# 2006 December Annual Camp Meeting

Principal Speaker: Apostle-Elder Kanok Ofori

Theme: Restoration Of God's Glory

Dear Brethren, the blessed good news of the above-mentioned topic is coming to you as a mystery in this hour of the New Testament. What is the great mystery of the New Testament era? It's a fact unknown to the Christian world. Consequently, numerous Christians are not aware that the marvellous appearance of the glory of God to His people has already happened, dating back to the historic day of the atonement of the Lamb of God on the wooden Cross.

That was the day when He by death removed the veil of sin that had blocked man's view of Christ's eternal glory. The spiritual removal of the veil, hanging between the Holy Place, where the congregation was seated, and the Holiest Place occurred when it was torn from the top to the bottom for all to see the Holiest, symbolic of the place of the Lord of glory in heaven - Matt. 27:51. This occurred to signify the removal of the veil of sin from the hearts of repentant believers. It was taken away to offer God's people the opportunity of seeing His glory, after His death, resurrection and ascension to Heaven.

This means that the last age in which, all God's people have been given the opportunity to see God's glory is the hour in which we live. All holy Pentecostal believers have been anointed with His Spirit of glory, unlike the people of Israel who could not see the glory of Moshe when he came down from Mt. Sinai, having fasted 40 days and 40 nights. This is because they were spiritually blind - 2 Cor. 3:13.

Furthermore, the veil of sin was taken away by the Lamb of God to Mt. Golgotha and left it there on the outskirts of Jerusalem. The sins, sicknesses, sorrows and deaths of all nations were represented by the heavy Cross which He carried away outside the gate to Jerusalem - Jn. 1:29.

Beloved, Christ's sacrificial death on the wooden Cross was the end of the ritual law and of our troubles (Rom. 10:4), but not the end of the spiritual law, the Ten Commandments which provides peace. The glory of God, which was veiled with the sinful flesh as a result of Adam's great transgression, has been made available for the focus

of all and sundry. The great light of His glory has been projected to all Pentecostal saints with the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, saying:

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined" - Isai. 9:2.

In brief, the great light of the glory of God is our Lord Jesus Christ, born to deliver us from the darkness in which we walked - Isai. 9:6-7.

#### Announcement Of Christ's Birth With Great Joy

An angelic announcer in the company of his fellow angels praising God, said to some shepherds,

"Fear not: For, behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which shall be (preached) to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord" - Lk. 2:10-11.

Furthermore, the other angels in their numbers went to the announcer and in a group uttered showers of praises to God the Father, saying:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" - Lk. 2:14.

Later, the Lord of glory was crucified without the knowledge of the world rulers that sanctioned and authorized His crucifixion and death - 1 Cor. 2:8.

During the sacrificial death of the Lord of glory on the Cross, the light of His glory appeared at the  $9^{th}$  hour (3 pm) till sunset - Matt. 27:45. There was a short period of 3-hour darkness, which Christ overcame with His light which shines even now.

# Revelation Of Christ's Glory To The World

In His last prayer to God the Father, Christ made a report on the successful completion of His missionary work on earth to the glory of the Father, concluding that

the apostolic work He had done in terms of miracles was performed for the glorification of our Father - Jn. 17:4. See 1 Cor. 10:31.

#### Revelation Of God's Glory On The Day Of Pentecost

For the confirmation of the appearance of His glory on the Day of Passover, the King of glory poured out His Spirit of glory on about 120 disciples of His in the Jerusalem Temple. There, they saw His glory and remembered John the Baptist's prophetic words that Christ would come after him to baptize His people with His Holy Ghost and Fire - Matt. 3:11. On the occasion of the feast of Pentecost, the prophecy of John the Baptist came true, for they were anointed with the Lord's Spirit of glory there.

