

J U N E E D I T I O N

THE LION'S TRIBE

NEWSLETTER

I HEAR THE SOUND OF CELEBRATION – CAN YOU HEAR IT TOO?

"Let me tell you what God said next. He said, 'You're my son, And today is your birthday. What do you want? Name it: Nations as a present? Continents as a prize? You can command them all to dance for you, Or throw them out with great force.'" - Psalm 2:7-9 (MSG)

June has been a month of Supernatural Celebration – a radical season of unbridled praise and rejoicing in who we are in Christ and in the face of all God has done for us. When the Lord calls us into celebration it is a sign that our victory has been concluded. It means that everything we have long desired is not only coming to fruition but coming to fruition speedily. Some of us have fought and are fighting hard battles. Some of us are unsure if things will work out as planned and expected, even as the year hurries on. Some of us have had it good and hope for still greater manifestations. And sometimes amidst it all we forget who we truly are and everything we have available to us as joint heirs with Christ. This is God reminding us in the most spectacular way possible - by calling us into celebration.

Not just any kind of celebration. But supernatural celebration. One that originates from a full recognition of our birthright,

resulting in praise and gratitude; and one that manifests as a complete demonstration of our faith, shifting our focus away from life's challenges to God's greatness, sovereignty, and promise. But our rejoicing is not only a function of praise. It is also an instrument of warfare, akin to Jehoshaphat facing five invading armies, totally outnumbered, and outmaneuvering them with the most unusual of weapons – singing and rejoicing (2 Chronicles 20).



Consider the citizens of Feldkirch, Austria, who found themselves in a similar situation. Napoleon was sweeping across Europe at the time. City after city, country after country, his army was unstoppable. By March 1799, 18,000 French soldiers were at the Austrian border and could be spotted on the heights above the little town, their weapons glittering in the sun. The village didn't stand a chance. A council of citizens was hastily summoned to decide whether they should try to defend themselves or display the white flag of surrender. It happened to be Easter Sunday, and the people had gathered at the local St. Stephen's Church. After tumultuous deliberations, the dean of the church rose and said, "Friends, we have been counting on our own strength, and apparently that has failed. As this is the day of our Lord's resurrection, let us just ring the bells, have our services as usual, and leave the matter in His hands. We know only our weakness, and not the power of God to defend us." The council accepted his plan and the church bells rang out in praise. The enemy, hearing the sudden peal of the bells and the raised voices of the people, concluded that the Austrian army had arrived during the night to defend the town. Before the service ended, Napoleon's commanding officer ordered his army to move on and the enemy broke camp and left.

This season of your life must be very confusing for every problem confronting you because you have responded with joyous celebration where you have been expected to cower in panic. The result can only be victory. There is a shift in the atmosphere, and I trust you sense it too. The message translation of our theme scripture perfectly captures what is happening. God is saying to us, you are my heir, today is your birthday, what do you want? How audacious is your ask? The One who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all you can imagine is offering you a blank cheque. This is not the time to be skittish or to shrink back in doubt, guilt or unworthiness. It is the time to step into your identity as a child of God and joint heir with Christ; the time to step into the fullness of your inheritance.

**"OUR CALL TO
SUPERNATURAL
CELEBRATION IS
ALSO A CALL TO
THE MATURITY
OF SONSHIP."**

JIMMY ODUKOYA



Our call to supernatural celebration is also a call to the maturity of sonship. No more limiting perceptions of yourself. Like a Father beaming over His children with love and complete knowledge of their potential, the Lord is entrusting us with dimensions of influence, authority, and resources that may feel wildly beyond our expectations. We are being equipped to step into purposes and destinies prepared for us before the foundations of the world. Discard the old robes of shame and despair. The Father has prepared a feast of abundance for us. Let us run into it with the joyous sound and celebration of a rave.

It may feel overwhelming to receive the extravagant blessings and opportunities coming your way, and this is understandable as we make the radical transition from past struggles into our full commissioning. Familiarize yourself with the King's table. Be steadfast in joy. Let a childlike sense of excitement accompany you through this enduring season of celebration. The eternal God has decreed your promotion and lined up nations and continents as an inheritance for you. Celebration is the only appropriate response. Rejoice, again, rejoice!

BOOK OF THE MONTH

"One of the greatest challenges facing leadership the world over is raising the productive capacities of their people. Organisations and nations alike are in need of free minds and steady hands that can imagine solutions and implement them, faster than problems arise.

What great nations and organisations have done over centuries is to create and recreate a set of organising principles that allow for human productivity to flourish unfettered, and for the invention of new technologies that make our lives infinitely more productive... imagine what Nigeria can accomplish with over a hundred million people given wings to fly."

This month, we are reading Pastor Taiwo's newly re-released *Reclaiming the Nigerian Dream*. A powerful exploration of the power and potential of committed leadership and followership to change the fortunes of a nation. There is so much to learn and unpack from this book, even as we navigate the current challenges of our dear country. I invite you to get a copy. All hope is not lost yet for Nigeria.

