

'YOU WERE HIDDEN WHERE YOU COULD NOT BE FOUND'

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**Saturday
June 19,
2021**

Scriptures

Exodus 1: 1-22

Exodus 2: 1-3

Proverbs 28:12

Joshua 2:16



**GUEST SPEAKER
Bishop Aggrey Scott**

Starts: 11-4pm

zoom

**Meeting ID:
833 3055 1150
Passcode: 704938**

YouTube

Bethel Sons of Issachar

Executive Summary:

Greetings to you all in the mighty name of Jesus our soon coming King. We are grateful to God, especially for his mercies towards us, over the past year.

As we approach the seventh annual Sons of Issachar Men's Conference, the topic '**You were hidden where you could not be found**' (Exodus 1:1-22), certainly reminds us of the time Moses was hidden by the midwives, because he was a goodly child and later in this story, Israel's deliverer.

I remember when I was a young schoolboy attending church, the older generation would often speak of what they discerned about you, asking God to protect all that is in you through prayer and the laying on of hands.

When man tries to hide, he is often found, but when God hides you no one can find you, especially the enemy. We the church of Jesus Christ are hidden from the enemy in the presence of the Almighty God. **"For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock"** (Psalms 27:5)

May the good Lord bless you as we approach this year's conference with a great expectation of his mighty word.

Overseer Eric Bailey
SOI Patron



Conference Overview:

If you are Men of God, men of faith, men of valour, men of substance, men who understand the disappointments, struggles and men who acknowledge that there comes a time that we need to repent, take stock, reframe, and recalibrate our thinking to the times we are living in, then this is a moment or **/conference** for you.

This year's theme is designed to encourage God's men to **'take note'** that, despite the prevailing conditions that we are currently experiencing, **'we were hidden where we could not be found'**. Hidden from the pestilence of the world, hidden from the wiles of the adversary, and hidden, in the house or otherwise, until the day of our showing where destiny and purpose collided.

Right now, the most challenging social and human tragedy has been the vicious COVID-19 pandemic which has caused devastation in the lives of people everywhere. This is no different to the days of the old, when they too had to deal with both local and global challenges that came about to destroy a cohort of people. The Old Testament story that comes to mind is that of Moses. A story that paints a picture of human tragedy, male genocide brought about by a ruler/government that wanted to engineer a negative outcome that was based on a misguided and myopic interpretation of a set of circumstances.

We start in Genesis because the Master Planner speaks a word from Gen. 3: 15 about an eventual/future move, that only He knew the timing thereof. Following on from this statement, we will see the emergence of God's manservant Moses. Throughout this brief story, the backdrop will focus on the life and times of Moses from birth to becoming Israel's deliverer. Other notable examples, such as the ministry of the prophet Elijah, will also be highlighted as one who was **'hidden'** by God for purpose. Then, I want you to note some key similarities with events in the Bible in terms of how God's people responded to the death angel moving through Egypt as well as how the church has responded to this deadly worldwide pandemic. Thus, we can see the hand of God in this 21st century COVID-19 pandemic which has shifted and changed the world order on many fronts. If we are patient, we will witness, just like in Moses time, a mighty move of God.

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Empowerment for Ministry and Life

I Chronicles 12:24 - 34

Moses profile:

Moses, born to parents named Jochebed and Amram, both came from the tribe of Levi when the children of Israel lived in Egypt as slaves. He was the youngest of three children, with a sister named Miriam and a brother named Aaron. It is said by several biblical scholars that Moses is one of the few characters whose complete biography is described by the biblical narrative, and the early events of his life characterize him as a product of his circumstances. Those specific set of circumstances witnessed a despot and despicable worldly leader in the form of the ruling Pharaoh, who became afraid that the Israelite slaves growing numbers would one day lead to a revolt against him. Rather than identify a mutually beneficial way to co-exists, he came up with a plan to remove the impending threat by ordering all the boy babies to be killed. Well, what your enemy meant for evil, God has turned it around for your good.

Enters mother Jochebed who understood the danger and its long-term ramification and came up with a God plan. The plan was simple, do what Noah did to save his family by making Moses a lifeboat, that floated on the Nile River! The Bible tells us that there is nothing new under the sun. (**Exodus 2:2**). He did not stay there long before being rescued by the Pharaoh's daughter. Being unable to nurse him, she hired a Hebrew woman to do the job. God orchestrated that his mother would be that women who would attend to him.