#### The Spiritual Gifts Of Grace

The general distribution of His spiritual gifts of grace for service to all the members of His spiritual body started on the day of Pentecost - 1 Cor. 12:8-11. The Spirit of the Lord of glory that was poured out upon the early commandment-keeping church on the day of Pentecost was His Spirit of glory - 1 Pet. 4:14 and 1 Jn. 3:22. Thereafter, many believers were baptized with Christ's Spirit of glory and saw His glory.

Till the last day of redemption, the baptism of the Lord's Spirit of glory will continue, so that His anointed ones, who have been saved out of darkness into the marvelous light of His glory, may also cease not to see His glory. Halleluyah! We are very grateful to Him for the restoration of His glory to us, under secrecy - "Therefore the world knows us not, because it knew Him not" -  $1 \, \text{Jn}$ . 3:1.

In many passages of the Scriptures, our new life has been located in the marvelous light of Christ's glory, having been saved out of Satan's darkness. I quote:

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him Who has called you out of darkness into His <u>marvelous light</u>:" - 1 Pet. 2:9.

This foregoing text does not report that we are still in the darkness of sin and sorrows. Oh no! It says that our spiritual deliverance has occurred from darkness to light. In other words, we have been saved from trouble to freedom.

### Our Spiritual Unity With The King Of Glory

The holy Scriptures which tell no lies have pointed out that we 7<sup>th</sup> Day Pentecostal saints in light have unity with the Lord of glory, and so we have unity with His glory. We have one spiritual body with Him in all aspects of His life in glory - Eph. 5:30. Like a husband and his bride, we have been made "one flesh" with Him in glory.

The plain pictorial description of our glorification with Christ can be found in Rev. 12:1. I quote:

"... A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of 12 stars" – Rev. 12:1.

The woman, who is clothed with the robe of sunshine and has the moon-light under her feet, has been saved out of darkness into the marvelous light of Christ, her Bridegroom! This is the glorious position to which we have been delivered by Him to bear the very stamp of His likeness - Eph. 5:27.

As many as have truly received the baptism of Christ's Spirit of glory have entered into glory. The crown of the 12 stars upon her head is symbolic of our joint-reign with Christ in glory in the spiritual Theocratic kingdom of the 12 royal tribes of the children of Israel - Rev. 21:12. The woman crowned with the crown of 12 stars in glory refers to you and me. Halleluyah!

Beloved, our saved souls and spirits now reign with the King of glory in the kingdom of Israel (Acts 1:7-8) till the last day of the redemption of our unredeemed mortal bodies - Rom. 8:23. Consequently, our unredeemed bodies shall be redeemed at once together with translation, when the 1<sup>st</sup> Resurrection of the just occurs in the last day.

Dear ones, it's in the last day of redemption that the mortal body of every saint in light will be changed by Christ's indwelling Spirit of glory at the  $7^{th}$  Trumpet-call - 1 Cor. 15:51-58. The sudden change shall be caused by the indwelling Holy Ghost of God, under Whose protection our souls and spirits have been put till the last day. Hence the warning to Pentecostal believers against any offence - Eph. 4:30.

Our unity is with the King of kings, Who only has immortality and lives in the light which is unseen, and unapproachable – 1 Tim. 6:16. When he appeared to Saul with about a quarter of the unseen light of Christ's glory, he fell down, confirming the true report on the unapproachable, unseen light of His glory – Acts 9:3-4. By reason of the

marvelous light of His glory, which no one can see, Saul became blind for three (3) days - Acts 9:8-9.

Truly, our unity with Christ is a pointer to the fact that we  $7^{th}$  Day Pentecostals are in glory.

The Biblical information in Rev. 12:1 indicates that we have been crowned with the 12 stars of the kingdom of Israel to reign with Him therein in glory for ever and ever as kings (Rev. 1:5-6). As we are abiding in His Spirit of glory, He has delivered our souls and spirits from earth to appear before the spiritual Throne of Grace in the spiritual Mount Zion in Heaven to get the blessings we need - Hebr. 4:16.

