

Pastor Dolapo Lawal



BREAKING CURSES

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Preacher: Pastor Dolapo Lawal

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Foreword

Every generation must learn how to contend for the purposes of God. While Christ has secured our victory through His finished work on the Cross, Scripture consistently calls believers to stand firm, resist the devil, pray without ceasing, and enforce the realities of the Kingdom in their daily lives. This message addresses that call with urgency and conviction.

In these pages, the preacher explores the biblical themes of spiritual warfare, persistent prayer, family patterns, spiritual authority, and the believer's identity in Christ. Throughout the message, the emphasis remains on the necessity of engaging God's Word through faith, prayer, and obedience while relying on the power of the Holy Spirit.

As with all LivingSermons publications, our editorial responsibility has been to preserve the preacher's voice as faithfully as possible. We have corrected grammar, punctuation, and formatting where necessary to improve readability, while carefully maintaining the original flow, emphasis, and spiritual burden of the message. Scripture references have also been standardized for easier study.

Whether you are seeking freedom from long-standing spiritual battles, desiring to deepen your prayer life, or learning to exercise your authority in Christ, it is our prayer that this message will strengthen your faith, draw you closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, and inspire you to stand firmly upon His promises.

May the Holy Spirit illuminate His Word to your heart, establish you in the victory that Christ has purchased, and equip you to live as more than a conqueror through Him who loves us.

To God alone be all the glory.

— *Wisdom Epsi*

Chief Editor, *LivingSermons.com*

Table of Contents

Foreword

Publisher's Note

Main Message

Introduction

The Message Focus: How To Break Curses

Fear the Anointing

The Reality We Meet in Ministry

You Must Become Spiritually Violent

"When You Become Restless"

We Must Not Be Ignorant of Satan's Devices

Principalities and Powers

Demonic Influence

Don't Be a Victim

The Power of Prayer In Ministry

Daniel's Encounter

The Angel of Understanding

Your Words Were Heard

Michael, the Prince Assigned to Israel

Pray Until the Pattern Breaks

Fight for Your Family

Praying with Spiritual Authority

Enthroned in Christ

Declare the Victory

Closing Exhortation

About the Speaker

About Living Sermons

Join Our Team

Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

The live sermon from which this message was transcribed can be accessed from the ***[Official YouTube Channel Of Pastor Dolapo Lawal](#)***

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Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

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A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here:

Introduction

Some years ago, I wrote about spiritual warfare. The manuscript was about sixty to seventy pages, and in it I argued that spiritual warfare is, in many ways, understood within the context of sound teaching.

I was correct.

But that is not the whole truth.

As we have journeyed through ministry, I have encountered situations that have expanded my understanding. From last year especially, for some reason, many people began taking note of this ministry. Since then, I have received countless phone calls and emails from people seeking help with spiritual issues. Today alone, before evening, I had already received about fourteen or fifteen messages.

If every problem were simply a wisdom problem, it would be easy. But because I teach in a very practical way—almost like a science—people often assume I have an answer for every spiritual battle.

They tell me:

"I have this spiritual problem. What should I do? Help me solve it."

The truth is that about fifty percent of the time, I cannot help them.

There are battles that simply go beyond me.

Sometimes I have no other way to explain it except to say, *"This one has passed me."*

I have referred people to ministers with greater experience in those areas.

One night while praying, someone appeared to me in a dream and spoke in Yoruba, warning me to stop. They mentioned my wife by name. They mentioned my child by name.

The following morning, I called the individual involved and said,

"You are going to Mountain of Fire."

Some people may ask, "Why?"

That was simply what I knew to do.

Even today, I would still refer such a case because I already have too many battles to fight. I cannot carry another person's battle as well.

The Message Focus: How To Break Curses

Today, I want to teach you how to break curses. I will teach the principles first, and then when we begin to pray, you will practice them yourself.

I am not going to break them for you.

You will break them. Before we pray, however, I want to establish something from Scripture: **Curses are real.**

When we begin praying, you must become spiritually aggressive. This evening we will also deal with demonic influence, so prepare your heart.

Let me also tell you something.

The devil did not want me to teach this message.

Something happened earlier today. He tried to tamper with my heart. I recognized what was happening immediately and said,

"No. I will not allow you."