So, we have the man of God, the future deliverer of Israel, who starts life in Egypt having the sentence of death hanging over him! The sentence turns out to be a blessing in disguise as he is plucked from the riverbank by an Egyptian and raised by the daughter of the very man that sought to kill and destroy all Jewish male children under a certain age. This young Moses gets the absolute best of everything Egypt has to offer; education of all forms, probably training in the art of war / the rules of engagement and the principles around etiquette, and no doubt their religious practices, etc. Notwithstanding this, there is something on the inside, which I believe his mother downloaded in him during his formative years as she took care of the young leader. You can imagine that his other would whisper the Shema into his ears every day; **'Hear Oh Israel, the Lord our God is one'** (**Deut. 6:4**).

I wonder if it was his struggle to make sense of his Egyptian teaching and the pull towards his Hebrew heritage, which led to him murdering a fellow Egyptian? Well, whatever the cause, he took flight and began life as a shepherd in Midian before his encounter with the God of Abraham in the form of the burning bush. At every juncture in his life, God hid Moses, whether from Pharaoh's death proclamation, in Midian where he learned the art of being a shepherd, or when the death angel visited Egypt.



Moses profile: (cont).

At the final analysis, you can see the hand of God all over this master piece. It is God who created this toxic environment that led to the death of many but delivered thousands many years down the road. It is the same God that created a desire in the heart of the Pharaohs daughter that propelled her to want to rear this unknown orphan child. It is the same God that shaped the learning environment for Moses to enjoy the absolute best that Egypt had to offer so that he could learn the ways of the enemy. Pharaoh edict / official order that was designed to kill and destroy the male child and his eventual seed became the very words that God would use to deliver retribution onto Pharaoh. You could say, Pharaoh's ultimate end, was poetical justice delivered on a grand scale.

Even to the point of death, God can choose if he so desires, to hide us. We read in Deuteronomy 34: 5-6, that, **'Moses the servant of the Lord died there in Moab'**, as the Lord had said He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is. One can speculate as to why God chose to bury his friend in a secret location. Ask yourself the question as to why, even to this very day, Moses's body/burial site is still hidden?

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What we know about God is that whatever the dispensation of time, social, economic, political, or historical context, He will hide his people. There is a story to be found in the 83rd division of the psalms when Asaph had the desire to obtain help from God for his nation. Israel was exposed to great danger; ten confederate nations had conspired, with desperate hate, to assail the chosen people. They were determined to root out the very name of Israel from among the nations, they joined together in a wicked league for this purpose, and they came from all quarters, north, south, east, and west, to utterly devour, what they considered to be, this little insignificant people whom God had called his own. It was the psalmist's desire to bring God into this quarrel, to stir him up to take the part of Israel, and therefore he cried, **"Do not keep silence, oh God: do not hold your peace, and do not be still, oh God. For, lo, your enemies make a tumult: and those who hate you have lifted their head. They have taken crafty counsel against your people and consulted against your hidden ones."** Psalms 83: 2-3

David the psalmist pleads with God that this nation was his own, and that; therefore, he must protect it, and he describes the people by this unusual but instructive title, **"Your hidden ones."**

C. H Spurgeon's interpretation of the phrase **'hidden ones'** referred to being **"hidden by God with a view to safety"**. He goes on to add that the ten heathen nations could not harm God's people because as a hen hides her chicks under her wings when the hawk hovers overhead, or as

Enter Elijah

one who has found treasure hides it away from the hands of the thief, so too does God hide away his people, and preserves them. God puts his saints away where the enemy cannot find them. Sometimes he puts them in the secret of his pavilion, (**Ps. 27.5**)

Spurgeon reminds us of another classic example when Athaliah sought to kill all the royal seed, Jehoiada the priest took Joash, who was then a child, and hid him for six years in the house of the Lord, and there he was safe. Even today, during the pandemic, God will preserve His people just as He did with Joash from the assault of the enemy so that he cannot be destroyed.

For a moment, let us consider the ministry of another of God's manservants who had cause to be hidden. Enter, Elijah, the prophet of God. The story and relevance to the conference refer to his introduction in 1 Kings 17, his ministerial launch on the biggest stage at the time (v1) when he **'said unto Ahab, as the Lord God of Israel liveth, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word'**. How could this relatively unknown minister make such a claim? Did he have some understanding of meteorology? The National Geographic Society is a body of experts who have accumulated knowledge in the field. Their research suggests the following:

Clouds are visible accumulations of tiny water droplets or ice crystals in the Earth's atmosphere. Clouds differ greatly in size, shape, and colour. They can appear thin and wispy, or bulky and lumpy. Clouds usually appear white because the tiny water droplets inside them are tightly packed, reflecting most of the sunlight that hits them. White is how our eyes perceive all wavelengths of sunlight mixed together.