The welcoming address, saying, 'You have come to Mount Zion' in Heaven, located in glory, shows that we have entered into glory with Christ, the King of glory already. Although we physically dwell in this world in the flesh, we have been offered the grace to spiritually appear before the Throne of grace at any moment of time to receive the things we urgently need by prayers and supplications! We have been made citizens of the City-State of New Jerusalem in heaven through Christ. For this reason, His Spirit is always pleased to transport us from earth to Heaven - Rev. 4:2-4; 21:10-14.

Because we commandment-keepers have been issued with visas and residence permits without expiration, with full citizenship in Heaven, the introduction of Mount Zion, being the joy of the universe, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, His countless angels, the General Assembly, Church of the First-born, God the Judge of all, the spirits of just men made perfect, Jesus the Mediator of the New Covenant, and of the blood of Sprinkling, speaking better things than that of Abel, has been made to us. Precisely, with the introduction of the great family of God the Father, we have known that God the Father is the Head of the unknown family in Heaven.

This is why they have been introduced to us one by one: We are members of the new spiritual family of God in heaven, where we always as citizens go for the things we need by prayer. As it is difficult in this world to get our essentials, another avenue by which we can obtain them is now open to us, without the notice of the unspiritual ones.

## New Highway To Heaven

The construction of a new spiritual road to Heaven has been carried out through the blood of Jesus. Thanks to God for the spiritual construction of the New Highway to heaven for His people in this world of crisis for regular visits by prayer in Christ's Name. Of the New Way to Heaven, I quote:

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the Holiest by the BLOOD OF JESUS,

By a NEW and living WAY, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh; And having an High Priest over the House of God:

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having Our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water" - Hebr. 10:19-22 (Capitals Mine).

By the New Road of the Blood of Jesus, we can enter into the Holiest Place in the Temple of God, located on Mt. Zion, to appear before the Throne of Grace to request our needs - Hebr. 4:16. Beloved, with the restoration of God's glory, a new spiritual way to Heaven has been made for all anointed believers for the regular supply of our needs. By it, all blessings which were in short supply have been restored in full. Therefore, let's continue to abide in the Lord's Spirit of glory always, where there is freedom from the curse of spiritual blindness - 2 Cor. 3:13.

From all indications, the ministry of the revelation of God's glory has been set up, under the New Covenant of grace, for as many as forsake the social crimes of dishonesty in truth - 2 Cor. 4:1-2.

In our Assembly and in its branches, the glory of Christ has appeared, with the operation of His indwelling power. Consequently, we have direct communication with our Father through Christ's blood. As a result, miraculous signs follow us, together with revelations of His glory. In our church, the glory of God has been restored with wonderful testimonies, according to His word of promise saying,

"And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and <u>all flesh</u> shall see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken it" - Isai. 40:5.

Therefore, let us all continue to walk in the Spirit of glory to see the unseen and hear the unheard. Halleluyah!

# The Nature Of The New-Life In The Light

The saints who have been called out of darkness into the wonderful light of Christ's eternal glory have been made a God-chosen, special, royal, priestly, holy nation together - 1 Pet. 2:9. In the state of the marvelous light of His glory, where these anointed people of God abide in glory, their duty is to see His glory in terms of miracles and signs and then praise our merciful Saviour with thanks without ceasing! We have to be the centre of His wonders, where all His spiritual gifts of grace operate to reveal His glory to His redeemed ones. The new life is the end of darkness. The light in which we live is the beginning of our miraculous life in glory. Halleluyah! Since this good news is true, we should not get worried again over problems, which soon disappears.

Because the spiritual new life of the redeemed saints in light is a supernatural, miracle-life, which is unlike the former life that is lived in darkness in the flesh, all our needs are now miraculously supplied. For this reason, it's required of us to give praises to Him with thanks. The moment the children of Israel were delivered out of the darkness of the Egyptian slavery, they lived a new miracle-life under Christ's leadership, who provided their daily urgent needs by way of miracle.

