties and in the entire nation.
 46. The Gen Zs term corruption as genocide because it kills the dreams of many millions of young people. It is a capital offence equal to poor service delivery and incompetence. They say 'you can kill the revolutionaries but you cannot kill the revolution, and if our leaders cannot take us to Canaan, we can take ourselves to Canaan'.
 47. In the past the youth have been ignored on the negotiation table which was not right.
 48. A new no-nonsense young generation is taking over the political scene of Kenya and cannot be ignored.
 49. The freedom fighters in the second liberation which focused on democracy were proud of the Gen Z movement saying they succeeded where they themselves failed.
 50. Some radical civil society activists encouraged the demos on social or mainstream media but failed to show up in the streets to risk their lives.
 51. The youth have very good and bright ideas but with little experience, hence they need the support of other experienced people so as to achieve their objectives and aspirations. They must partner with other generations like Millenials etc. to succeed in their fight for positive transformation.
 52. Some leaders stated that the Gen Zs were asking too much because the president has ceded much ground, from throwing the finance bill, reducing public expenditure, firing the

cabinet secretaries, reducing government travels, resignation of police Inspector General, engaging youths on X-Space etc. They pointed out that it seems some people were not genuine and wanted anarchy instead.

53. God has allowed us go through the transformation in Kenya. So, let's obey and follow the right steps so that we do not stumble.
54. The Gen Z movement has put a great mark in our history and will change Kenya forever.
55. The clergy was split into two, one perceived to be government leaning and another one against.
56. Gen Zs do not want key leadership positions but instead they want to be involved by the leadership in decision making in matters of national importance.
57. The older people cannot connect well with the new generation.

Lessons Learnt

The following are the lessons learnt during the Gen Z nationwide protests;

1. To political class, if you don't listen to the people they will come for you.
2. Nobody in a country is above the people.
3. The youth were able to go beyond the traditional religious, tribal, ethnic and regional barriers in Kenya and operate nationally which was a great shift never seen before since independence in 1963.
4. Research carried out by University of Nairobi in the year 2022 indicated low trust levels of the clergy in Kenya by the people.
5. Kenya has a good constitution but its not being followed to the latter.

6. Leaders should not display publicly opulence or largesse; liberal or extravagant dishing out of money.
7. The church should not overlook evils in society but should fight it instead.
8. Do not throw the bath water (evil) with the baby (nation).
9. The Kenyan youth who are about 28 million cannot be avoided or ignored in important decision making.
10. The best and fruitful movements are peaceful like the ones staged by great world heroes like Mahatma Gandhi of India, Nelson Mandela of South Africa among others.
11. A nation should work hard so as to avoid the sins of agitation.
12. It is very wrong and corrupt for civil servants, public officers and state officers to dive deep into conflict of interest by doing business with the government.
13. A government installed by prayer must be maintained by prayer.
14. In forming governments, competence should come before loyalty.
15. Some governors said the rejection of the finance bill should not be a reason to kill counties by denying them their funds.

Recommendations.

The following are the recommendations regarding the Gen Z movement and actions;

- Save the country by putting it on the right track, don't let it go to the dogs.
- Call for national dialogue, reconciliation and healing.
- Release of the protestors who may be in jail due to the demos.
- In future criminals should be not allowed to infiltrate or hijack demos and cause chaos.

- Anarchy is bad because leaders can go down with the country if not managed well like the case of Sudan, Somalia among others.
- Many political and national leaders including the president called upon the youth not to burn the country despite the magnitude of their issues.
- Let church be church and it should remain the voice of the oppressed, the voice of the voiceless, voice reason and the voice of God.
- The church should maintain very high spiritual standards and not be men pleasers or government partners.
- Introduction of lifestyle audit for civil servants, public officers and state officers to check on corrupt practices.
- The government should always humble, listen to the voice of the people and address their concerns in good time.
- The president needs a new set of advisors and cabinet secretaries who are better, wiser and more competent so as to fill the current huge gap.
- The energy, passion, intelligence, sharpness and pragmatism of the Generation Z should be tapped fully to bring technological, economical, religious, political and social transformation and stability in their nations.
- The church should concentrate on her mandate of rebuking evil, preaching the true gospel and showing the way in integrity and good governance matters in the church and country.
- The church should, in collaboration with the governments, call for national prayers to bring national healing, reconciliation and stability in the countries affected around the world.
- The church should discern spiritually the motivation and zeal of the Gen Z and how God wants to use them to bring reformation and revival in the church.

- The church should take lead and become proactive in bringing national cohesion and harmony in the nations affected by the Gen z movements around the world.
- The voice of the youth has been heard by the country loudly and clearly.
- Dialogue with government and include the millennials or others will take over and mismanage the national critical transformation process then will miss the original objectives. Most leaders both religious, community, business and political and parents have called for urgent dialogue to save the country.
- A leadership vacuum is not good for the country since some countries in Africa which did not manage well their transition went into military coups and endless bloodshed.
- Parents should start dialogue about national peace and reconciliation with their children at home as advised by Government spokesman, Hon. Isaac Mwaura.
- Wisdom demands that as you fight for your rights and welfare make sure you save the country because we do not have another country to run to if we destroy ours.
- The youth should register as voters so that they bring transformational leadership through the ballot in 2027.
- Criminal elements be separated from the genuine Gen Zs.

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people,” Proverbs 14:34, NIV.

Only righteousness, truth and holiness can exalt or prosper a nation but sin, corruption and oppression will destroy it. A nation in which the poor are oppressed and thieves are rewarded and worshipped cannot prosper.

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their

wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land,” 2 Chronicles 7:14, NIV.

Forgiveness of sins and healing of a nation only comes from humility and genuine repentance i.e. completely turning away from evil and the sin of corruption, exploitation, oppression and unfairness.

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