



# 2017 theme:

## "THE DILIGENT HANDS WILL RULE" Pro 12:24

- BE OBIDIENT – DO NOT DOUBT (Part 1)
- BE RIGHTEOUS (Part 2)
- BE TRUTHFUL (Part 3)
- SEEK AND FIND KNOWLEDGE (Part 4)
- DEMONSTRATE WORKS (Part 5)
- RELATE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT (Part 6)
- DO NOT BREATHE ANXIETY (PART 7)
- SOW A SEED OF THANKSGIVING (PART 8)
- BE STEADFAST (PART 9)
- GIVE - THERE IS POWER IN GIVING (PART 10)
- PRAYER OF THE RIGHTEOUS AVAILS MUCH (PART 11)
- THE DILIGENT'S EYE MUST BE OPEN (PART 12)
- GOD's GLORY RAINS ON THOSE WHO FEAR HIM (PART 13)
- STAND FIRM IN YOUR FAITH (PART 14)
- CLEAN YOUR HOUSE (PART 15)
- SUMMARY: 16 KEY TOOLS FOR AN EFFECTIVE TOOL BOX (PART 16)
- TAKE CHARGE (PART 17)
- TAKE SMALL STEPS (PART 18)
- TAKE SMALL STEPS #2 (PART 19) – BEWARE OF MOCKERS AND SCOFFERS
- SOW FOR HIS TREASURE (PART 20)
- FIX YOUR THOUGHTS ON JESUS (PART 21)

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### TEXT: Hebrews 3:1

<sup>1</sup>"Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, set your minds on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess.<sup>2</sup>He was faithful to the One who appointed Him."

In John 17,

"Jesus lifted His eyes to heaven and said: Father, <sup>4</sup>I have glorified You on earth by accomplishing the work You gave Me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence with the glory I had with You before the world existed.

Jesus fixed His thoughts on God and thus was able to accomplish the work He was given. We are expected to fix our thoughts on Jesus so that we can accomplish the work that Jesus has given us.

**Unless the work is accomplished by the doer, the owner of the work is not glorified. Jesus gloried God, we must glorify Jesus.**

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### • FIX YOUR THOUGHTS ON JESUS (PART 21)

God has said that the diligent hands will rule this year.

Brethren diligence is achieved within the boundaries that God has set. It must be achieved within the rules of the game.

In 2 Timothy 2, the bible says:

"<sup>4</sup>A soldier refrains from entangling himself in civilian affairs, **in order to please the one who enlisted him.** <sup>5</sup>Likewise, a contender does not receive the crown unless he competes according to the rules.

**God is the rewarder of those who diligently follow through:** <sup>6</sup>The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive his share of the crops." (2 Timothy 2)

Brethren our diligence must be within the rules.



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### • FIX YOUR THOUGHTS ON JESUS (PART 21)

As I meditated upon today's topic, I remembered an encounter I had in Atlanta Georgia in 1999 when a man came into a store, walked through a long aisle straight to me, and handed a card, the shape of a business-card, into my hand. I watched the man walk away straight out of the store. This was happening at a time I had been praying for direction and waiting for God's instructions

**Brethren**, when I turned the card over to read, I was amazed with what was inscribed on it "**Do not take it personal, stay focused on Jesus.**" Remember Romans 8:28 – all will work together for good ..." Moments later I received a physical manifestation of answers to the things I was asking God for.

I was totally broken to know that God could visit me in such a special way. Brethren, it is now 2017 (18 years after) and that card still goes around with me. It occupies a special spot in my house.



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- FIX YOUR THOUGHTS ON JESUS (PART 21)

- Fixing our thoughts on Jesus will mean we being diligent to ensure that everything we think about and do are founded on Jesus:

Our "Thought" is important because :

A. Our heart bears witness to whom we are: Sinful or Righteous

"For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he." **Proverbs 23:7**

"See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God."

**Hebrews 3:12**

B. Those who think of His glory get His glory

**2 Corinthians 3:18** "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."

**As we imagine His glory, God transforms us into that glory.  
We can thus go from one glory unto another glory.**

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C. We ruling should not just be getting earthly riches but rather earthly riches anchored on heavenly riches:

“<sup>13</sup>Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight; everything is uncovered and exposed before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who was tempted in every way that we are, yet was without sin.

Hebrews 4: 13-15

**Jesus has shown to us how we can go from here to there.**

**Paul said:**

“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.” I Cor. 11:1

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• Brethren, those Christians who become successful are those who followed the example of Jesus:

"We want each of you to show the same diligence to the very end, so that your hope may be fully assured. "Then you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Hebrews 6: 11-12

**In conclusion, we must fix our thoughts on Jesus and follow His foot steps (examples), obey His instruction that are coming now through the Holy Spirit (who leads us unto all truths) (I Thessalonians 1:6) and ACT FAST on those instructions without double mind.**

"those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."  
Romans 8:14

**GOD BLESS YOU!**

# **2017 PRAYER POINTS**

- 1. Prayer over the message of today**
- 2. “Lord, please extend your love to all nations through prayers offered on this alter (Psalm 117)**

Let our prayers be acceptable unto you.
- 3. Prayer for Leadership of Nations ...**
  - a. Be anointed leaders of honour like Cyrus (**Isa 45:1, Rm 9:21**)
  - b. Give them spirit of humility in leadership and wisdom to lead well
  - c. Any leader that fails to obey God's Word, should be replaced
- 4. Troubles/Wars in nations.**
- 5. Leave no room for diseases; cleanse our land**
- 6. Missions/Ministries & Missionaries/Ministers**
- 7. Marriages, Children & families**
- 8. Members of the fellowship – grace to be diligent**
- 9. Needs in fellowship**