The good news of deliverance in the Old Testament books, announcing the history of the new miracle-life the people of Israel lived, says that they were fed with manna, drank spiritual water; their garments grew not old, neither did their sandals wear out. The light of Christ's glory led them by night. By day, His cloud appeared and provided them with shelter in the hot Arabian Desert till they reached the Promised Land - 1 Cor. 10:1-4. Having been set free, they were appointed as kings and priests - Ex. 19:4-6. In short, they saw Christ's glory during and after their deliverance. He is still doing the same to us. We can also see His glory, as a result of the operations of His miraculous power in the light of His eternal glory. The operation of the gift of miracles occurs in the marvellous light of His glory to solve problems and temptations caused by Satan in the mortal body.

The descendants of the Old Testament redeemed ones have been put under the same spiritual unique condition of the miracle-life and similarly appointed as kings and priests. They have also been made a holy new nation of Israel, having the old commandments comprising the Ten Commandments and the law of food, as their constitution under the New Covenant of grace. I quote:

"Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word (law) which ye have heard from the beginning" - 1 Jn. 2:7.

Here we are informed that the Old Testament Constitutional Law has become the legacy of the New Testament redeemed people of Israel, now called Christians.

Dear ones, our deliverance from darkness to the light of our Lord's glory has spiritually happened already, and so the new wonderful, national life like that of the old-time children of Israel has become the order of the day. The new miracle-like of the redeemed should be well-understood, knowing that we are no longer under the Pharaoh-like Satan whose power over us was crushed on the Cross by conquest. That the enemy would be put under our control was pre-illustrated with the wonderful mission of the 70 disciples - Lk. 10:17-19.

The devil of whom Pharaoh was a type was made subject to us, who have been graciously saved out of his repressive power of darkness into Christ's kingdom (Col. 1:12-13) of light, when Christ Jesus, the war-Captain of our salvation, triumphed over him in public with His precious blood - Col. 2:13. Beloved, this good news coming to you is a matter of truth: Therefore, rejoice in our mighty Deliverer always on account of the great victory He has won for us over our common adversary at Calvary.

Our attention has been drawn to the victory which was won over the devil, with the same blood of the Lamb of God, by the early strong, saintly soldiers in Rev. 12:1. This is the evidence that can be given to show that the saints in light have been offered power, which is the blood of the Lamb of God with the word of God (the Sword of His Spirit), over the devil.

The good news to all nations is a pointer to the fact that God's people have not only been saved out of Satan's darkness into his marvelous light, but have been given power over their conquered enemy with which to cast him out! From all indications, the new miracle-life is a condition of freedom under which Satan is subject to the redeemed people of God in glory at all times. There is therefore no cause for alarm. This accounts for the heavenly call to the giving of praises to our dear Lord that called us out of darkness into His glory.

We must continue to offer praises to Him for all His miraculous good works in the light of His glory, meant for our peace. Beloved, are we now in the light or darkness? Yes, we are in the light of Christ's glory from where His wonders come to us - Isai. 8:18. Now is the time for the Lord's promise of miracles, and of even greater wonders, which He made to us believers in John 14:12. Therefore, seriously pray in His Name to God the Father to produce great miracles to His glory. Now is the miracle-time! It will continue from now to Heaven non-stop! The miracle-time shall reach the climax with

the glorious resurrection of the dead saints, instantly followed by ascension to the Holy Jerusalem Above.

As the wonderful way, by which the people of Israel were delivered from darkness to light was physically plain to all carnal human beings, it's not difficult to understand the history on the method of their deliverance. Behold, the deliverance of the children of Israel was physically effected to make us understand the process of the spiritual redemption of God's elect under the New Covenant of grace - Rom. 15:4.