If, by chance, there is anyone here under demonic oppression or influence, open your heart today.

You can be free.

Fear the Anointing

Some years ago, the Lord spoke to me and told me I was contending with the spirit of Jezebel.

I spent considerable time studying everything I could about that spirit.

One conclusion became very clear:

You can be demonically influenced and still be anointed.

If you are unaware of it, God may still use you, yet He may not remove that influence automatically.

Think carefully about this.

Fear the anointing.

There was a time I became seriously ill—almost to the point of death—yet while I was praying for the sick, they were recovering.

The anointing was still working.

People were being healed.

Devils were being cast out.

Yet there was still demonic influence around me.

So I say again:

Fear the anointing.

Consider Saul.

Was it not the same Saul who prophesied while under demonic influence?

The same individual.

The Reality We Meet in Ministry

Not long ago, I was speaking with a very respected theological minister in Nigeria.

He said to me,

"I have listened to your teachings. You are a very doctrinal preacher."

He is doctrinal himself.

Then he asked,

"Why is it that I am casting demons out of believers? Explain that."

I answered honestly,

"Apostle, I cannot fully explain it."

The Scriptures, as we understand them, do not present it that way.

Yet what we are encountering in ministry is real.

So the only language I have found to describe it is this:

I call it **demonic influence**, not necessarily **demonic possession**.

He replied,

"That is fair enough."

As teachers, our responsibility is to help make sense of what we encounter through the light of God's Word.

You Must Become Spiritually Violent

When we begin praying, you must become spiritually violent.

That is the only way.

You do not walk casually into a strong man's house and take back what belongs to you.

You must enforce your position in Christ.

When Jesus stood before the tomb of Lazarus, the Bible says He **cried with a loud voice**:

"Lazarus, come forth." (*John 11:43, KJV*)

There was authority.

There was intensity.

Before I teach you how to break curses, I must first show you how they operate so that you can prevent them and walk in lasting freedom.

"When You Become Restless"

Let us begin with **Genesis 27:40**.

This passage reveals an important principle concerning breaking yokes.

The Scripture says:

"And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck." (*Genesis 27:40, KJV*)

Notice the emphasis.

There comes a point where you become restless.

There comes a point where you say,

"I cannot continue like this anymore."

The Scripture does not say,

"God will break the yoke for you."

It says,

"You shall break his yoke from off thy neck."

There must be holy dissatisfaction.

There must be spiritual resolve.

We Must Not Be Ignorant of Satan's Devices

Many situations people casually dismiss are actually spiritual.

Let me give you another piece of advice.

The devil studies biblical patterns and then attempts to corrupt them.

If you are a firstborn, pray.

Pray fervently.

Do not live carelessly without a prayer life.

Now let us establish the doctrine before we move into practical ministry.

Today we are discussing **breaking generational curses and demonic influence.**

Paul writes:

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." (2 Corinthians 2:11, KJV)

Then Ephesians says:

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." (Ephesians 6:10, KJV)

Paul continues:

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (Ephesians 6:11, KJV)

The word translated "**wiles**" speaks of strategies, methods, schemes, and deceptions.

Then he explains why:

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12, KJV)

And finally:

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." (Ephesians 6:13, KJV)

Principalities and Powers

When Scripture speaks about principalities and powers, it is describing spiritual beings.

These are demons.

They exist within a demonic hierarchy.

They are high-ranking spirits.

Their operations are usually regional or territorial.

They influence systems.

These are not the demons commonly associated with witches and wizards.

I will show you this later from Daniel chapter 10.

These principalities operate over territories and influence people who occupy positions of authority.

Understand this carefully.

There is a difference between someone occupying a seat of power and the spiritual powers influencing that seat.

Some principalities are assigned to destroy entire systems.

In my opinion, Nigeria's problems are not merely political.

They are systemic.

It is like asking an excellent driver to drive a damaged vehicle.

No matter how skilled the driver is, the vehicle itself has problems.

Personally, I believe we need educational reform.

I also believe the Church must learn unity.

Just as Muslims gather together during Ramadan, Christians ought to unite in fasting and prayer.

We need humility.

We need agreement.

We need to follow godly leadership together.

