



And of Naphthali he said, O Naphthali, satisfied with favor, and full with the blessing of the LORD: possess thou the west and the south. And of Asher he said, Let *Asher be blessed with children; let him be*

acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil. Thy shoe shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be . . . The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them. Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine; also, his heavens shall drop down dew. Happy art thou O Israel, who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! And thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places” (Deuteronomy 33:23-29).

When you set out to write the history of your life, at the end of your life’s pilgrimage on earth, you would love to look back and discover you have led a fruitful, flourishing, favored, full and fulfilled life. So here, using the letters of the alphabet, we are going to link up with the Scriptures to unravel what constitutes a fulfilled life and to help you begin a new chapter in your life’s history. Come along in faith as we begin with the letter A:

A – Accept who you are, where you are, what you have as well as what you don’t have. Accept the place you were born, the way you look and the parents you came out through. If you go through life regretting the things you cannot change and over which you have no control, you will never make any progress. *“All things work together for good to them that love God”* (Romans 8:28). **Accept** Christ as your personal Savior. Accept Him as your strength, shepherd, sanctifier, supplier, sufficiency and sustainer. He alone can make a difference in your life, because *“as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God”* (John 1:12). As a child of God, the spirit will lead you into a rich and fulfilled life. You are also made a joint heir with Christ (Romans 8:14,17). **Accept** your spouse. Stop regretting your marriage to your husband or wife. Accept him/her the way he/she is, and trust God for whatever change you still expect.

B – Believe God and His promises. If you believe, the stormy waters of life cannot overflow you nor its flames kindle upon you (Isaiah 43:2). When in

any strange situation, wait for God to speak before you take a step. Nothing can be lost by taking time. Strange situations never meet true children of God unprepared. What you have in whatever situation you may find yourself is just what you need. Moses, at the Red Sea, had the rod in his hand but never knew that was the solution to his problem until God spoke. Apostle Paul passed through a stormy water, and God sent him a message of hope. He believed God and said, ***“Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God that it shall be even as it was told me”*** (Acts 27:25). ***“And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord*** (Luke 1:45). It may look humanly impossible but once God has spoken, believe Him.

C – Confess. Here, we mean not the confession of sins, but to “say the same thing that God says.” However, if you have any unconfessed sins, you are right to confess them, because sin hinders progress. Now, when you say the same thing as Satan, you are confessing the words of Satan. When you say the same thing as your enemies, you are confessing the words of your enemies. And when you say the same thing as Christ and the promises of God, you are confessing Christ and God. Moses, in spite of Pharaoh’s stubbornness and the weird displays of the Egyptian magicians, kept confessing the mandate of God: ***“Let my people go.”*** So, even if everything seems to be against you or upside down, keep confessing the promises of God. ***“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation”*** (Romans 10:10). Don’t forget that the devil would want to know whether, if he starts behaving like Pharaoh, you will change your confession. Whatever you tell men that Jesus is for you, He will tell it to the Father, and the Father will confirm it for you (Matthew 10:32).

D – Decree. Turn all your desires to decree. Do away with mere wishes. ***“Thou shalt also decree a thing and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways”*** (Job 22:28). The need then arises for you to take care of your mindset, attitude and disposition. It is not pride to issue decree when it is God that authorizes us so to do. The truth is: If you have been conditioned to think and act like a slave, the tendency is that you will find it difficult to decree anything. It could be complexes or ignorance but not humility, if, as a child of the King of kings, you fail to make use of the authority vested on you to change your situation. Therefore, change your mode of prayer and begin a new chapter in your life. ***“Thus, saith the LORD . . . Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the works of my hands command ye me”*** (Isaiah 45:11).

E – Expect. Expect God’s goodness and mercy every day, since He

promised they shall follow you. Expect answers to your prayers when you have prayed and believed. Expect job (if you need one), provisions, light, victory and satisfaction from the Lord each day. The Lord promised to give you the expectations of your heart; always expect something from Him. ***“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end”*** (*Jeremiah 29:11*). Borrow a leaf from David as he prayed: ***“Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope”*** (*Psalms 119:49*). ***“And now, O LORD God, the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it forever, and do as thou hast said”*** (*2 Samuel 7:25*). Expect Him to do as He has said.

F – Follow Christ in all things. Read Mark 10:28-30. If you follow Christ, persecution is not the only result; there is much gain. So, if you have endured so great persecutions and have yet clung unto Christ, why not ask Him for those other things – good things – that should come along with following Him? The passage says, in this life you shall have houses, and lands, and brethren, and sisters and mothers plus persecution. And in the world to come, you will have eternal life. Christianity is not all thorns and no roses. There are even more roses, if you follow Christ truly.

G – Give. What you give is what you receive. What you sow is what you reap. ***“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over . . .”*** (*Luke 6:38*). Give a smile and receive a smile back. Give a frown and the people will give it back to you. Give commendation, receive commendation. Give negative words and receive them back in measures. So, always sow good seeds around you. Depending on the maturation span of your seed, it may take time before you begin to reap, but you will surely reap what you sow.