Truly, we are now under the last new era of the ministry of Christ's Holy Spirit, performing His ministerial duties through His 5 appointed, anointed ministers, namely, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers - Eph. 4:11-14. You know, because Moses who acted as Christ's representative was physical, and for this reason was their national Saviour, it's very simple to understand the history of their deliverance from darkness to light.

The light which appeared to them was physical. The cloud that gave them a shelter was physical. The manna they ate and the water they drank were also physical. In fact, everything that was a type and symbol of the New Testament was physical. But at this time of the ministry of the Spirit of Christ Jesus, the salvation project has taken on a spiritual character. In view of this, the spiritual darkness of Satan, out of which we have been saved, is spiritual. The wonderful light of God's glory into which we have been delivered is also spiritual. Under this spiritual mysterious condition of spiritual new miracle-life, it's very difficult for carnal people to see and understand the glorious reports on them. You see? The New Testament people of God have gone the spiritual way, so that they can spiritually be carried by the Spirit to the New Jerusalem in heaven to spiritually appear before the spiritual Throne of grace there - Hebr. 4:16.

Furthermore, the light of Christ's glory, into which we have been called is also spiritual. God Himself is a Spirit. Life in the kingdom of priests is spiritual, and so the new miracle-life which we have been saved to live is spiritual. The process of the rebirth or regeneration is spiritual. As many as have been born again are no longer carnal, sold under sin (Rom. 7:14), but spiritual. I quote:

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" - Jn. 3:6.

This indicates that God, Who is a Spirit (Jn. 4:23-24) is the Father of spirits. It is against this background that the institution of spiritual worship became necessary

under the New Covenant. The ministry of the Lord's Spirit of glory is now more glorious than that of the Old Testament - 2 Cor. 3:7-8.

Beloved, we 7<sup>th</sup> Day Pentecostals abide in the light of God's glory, but we can't see that we live in the marvelous light of His glory from the human point of view. Why? It's because the light of His glory is a spiritual light, which the naked eye can't see. In fact, the last age of new life in the Spirit of Christ has been ushered in, since the historic day of Pentecost, so that God's spiritual people might have access to God, Who is a Spirit, through the spiritual blood of the Lamb of God, Who is a Spirit too. Can you Pentecostal believers see that you are in glory from the physical point of view? No! The answer is no because the glory of God in which you now abide is a mystery! Yes, it's a mystery because the glory of God is spiritual! In fact, great is the secret of godliness - 1 Tim. 3:16.

Following the inability to carnally see the Lord's glory in which we live, all anointed Pentecostal believers have been directed to walk, and live by faith, which is the use of the unseen, spiritual eyes of the human mind and heart! To this end, Christ taught the spiritual lessons on miracles done by the power of faith.

As far as wonders are concerned, faith should be applied to ignore the 5 carnal senses of the dead human body. Faith in God performs miracles, signs and wonders, independent of the carnal senses.

Therefore, the projection of the marvelous light of Christ's spiritual glory, in which we live, is carried out by strong faith in His power.

The glory of God is restored world-wide like the day-light, but as it's spiritual, it takes true faith in His miraculous, working power to reveal it to unbelievers. It's against this background that the King of glory, Emmanuel, warned Martha, the late Lazarus' sister against unbelief, when He was about to raise him up to life again to reveal the glory of God to unbelievers. I quote:

"Jesus said unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" - Jn. 11:40.

By faith, the dead Lazarus came back to life to reveal the glory of God to all.

Dear ones, the characteristics of the glory of Christ constitute all the nine spiritual gifts of His Spirit. Believers that worship Him in spirit and in truth with the spiritual gifts are in the light of His glory, where they give praises to Him on account of

His work of miracles and signs. There is no doubt about the good news of the restoration of Christ's glory to us, as the plain evidence of the spiritual gifts are there.

Beloved, with the external signs, miracles and wonders, the glory of God has appeared to us. The glory of God include healings, prophecy and miracles by which the glory of God appear. We are in the glory of God.

God bless you. Amen!