

The Fight against Corruption in Nigeria: One Step Forward, Two Steps Backward

The journey of 1000 miles begins with a step and drops of water make an ocean. When God is in a journey, though the travellers are but fools, yet, they shall not miss the road. Corruption in Nigeria, as a cankerworm, has eaten deep into the fabrics of the society and the church of God is not an exemption. It was not by accident that Jesus, riding on a donkey into Jerusalem, made the temple His first port of call, where He drove those who sold and bought and declared that My father's house was to be the house of prayer but you have made it a den of thieves and robbers. In the light of this revelation, it is therefore not out of place to expect that judgment should start from the house of God and until that becomes a reality, not only in Nigeria but in any part of the world, the fight against corruption will end up as an effort in futility and a journey not leading to the desired destination. One thing is to conceive an idea that is great and another thing is to turn the idea into the desired goal.

Our highly revered ministers of God in this country need the likes of the President of Oral Roberts University, Dr. William Wilson, to educate them on the methods used by the US evangelicals in determining the election that brought President Donald Trump to power. With God, politics is not a game of numbers but that of power. Until the church of God is revolutionized, no meaningful revolution is in sight outside it.

Recall that the former president, General Olusegun Obasanjo recently accused President Muhammadu Buhari of incompetence and likened his regime to that of the former dictator, General Sani Abacha. However, what Obasanjo did was to look up at the crooked load but losing sight of the imbalance in the legs of the carrier of the load. Most General Overseers and founders of churches in Nigeria are more autocratic than the late General Sani Abacha in the way they run the church of God, thereby making fools out of their followers. Absolute power corrupts absolutely. It is categorically stated in the Bible that until our own obedience is complete, we are not qualified to punish disobedience. Pulpits of most churches today are not in any way different from theatre stages where ministers entertain their congregation and say all sorts of things that reveal their ignorance of the realities of what goes on within their immediate environment and the country, Nigeria.

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There are some ministers of God whose businesses are to criticize the government of their countries destructively, whereas, they claim not to watch TVs, read newspapers or magazines. Anointing without information equals limitations and an uninformed leader is prone to misinformation and ends up as misguided and unqualified to lead his people, let alone, try to offer useful and working suggestions to leaders of his country.

The Buhari administration is not different from a blind man that is leading other blind men and when a blind man is deceived, his walking stick automatically becomes helpless. The fight against corruption is more of a slogan for until the fight is spiritualized, no positive result is in view. It is foolishness to put the cart before the horse and that exactly is what obtains where the fight against corruption has no regard for the eradication of poverty. Common sense dictates that what to eat takes precedence over what to do, for a hungry man is an angry man. What we see play out especially as the aftermath of the 2019 general elections is fighting corruption with corruption, an effort that is bound to end in a fiasco. The future is bleak for until we chart a course that has a distinct destination as a goal that is being targeted, the journey from 2019, instead of being the next level, will automatically become the new devils for Nigeria. Arise O Compatriots, Nigeria's Call Obey. Obedience is better than sacrifice. It is time for Nigeria to die to corruption and be raised in incorruption. This is the essence of Easter and the lesson from it thereof. “A wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain unto wise counsels”- Prov 1: 5. He who has ears, let him hear.

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