The problem is that many believers are too proud.

I have said this before:

Demons collaborate. Christians compete.

If one demon cannot accomplish an assignment, it calls others.

Remember what Jesus taught concerning an unclean spirit returning with seven others more wicked than itself.

Yet believers often struggle to work together.

Demonic Influence

In my opinion, demonic influence can sometimes be more dangerous than obvious demonic possession.

With demonic possession, the manifestation is usually visible.

When the atmosphere of God's presence increases, the demon reacts.

But demonic influence is different.

It whispers.

It operates subtly.

You remain yourself outwardly, yet suggestions come at strategic moments.

Perhaps people have been discussing your promotion for several days.

Then, on the very day the decision is to be finalized, you suddenly walk into the office and pick an unnecessary fight with the very person speaking on your behalf.

That is demonic influence.

Or someone suddenly slaps a family member and later asks,

"Why did I do that?"

Afterward, you come back to yourself and say,

"That wasn't me."

You are right.

That was not you.

Have you ever heard strange whispers in your mind telling you to do something completely contrary to your character?

That is what I am talking about.

The principalities I am describing are not witches.

Witches are merely servants within that larger hierarchy.

Don't Be a Victim

I want to plead with you:

Develop a prayer life.

There was a time in Lagos when a woman publicly testified about how she had killed many people through witchcraft.

Ironically, she was now preaching the gospel after giving her life to Christ.

Her victims were already dead.

She had received forgiveness.

Do not become someone else's testimony.

Do not become another victim in someone else's story.

The Power of Prayer In Ministry

Three years ago, I probably would not have taught this message the way I am teaching it today. Experience has changed many things. I have seen realities that humbled me. An older minister once told me,

"Doing ministry without a prayer life is a suicide mission."

Those words stayed with me.

They are true.

Daniel's Encounter

Now let us turn to **Daniel chapter 10**.

I want to show you the biblical context for territorial principalities. Let us begin with **Daniel 10:1**, and then move to **verses 5–7**.

Daniel writes:

"Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man..." (*Daniel 10:5, KJV*)

Then he continues:

"And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision..." (*Daniel 10:7, KJV*)

This account will help us understand how principalities operate and why believers must remain spiritually alert.

The Angel of Understanding

Let us continue in **Daniel chapter 10**.

The angel said to Daniel:

"O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent."
(*Daniel 10:11, KJV*)

Then he continued:

"Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand..." (*Daniel 10:12, KJV*)

Notice something important.

This messenger came in response to Daniel's desire for **understanding**.

In other words, he was functioning as an angel bringing understanding.

I hope you know there are countless angels in God's kingdom. Scripture reveals that they are innumerable.

There are different assignments among angels.

One of the things the Lord impressed upon my heart is that there are angels that assist with utterance.

What we call utterance is not merely natural eloquence.

Angels help coordinate words according to God's assignment.

Your Words Were Heard

Daniel 10:12 continues:

"Thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words." (*Daniel 10:12, KJV*)

Now notice what happened next.

"But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days..." (*Daniel 10:13, KJV*)

This is the principality Paul referred to in Ephesians. There was a physical king ruling Persia on earth. Yet behind that earthly kingdom was a spiritual principality exercising influence. The visible kingdom reflected an invisible kingdom. There was a Persia on earth. There was also a spiritual "Persia."

Michael, the Prince Assigned to Israel

Daniel continues:

"...But, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me..." (*Daniel 10:13, KJV*)

Have you ever wondered why Michael appears repeatedly throughout Scripture?

The answer is found later:

"...There is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince." (Daniel 10:21, KJV)

Michael was the prince assigned to Israel.

That is why he appears so frequently whenever God's dealings with Israel are recorded.

Daniel was a Jew living in Babylon.

The angel carrying God's message to him encountered resistance.

He was detained because there were spiritual legalities operating in that realm.

He desired to deliver God's message to Daniel, but another principality opposed him.

Only when Michael arrived was the resistance broken.

Michael released him.

Together they delivered God's message to Daniel.

Then they returned to continue the conflict.

I am not inventing this.

This is what the Scriptures reveal.

Spiritual Battles Precede Physical Battles

The angel later said:

"Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come." (Daniel 10:20, KJV)

Students of history understand what followed.