Cloud's form when the air becomes saturated, or filled, with water vapor. Warm air can hold more water vapor than cold air, so lowering the temperature of an air mass is like squeezing a sponge. Clouds are the visible result of that squeeze of cooler, moist air. Moist air becomes cloudy with only slight cooling.

With further cooling, the water or ice particles that make up the cloud can grow into bigger particles that fall to Earth as precipitation.

Clouds are classified into three main groups: cirrus, stratus, and cumulus.

Cirrus clouds are wispy, curly, or stringy. They are found high in the atmosphere—typically higher than 6,000 meters (20,000 feet)—and are usually made of ice crystals. Cirrus clouds usually signal clear, fair weather. Their shape often indicates the direction the wind is blowing high in the atmosphere.

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Stratus clouds are horizontal and stratified or layered. Stratus clouds can blanket the entire sky in a single pattern. They usually occur close to the Earth. Stratus clouds often form at the boundary of a warm front, where warm, moist air is forced up over cold air. This movement produces clouds as the moist air is cooled across the entire front. The presence of stratus clouds usually means a chilly, overcast day. If precipitation falls from stratus clouds, it is usually in the form of drizzle or light snow.

Cumulus clouds are large and lumpy. Their name comes from the Latin word meaning “heap” or “pile.” They can stretch vertically into the atmosphere up to 12,000 meters (39,000 feet) high. Cumulus clouds are created by strong updrafts of warm, moist air. Most forms of heavy precipitation fall from cumulus clouds. The weather they bring depends on their height and size. The higher the base of a cloud is, the drier the atmosphere and the fairer the weather will be. Clouds located close to the ground mean heavy snow or rain.

Elijah not only made the declaration but was also specific that there would be no rain or dew for several years. What a fete, to have your first recorded prophesy, then, without any apparent rhyme or reasoning, or consultation, God then, makes a declaration of intent. ***‘And the word of the Lord came unto him saying, get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Che-rith, that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there’ (I Kings 17: 2-4).*** I know from personal experience that Che-rith is a lonely place that the people of God must pass through. This is where God closes the door to what we want to do, it’s also where he hides and feeds you; why you might ask? In this case, the argument can be made that he was hidden from Ahab; if that be the case, why then not protect him when he challenged Ahab’s prophets on Mount Carmel? Whatever the reason(s), there is a time that God removes the word for a season. Note, that Elijah’s isolation meant also that the word was no longer being heard or preached!

Consider, the enormity of the ask; you have just graduated from the Bethel Institute of Biblical Studies (BIBS), or the equivalent and immediately you stand before a notable dignity (notoriety or not), and here you are making a prophetic proclamation that will surely come to pass! Not just any prophecy, but one that alters the climate systems and one that cannot be misinterpreted, even by the laity! The Bible reminds us in Deuteronomy that if a ‘prophet’ declares a word and it does not come to pass, he is liable to be stoned (***Deut. 18:21***).

For many, it would be the time when we commission the gown, purchase the latest version of Strong's Bible Concordance and maybe, jump on the preaching merry-go-round by making ourselves available! Whichever it is or was, it would be difficult not to feel good about such a proclamation. In this story, it was clearly more than just the event of standing before King Ahab, it was more about the journey that God would take Elijah on, one that would be built on obedience, trust, and total reliance.

What next for the man of God, the new BIBS graduate or the new graduate. Surely an anointed, large, and vibrant church to pastor, maybe, launched on the national stage, and for others a position with Klynveld Peat Main Goerdeler (KPMG), etc. Sadly, for Elijah and many readings this, you are sent out, however, before you reach your pastoral charges, you are humbled by being fed by ravens, then spent three years pastoring a congregation of two!! The widow and her son!!

What next transpire in Elijah's life/ministry is nothing short of a mighty move of God that firmly establishes him as the prophet of Almighty God. Elijah's achievements / CV for some could be characterized as extraordinarily successful. For example,

- Elijah's ministry has a stellar launch when he spoke the word to Ahab.
- God hides him and commissions a raven to feed him.
- The widow and bringing her dead son back to life.
- Represented God in a showdown with the priest of Baal and Asherah.
- The transition of the double portion anointing between Elijah and Elisha.
- Appearance with Moses and Jesus in the transfiguration scene (Matthew 17:2-3).