H – Hope in the Lord. ***“Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit”*** (*Jeremiah 17:7-8*). True hope shines brightest when days are dark and dreary. When situations appear hopeless, that is the best time to hope in the Lord. Faith is stronger than feelings or fears. Father Abraham ***“against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, so shall thy seed be”*** (*Romans 4:8*). God calls those things which be not as though they were.

I – Ignore the adversaries. Live as if the enemies were dead. Ignore obstacles. When you ignore them, God will get rid of them. ***“But the***

people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not" (2 Kings 18:36). When the enemies brag and boast, act as if you didn't hear. If they wrote you a letter, even in red ink, act as if you didn't get it. Usually, it is those who run away from dogs that dogs bite. Advance boldly towards a barking dog, and it will pick race. **"And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote an hundred fourscore and five thousand; and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses"** (2 Kings 19:35). When the Israelites ignored their adversaries, the Lord handled them. **"It is finished"** Jesus said; the Enemy is conquered.

J – Join your life partner inseparably for success. By the divine art of God, you and your spouse have been made one flesh. When you get angry, you do not pull off one of your arms or legs or eyes. Why is it that once you get offended you cut off fellowship from your spouse? If you are going to start enjoying a flourishing life, don't face different directions just because of little little misunderstanding. **"O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end! How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?"** (Deuteronomy 32:29,30). Remain in agreement, united in faith and love, and you will do exploits for the Lord, for your lives and for your family (Matthew 18:18-19).

K – Keep the covenant. **"Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine."** Since all the earth is the Lord's, He gives it to His covenant children. **"Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do"** (Deuteronomy 29:9). See also Psalms 25:10; 103:17).

L – Love the Lord. In Deuteronomy 30:6-10, God reveals that, if we love Him truly, He will make plenteous the works of our hands and bless the fruit of our body and of our ground. When God blesses the people that love Him, He does it joyfully. **". . . for the Lord will again rejoice over thee for good: And it shall come to pass if ye shall hearken diligently . . . to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart, and with all your soul, that I will give you the rain of your land in his season . . . that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full"** (Deuteronomy 11:13-15).

M – Meditate on God's word. This is where many have serious problems. The mind cannot meditate on two different things at the same time. To meditate truly on the promises of divine healing, you must remove your

mind from the doctor's report and from the pain on your body. Once you focus on the words of your enemy, you lose the promise and power of God in your life. ***"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night . . . for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous . . . Blessed is the man . . . (whose) delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night"*** (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-2). Your blessing comes as you put God's word at the center of all you do.

N – Neglect not the gifts, grace and guidance of the Lord. ***"Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery"*** (1 Timothy 4:14).

O – Obey God's word. ***"But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice . . . then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries . . . and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee. There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren . . . the number of thy days I will fulfill"*** (Exodus 23:22-26). Most of the rich promises of God are conditional, and they are based on obedience.

P – Pray with faith and forgiveness. ***"What thing soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye pray forgive . . ."*** (Mark 11:24- 26). Our attitude and the state of our hearts, not the length or volume of words, determine the answers to our prayers.

Q – "Quench not the spirit" (1 Thessalonians 5:19). Do not, for whatever reason, fail to obey the Holy Spirit whenever He speaks to you on any issue.

R – Rely on the Lord. As long as king Asa of Judah relied on the Lord, he prevailed (2 Chronicles 13:18). But once when he relied on man, he was brought under (2 Chronicles 16:7). That was the first battle he lost in 35 years, because he stopped relying on the Lord.

S – "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness. .." (Matthew 6:31-33). ***Once you have found God and His kingdom, you will begin to enjoy His palatial provisions.***

T – "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed" (Psalm 37:3). If you truly trust God, you will be good and nice to all, knowing no fear of any enemy, because the Lord will fight for you.

U – Undo the heavy burdens of others. ***"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? . . . to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free . . . is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry . . . Then shall thy***

light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily . . . And the Lord shall . . . satisfy the afflicted soul in drought, and make fat thy bones, and thou shalt be like watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose water fail not” (Isaiah 58:6-11). For you to flourish, think on how to alleviate the sufferings of others.

V – Value salvation above everything else. *“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” (Matthew 16:26).* Contribute, do something to bring souls into the kingdom, too.

W – Walk before the Lord. *“. . . the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect” (Genesis 17:1).*

X – X-ray your motives. It is not just what we do that counts, but why and how we do whatever we do. *“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory . . . Let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus . . .” (Philippians 2:3-6,9).* If your motive is right, your work will be bountifully rewarded.

Y – Yield to God and His will. *“Now, be ye not stiff-necked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the LORD . . . and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you” (2 Chronicles 30:8-9).*

Z – Zero in on the essentials of life. *“. . . Jesus answered and said unto her . . . one thing is needful . . . which shall not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:39-42).* Most of the things that buy our time do not really matter. So, don’t waste your time and life on trifles.

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