The Greek Empire eventually conquered the Persian Empire.

Yet according to Daniel's vision, the conflict first unfolded in the spiritual realm before it manifested physically.

Never become casual about spiritual realities.

There are battles that begin in the unseen long before they appear in the natural world.

If you lose there, the consequences eventually appear here.

Life is spiritual.

Life Is Spiritual

Someone once slept and dreamed that an arrow struck her leg. She woke up, and that exact place on her leg began to smell and deteriorate physically. How do you explain that naturally?

Another person came to me in Lagos and asked, "Pastor, why do I keep waking up with marks on my body? It is as though I am beaten while I sleep."

She noticed a pattern.

Every time she woke with those marks, she lost something significant.

Sometimes it was a relationship.

Sometimes it was a job.

Whenever it happened, loss followed.

How do you explain that?

Life is spiritual.

Discern Before You Marry

Even in marriage, spiritual discernment is essential.

Do not only investigate someone's natural background.

Seek God concerning their spiritual history as well.

Do not unknowingly inherit battles.

Remember when David inquired of the Lord concerning the famine that had lasted for three years.

He asked,

"Lord, why is there famine?"

The Lord answered that Saul had violated the covenant made with the Gibeonites.

Though Israel had sworn to protect them, Saul shed innocent blood.

As a result, judgment came upon the nation.

David then approached the Gibeonites and asked,

"What shall we do to make atonement?"

Their response was:

"Give us seven men from Saul's household."

Some of Saul's descendants suffered because of actions they themselves had not committed.

That should remind us that spiritual consequences can extend beyond one individual.

Never assume every battle begins with the person presently experiencing it.

Principalities Influence Systems

These principalities influence systems.

Consider Jezebel.

Demons do not die.

When Elijah's ministry ended and John the Baptist came "**in the spirit and power of Elias**" (*Luke 1:17, KJV*), the same spirit that opposed Elijah resurfaced through Herodias.

Just as Jezebel sought Elijah's life, Herodias demanded the head of John the Baptist.

The spirit remained committed to the same assignment.

When Jesus spoke concerning the religious leaders, He said:

"The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat." (*Matthew 23:2, KJV*)

Do not become distracted by names.

The spirit people often identify as "Jezebel" existed long before the woman named Jezebel.

Throughout Scripture, similar patterns appear repeatedly.

The same spirit manifested through Potiphar's wife as she sought to seduce Joseph.

It appears again in Revelation when the Lord rebuked the church for tolerating the woman called Jezebel, who seduced God's servants into immorality.

The strategy remains consistent.

Satan Never Leaves You Empty-Handed

If Joseph had yielded to temptation, what might have happened?

Perhaps he would have enjoyed temporary pleasure.

Perhaps he would have inherited Potiphar's estate through deceit. But he would have forfeited God's greater purpose. That is how Satan operates. He steals by offering something inferior.

He does not always leave you empty-handed. If he takes three from you, he may give you one in return. You think you have gained, while in reality you have suffered tremendous loss. I have personally known people who moved with remarkable prophetic accuracy during our university days.

Even lecturers sat down to listen to them because of the grace upon their lives. Today, many of them have exchanged divine calling for ordinary success.

The devil gave them a career and quietly collected their assignment.

Don't Exchange Purpose for Success

When Saul employed David, it appeared to be promotion.

Yet that season also exposed David to pressures that would later shape his destiny.

Satan offered Jesus the kingdoms of this world.

Yet Scripture declares:

"...things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth." (Philippians 2:10, KJV)

The devil offered only one realm while attempting to rob Him of everything.

That is his strategy.

Babylon specializes in making people forget God.

Daniel lived in Babylon.

He occupied an important position.

He served in the king's palace.

Outwardly, everything appeared successful.

But Babylon was never home.

It was never God's ultimate intention.

Babylon gives new names.

Babylon offers prestigious offices.

Babylon slowly conditions people to forget God.

And forgetting God is usually a gradual process.

Guard Your Passion

Some of you travelled abroad with great passion.

You arrived saying,

"Lord, I will evangelize. I will serve You."

Four years later, your priorities have completely changed.

You have become successful professionally but spiritually diminished.