Take note: 'You were hidden where you could not be found'.

As we conclude, this year's conference, the principles that emerge from the lesson will help those who are in Cherith right now.

Principal (1)

When God hides you for a time, he is preparing you for a great ministry/ purpose. Whilst you are hidden in Cherith, God is working on you.

Principal (2)

- God will take you to Cherith before he takes you to Mount Carmel.
- Obadiah hid 100 of God's prophets.
- Joseph from prison to the palace.
- Moses' desert of Midian to Israel's deliverer
- David, many years running and hiding in caves before becoming King.
- Paul, 3 years in Arabia before Antioch and the great explosion of believers.

This conference platform was never designed for those who had it or have it all together. No, not at all. The essence of this ministry has always been to empower men and in particular the men of God, to understand that there is a time and season for all of us. The Bible is clear that it is not God's wish that any should perish (2 Peter 3:8-10); b) but that the man of God, understand the times and season(s) we are living in and as such, know when to move and how to move and (c) to know that God is not prejudice, partial or caught up with social status. In fact, He will use who he wants, when he wants and then He will equip you with the necessary gifting, anointing and indeed skill set to accomplish the task.

You are where God wants you to be currently. Use Midian and Cherith's harsh experiences for your good. It is God that does the tuning, agrees to the timing, and establishes the ministry and not man. Therefore, beloved, in God's economy, silver and gold cannot purchase your promotion or value in the Kingdom, but only God himself.

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Summary

Our sincere and earnest prayer is that you will be richly blessed by the theme and the spoken word. There are times in the life of the believer when we just cannot make sense of what is happening at a given time. At this time, you could be either in Midian or Cherith. The Bible is explicitly clear that, when God hides you, you are well hidden. We note from Isaiah 30:1, that Judah forsook the Lord by seeking help outside of themselves by going to Egypt. This type of worldly covering will always get us exposed to all the elements.

Another key scriptural reference that comes to mind to bring this home is taken from Genesis 1:11. It reads, **“And God said, let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so”**. The Apostle Paul, let us know in 2 Corinthian 5:19, that, “to wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself.....!”. There are some decisions that we make or are about to make that we do not share with others. There are times in our lives that we choose to keep things close to our chest. Sometimes it speaks of our fear of failure and at other times it relates to our assertiveness/confidence because we want to determine the timing of sharing what it is we have been working on. Either way, some moves are best kept by us until the time of revealing. Some works are best kept secret, like John who was in the wilderness until his day of showing.

Jesus Himself spent a period of being hidden in the desert. The Bible said that ‘the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him’. (Luke 2: 40). When God hides you, he prepares you for ministry by filling you with his spirit. It was Jesus’s anointing that enabled him to minister at the temple in the midst of the doctors.

Finally, Paul wrote, “for we are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God” (Colossians 3: 3). If we are dead, then obedience comes easy to the will and purpose of God. Stay hidden until God brings you out.

God bless.

The Sons of Issachar Ministry

19th June 2021



Itinerary

- 11.00 Praise & Worship
- 11.15 Moderator Opens Conference 2021
 - Scripture Reading
 - Opening Prayer
- 11.45 Greetings – Conference Co-Ordinator
- 12.00 Greetings – National Brotherhood Director
- 12.15 Greetings – Marketing Co-Ordinator
- 12.30 Praise & Worship
- 12.45 Elder Hubert Henry
- 12.50 Overseer Bailey address and introduce the preacher.
- 13.00 Spoken Word: Bishop Aggrey Scott
- 14.30 Q & A
- 15.30 Conference 2021 Alter Call & Close

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2021 Sons of Issachar Conference will be online, on our website, due to Covid 19 and the current lockdown situation in the UK. The following will be released on Saturday 19th June 2021 and remain on our Conference Page until 31st December 2021. All are Welcome to visit free of charge.

SOI Planning Team:

Elder Neil Richards

Minister Boswell Bailey

2021 Planning Team Chair:
Minister Mario Davidson

Media Lead:
Brother Mumtaz Gulab:

Conference Co-ordinator:
Deacon Gilbert R Pomell

Administration Lead:
Miss. Vivean Pomell

Technical support:
Sister Louise Watson – BAM

Sister Faith & Bethany Pomell

Conference Host:

Pastor Tony Bernard - BAM

Special Thanks:

Bishop D. E. Edmund

National Ecclesiastical Council (NEC)

Overseer A. Landell

Central District Pastors Board

Elder Oscar McLean

Conference brochure:
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