The fasting that was once normal has disappeared.

Prayer has become optional.

You have even searched for theological ideas that make your spiritual compromise feel acceptable.

That is exactly how the enemy works.

Satan Waits for the Right Moment

The devil did not attack David when he was a shepherd. He understood David's weaknesses. He waited until David became king. Then came the season when David remained at home instead of going to battle.

That was when he saw Bathsheba. That single decision became the beginning of years of pain. As we discussed previously, the dysfunction that later erupted in David's family—including Absalom's rebellion—can be traced back to that moment.

Sin always costs more than it promises.

Wake Up Spiritually

Perhaps you are here today, and God has not yet entrusted you with much, yet you are already careless spiritually. What will happen when greater opportunities come?

There is nothing attractive about spiritual complacency. I have never seen spectators become victors. Spectators always pay. If you refuse to pay the price of spiritual discipline, you will eventually pay another price. Come out of lukewarm Christianity.

Come out of spiritual mediocrity. Come out of a fireless Christian life where demons continue to oppress you while you remain passive.

Some of you are already in your thirties.

You still have no clear direction concerning God's purpose for your life. You are still looking for someone to continually pray for you when God intends for you to become someone who strengthens others. It is your life. You must build your own prayer altar.

Rebuild Your Prayer Altar

There is too much spiritual dust gathering on many believers' altars. Recently, after returning from Nigeria, I noticed unusual things around my home.

As I arrived, I immediately asked my wife, *"Why am I seeing this cat here?"*

That same week, four birds died in front of our house. Before leaving for that trip, I had already told my wife,

"Keep praying."

The work we do is not casual. Ministry is dangerous. That is why believers must remain spiritually alert.

Become Restless

As we prepare to pray, let me leave you with this thought. You must become restless. Some of you need to fight for your family. Perhaps you have noticed recurring patterns.

Generation after generation experiences delayed marriage.

- Repeated divorces.
- Repeated failures.
- Repeated disappointments.

Do not assume you will somehow be the exception while remaining spiritually passive.

You must confront those patterns in prayer. You must break them in the authority of Jesus Christ. God loved those before you.

Yet patterns continued because someone must eventually rise in faith and refuse to allow them to continue.

Fight Every Negative Pattern

Some patterns will not disappear simply because time passes. When it is time to have children, what should naturally happen within a short period may become prolonged without explanation.

Delays become recurring patterns. At that point, you must fight. You cannot remain passive.

Those Who Are With Us Are More

Let us read **2 Kings 6:15–17**.

The Bible says:

"And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?" (*2 Kings 6:15, KJV*)

Elisha answered:

"Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." (*2 Kings 6:16, KJV*)

Notice what he did **not** say.

He did not say, "*We are more than they are.*"

He said, "**They that be with us are more than they that be with them.**"

Even if there are only two of us standing against a hundred enemies, if the forces backing us in the spirit are greater, we will prevail.

Secure the victory first in the spirit. Eventually, it will manifest in the natural.

Maintain a Balanced View of Spiritual Warfare

I once read a book titled **Talk Back**, and the author made a statement that has stayed with me.

He said there are two major errors believers can make.

The first is to believe that Satan does not exist.

The second is to look for him under every rock.

Both extremes are dangerous.

We need balance.

When people say, "Christ has redeemed us, therefore there is no spiritual warfare," or, "There is no such thing as generational curses," I have sincere questions that deserve biblical answers.

The Finished Work Must Be Appropriated

If there are no longer any consequences flowing through generations, why do women still experience pain in childbirth?

Genesis records God's judgment upon Eve, yet childbirth remains painful today.

Why are human beings still born with a sinful nature?

Why are not all people automatically saved if Christ died for everyone?

The answer is simple.

The work of Christ must be personally received and appropriated.

Jesus died for the whole world.

Yet only those who believe receive salvation.

The provision exists.

It must be embraced by faith.

The same principle applies in many areas of the Christian life.

Questions Worth Considering

If Christ has redeemed us from every curse, why do believers still become sick or die prematurely?

If every battle ended at the cross without any need for spiritual participation, why did Paul write: **"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood..."** (*Ephesians 6:12, KJV*)

If every yoke automatically disappeared, why do many believers continue struggling with addiction, anger, fear, depression, and recurring destructive patterns?

If generational patterns are not real, how do we explain repeated cycles of divorce, untimely death, chronic poverty, or other recurring family struggles?

If Satan has already been defeated in every practical sense, why does Scripture still command believers: **"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."** (*James 4:7, KJV*)

Why would James instruct believers to pray if affliction no longer required spiritual response?

James writes:

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray." (*James 5:13, KJV*)

Paul also testified:

"Wherefore we would have come unto you... but Satan hindered us." (*1 Thessalonians 2:18, KJV*)

And again:

"Neither give place to the devil." (*Ephesians 4:27, KJV*)

These passages remind us that believers are called to actively enforce the victory Christ has secured.

What Is a Curse?

Let us define the subject biblically. The first appearance of the word *curse* is found in **Genesis 3**. The Lord said to the serpent:

"Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle..."
(*Genesis 3:14, KJV*)

This is an example of what Bible students often call **the law of first mention**. The first occurrence helps establish the basic meaning. In Scripture, a curse is presented as a form of divine judgment or punishment. In simple terms:

A curse is the pronouncement of judgment, often spoken by someone who has legitimate authority or by one who has been seriously wronged.

That is different from acts of wickedness.

We will discuss wickedness separately.

A Curse Without a Cause

Now consider **Proverbs 26:2**. The Scripture says:

"...So the curse causeless shall not come." (*Proverbs 26:2, KJV*)

This is an important principle. If someone simply decides to curse you without any legitimate cause, the Bible says that curse will not find a resting place.

However, Scripture also shows that words spoken by those in legitimate authority carry great weight.

Parents. Spiritual leaders. Teachers. These relationships matter. I will show you several biblical examples.

Biblical Examples of Pronounced Curses

Scripture records several instances where authoritative pronouncements carried significant consequences. Noah pronounced judgment concerning Canaan after Ham's actions (Genesis 9:24–25).

Jacob spoke concerning Simeon and Levi (Genesis 49:5–7). Elisha pronounced judgment upon the young men who mocked him (2 Kings 2:23–24).

There are many such examples throughout Scripture. They demonstrate the seriousness of words spoken from positions of authority.

The Weight of Spiritual Authority

Let me share something that happened. Someone once invited me to minister in another church. I contacted a drummer and asked him to accompany me. The moment I mentioned the church, he immediately refused.

I asked him why. He told me that the pastor had once pronounced a curse over him. He later travelled to seek prayer and spiritual restoration because his life had become severely affected.

Whether you agree with every detail of his story or not, it reminded me how seriously people should treat spiritual environments.

If you remain in a place where manipulation, intimidation, and destructive words are common, wisdom demands that you seek the Lord carefully.

A Personal Observation

I once attended a church where a woman publicly accused the pastor of misconduct. The matter became so serious that the pastor was arrested and taken to the police station.

I happened to be present that day. I will save the details of how I ended up there for another time. What happened next deeply affected me. The pastor pronounced words of judgment over the woman. Not long afterward, disturbing things happened in her life. That experience reinforced for me the importance of taking spiritual authority seriously and exercising great caution whenever authority is abused or misused.

Curses Can Affect Generations

There are also biblical examples where consequences extended beyond one generation. Consider Solomon. Because his heart turned away from the Lord, God declared:

"I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant." (1 Kings 11:11, KJV)

Yet the Lord also said:

"Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake... but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son." (1 Kings 11:12, KJV)

Rehoboam inherited the consequences of decisions made before his own reign. Sometimes a judgment creates conditions that shape future generations. It influences environments. It affects relationships. It opens doors for destructive counsel.

When Rehoboam listened to the wrong advisers and increased the burden upon the people, the environment had already been conditioned by what had gone before.

Joshua's Pronouncement Over Jericho

Joshua declared:

"Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho..." (Joshua 6:26, KJV)

Centuries later, during the reign recorded in **1 Kings 16:34**, that pronouncement was fulfilled.

Roughly five hundred years had passed. Yet the consequences of Joshua's words still manifested. This is one of the passages people often reference when discussing transgenerational consequences.

The Consequences of Sin

Many forms of bondage arise from persistent sin. Scripture repeatedly warns that rebellion carries consequences. Hosea speaks of a people who lacked understanding and therefore stumbled under judgment (Hosea 4).

Ezekiel describes how persistent unfaithfulness eventually resulted in divine discipline (Ezekiel 16:26–27).

Revelation likewise warns against tolerating immorality and false teaching within the church (Revelation 2).

The biblical pattern is consistent.

God continually calls His people to repentance, holiness, and wholehearted obedience.

Whenever people reject His ways, destructive consequences follow.

Things That Bring People Into Bondage

There are actions that open doors to bondage. One of them is sexual immorality. Having sexual relations with someone who is not your husband or your wife is not something Scripture treats lightly.

Perhaps you are here today, or you are watching online. The devil has so distorted people's thinking that two unmarried people can live together, maintain what appears to be a prayer life, hold hands to pray, and then continue living in sexual immorality.

That is not the life of Christ.

It cannot produce God's best.

If you cannot exercise self-control because your passion is strong, then change the situation.

Get married.

Do not willingly place yourself under unnecessary bondage.

If you are living together outside marriage, separate.

Move out.

Go back to your parents if necessary.

Find another place to stay.

Do whatever is necessary to obey God.

Do not continue living in a house with someone who is not your spouse.

Trusting in Man

Another doorway into disappointment is misplaced trust.

Jeremiah declares:

"Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm..." (*Jeremiah 17:5, KJV*)

The passage continues by saying that such a person becomes like a shrub in the desert and does not perceive when good comes.

If your confidence rests entirely in people—*"My uncle will help me."*

"My aunt will solve my problems." —you are placing your dependence on flesh rather than on God. Our trust must ultimately remain in the Lord.

Idolatry and Occult Involvement

Another doorway is idolatry and every form of occult involvement. David wrote:

"Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god..." (*Psalms 16:4, KJV*)

Perhaps someone regularly consults psychics, mediums, tarot cards, crystals, or other forms of divination because they want to know their future. Scripture warns against these practices.

They are not harmless. How can your destiny be reduced to a deck of cards?

Every time someone opens those doors, they expose themselves to spiritual influences that do not come from God.

Returning Evil for Good

Another serious matter is rewarding evil for good.

The Bible says:

"Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house." (Proverbs 17:13, KJV)

I once counseled someone who was believing God for children.

As we talked, the deeper story began to emerge.

She had betrayed a close friend and taken her friend's husband.

Naturally, that part of the story had been hidden.

But actions have consequences.

You cannot deliberately inflict deep pain upon another person and assume life simply continues as though nothing happened.

If you find yourself in such a situation, the proper response is not pride.

It is repentance.

Cry out to God for mercy.

Pray sincerely:

"Lord, let me not reap the full consequences of my actions. Have mercy upon me."

Sometimes what is needed is not warfare prayer but repentance.

If someone in your family committed similar acts, cry out to God for mercy on behalf of your household as well.

Recognizing Family Patterns

Now we come to an important question: How do we break these patterns?

We are about to pray. When you truly break something spiritually, you know it. There is an inward witness that says, *"This matter is settled."*

If you do not yet have that confidence, continue seeking God. Perhaps in your family the men never seem to prosper.

Perhaps the women continually carry the burden of providing for everyone else. Perhaps every generation struggles to keep employment. Maybe people begin well but never finish well. Maybe every testimony eventually turns into another painful story.

Recognize those patterns.

Then pray.

Some Patterns Are Not Coincidence

Someone once called me. She was about forty-five years old. She said,

"Pastor, a man wants to marry me, but I am afraid."

She had never married. She had never had children. As she shared her story, she explained why. Her eldest sister died two days before her wedding. Her second sister also died two days before her wedding.

They were four sisters.

The third sister died two days before her own wedding. At that point, we are no longer speaking about coincidence. That is a recurring pattern. The enemy was announcing his intention to keep repeating the same destruction. These are the kinds of cycles believers must confront in prayer.

Strongholds Create Patterns

Another person from the United Kingdom contacted me.

He said,

"Pastor, I cannot stop gambling."

I asked,

"If I gave you ten pounds right now, what would you do with it?"

He answered,

"I would place a bet."

I asked,

"But do you actually want to gamble?"

He replied,

"No. That is exactly why I am calling you."

That is a stronghold. The same principle applies to alcoholism and many other destructive addictions. Sometimes the person genuinely wants to stop.

Yet something continually pulls them back. The enemy builds habits around spiritual bondage. Even after deliverance, if the destructive behaviour is left unaddressed, the person often returns to the same cycle.

The spirit may have been confronted, but the habits remain. That is why transformation requires both spiritual victory and renewed patterns of living.

Pray Until the Pattern Breaks

Let us turn to **Acts 12:5**.

The Bible says:

"Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him." (Acts 12:5, KJV)

Herod had already executed James.

When he imprisoned Peter, the pattern was becoming obvious.

If nothing interrupted it, Peter would have been next.

That is how the enemy operates.

He repeats what has worked.

He moves from one person to another.

Sometimes he moves from one generation to another.

If you will not fight for yourself, then fight for your children.

Break the pattern so that they do not inherit what you endured.

Fight for Your Family

Some families pass down broken marriages.

Others pass down emotional wounds.

Others experience recurring financial collapse.

Still others battle repeated mental health struggles.

When you begin to notice the same destructive pattern repeating itself, do not ignore it.

Fight.

Perhaps your parents merely endured marriage instead of enjoying it.

Now you see your own home beginning to resemble theirs.

Fight.

There are spiritual battles that require determined prayer.

Praying with Spiritual Authority

Let us look at **Isaiah 54**.

Do not pray carelessly.

This is not a casual prayer.

Neither is it merely begging God.

There is a place for supplication.

But there is also a place for exercising the authority believers have in Christ.

David did not speak to God about Goliath.

He spoke directly to Goliath.

In the same way, we pray to God, but we also address the works of darkness from the position Christ has given us.

Scripture declares that Christ is seated far above all principalities and powers, and believers are seated with Him in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6).

Therefore, there are moments when we declare God's Word with confidence.

We pray to God on our knees.

We stand in Christ's authority against the enemy.

Enthroned in Christ

Isaiah says:

"Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool..." (*Isaiah 66:1, KJV*)

Scripture also declares:

"He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh..." (*Psalms 2:4, KJV*)

That picture speaks of God's absolute authority and sovereign rule.

As believers, our confidence is not in ourselves but in our union with Christ, who reigns over every principality and power.

From that position of faith, we speak God's Word with confidence.

Declare the Victory

As you pray, speak God's promises over your life.

Declare:

"Every family pattern ends here."

"Every embargo is broken in the name of Jesus."

"No weapon formed against me shall prosper." (Isaiah 54:17, KJV)

Command every work of darkness to leave.

Declare freedom over your marriage.

Declare freedom over your children.

Declare freedom over your finances.

Declare freedom over your future.

Stand in the authority Christ has given you.

Speak the Word.

Remain steadfast until every pattern is broken.

Closing Exhortation

The victory Christ secured at the Cross is complete.

As believers, we are called to walk in that victory by faith, obedience, prayer, holiness, and steadfast dependence upon God. Wherever destructive patterns have sought to establish themselves, let every believer stand firm in Christ, resist the enemy, and confidently enforce the triumph of the Lord Jesus.

May every chain be broken. May every stronghold fall.

May every family pattern contrary to the will of God come to an end through the power of Jesus Christ.

Amen.



About the Speaker

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is a teacher of God's Word with a clear, practical, and uncompromising voice. His ministry is marked by biblical accuracy, spiritual depth, and direct application to everyday life.

He is committed to raising believers who are grounded in Scripture, mature in character, and intentional about growth. His teaching addresses real issues—faith, relationships, purpose, leadership, and personal responsibility—without exaggeration or sentimentality.

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is known for clarity, accountability, and balance. He challenges listeners to look inward before looking outward, to embrace process over shortcuts, and to pursue transformation rather than appearance.

His desire is simple: that believers grow into stability, wisdom, and Christlike maturity through the uncompromised teaching of God's Word.



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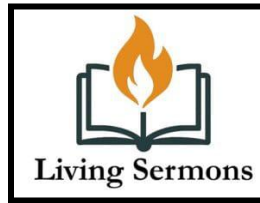
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