

## **OPEN HEAVEN 12 APRIL 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL**

# **TOPIC: CHOOSE YOUR PARTNERS WISELY**

### **MEMORISE**

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Psalm 1:1

READ: 2 Chronicles 20:35-37

35 And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah join himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly:

36 And he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and they made the ships in Eziongaber.

37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, the Lord hath broken thy works. And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

# **RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 12 APRIL 2025 TODAY MESSAGE**

Where you sow will determine what you will reap. In the parable of the sower, four soils were identified, but only one brought forth harvests; the other three soils yielded nothing (Mark 4:3-8). I pray for you today; you will not sow on barren soils, in Jesus' name.

A barren soil can be a person, an organisation, or even a house. Some people move into a new house, and everything that was working for them suddenly stops working. Some get into a new relationship or start a new business partnership, and everything they have built over the years crumbles.

Jehoshaphat is an example of a fellow who entered into partnerships with people who were barren soils. Even though he was a righteous man, he entered into relationships with ungodly people. First, he became friends with Ahab, a sinful and wicked king, and almost lost his life in battle, but for God's intervention (1 Kings 22:1-33). Then, as we read in today's Bible reading, he joined himself with Ahab's son, Ahaziah, another wicked king, and together, they made ships to go to Tarshish. The ships were destroyed, and the planned voyage failed because Jehoshaphat was partnering with someone who was a barren soil.

Who you partner with in life and destiny matters a lot. If you partner with a wicked man, your efforts will be wasted because God is angry with the wicked every day (Psalm 7:11). I pray for you; may you never partner with someone who is marked for destruction by heaven. May your efforts not be destroyed because of the partnerships you make, in Jesus name.

A disobedient fellow is another dangerous person to partner with. When you partner with such a person, you are sowing on concrete ground because disobedience shuts the heavens over a person. Jonah is an example of such a fellow; he put the people on the ship he boarded to Tarshish in trouble because of his disobedience. Although they didn't lose their lives, they lost their properties because of one disobedient passenger (Jonah 1:1-5). When you join yourself to a disobedient person, you will suffer losses. In the name above every other name, I pray that you will be disconnected from every disobedient person who will make you suffer for what you know nothing about.

### **PRAYER POINT:**

Father, please help me not to associate with unfruitful partners.

### **BIBLE IN ONE YEAR**

1 Kings 8-9

**HYMN 33: GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH!** 

### **OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 12 APRIL 2025 COMMENTARY**

### 1. The Principle of Spiritual Soil

The devotional for today opens with Jesus' parable of the sower (Mark 4:3-8), emphasizing that **your harvest depends on where you sow**. Four soils represent:

- 1. Barren Relationships (Path): Partnerships that crush your destiny (e.g., Jehoshaphat & Ahab).
- 2. Shallow Connections (Rocky): Fair-weather friends who abandon you in trials.
- 3. Choking Alliances (Thorns): Associations that prioritize wealth over God (Mark 4:19).
- 4. Fruitful Covenants (Good Ground): God-ordained relationships that multiply your grace.

### **Key Insight:**

• Ungodly partnerships corrupt godly destinies (1 Corinthians 15:33).

#### **Application:**

Audit your inner circle: Are your relationships "good ground" for your growth?

### 2. Jehoshaphat's Warning: The Cost of Bad Partnerships

Open Heaven devotional for today analyzes two fatal alliances in Jehoshaphat's life:

- 1. With Ahab (1 Kings 22):
  - Nearly cost him his life in battle (v. 34).
- 2. With Ahaziah (2 Chronicles 20:35-37):
  - Divine judgment destroyed their joint venture.

#### Why God Intervened:

- Jehoshaphat was righteous but reckless in partnerships.
- **Lesson:** "Can two walk together unless they are agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

### **Modern Parallels:**

- Business: A Christian entrepreneur partners with a fraudster? Loses everything.
- Marriage: A believer weds an unbeliever? Spiritual stagnation (2 Corinthians 6:14).

# 3. Identifying Barren Soils

Today's devotional lists two types of dangerous partners:

### a) The Wicked (Marked for Destruction)

- Traits: Habitual sin, no repentance (Psalm 7:11).
- Example: Ahab's idolatry (1 Kings 21:25-26).
- Result: Their judgment spills onto you (Joshua 7:1-26 Achan's sin affected Israel).

### b) The Disobedient (Heaven-Closed)

- Traits: Ignores God's Word (Jonah 1:1-3).
- **Example:** Jonah's rebellion endangered sailors (Jonah 1:4-5).
- Result: Their storms become yours.

### **Action Step:**

Pray: "Lord, expose any 'barren soil' relationships in my life."

### 4. How to Cultivate Fruitful Partnerships

### Bad Soil Good Soil Alternative Scripture

Wicked friends God-fearing mentors Proverbs 13:20

Disobedient allies Prayerful partners Acts 2:42

Unequally yoked Spirit-led relationships 2 Corinthians 6:14

#### **Prayer Strategy:**

"Father, connect me with destiny helpers who fear You. Sever ties that hinder my growth!"

# 5. Prophetic Declarations for Divine Connections

The devotional closes with prayers:

- 1. "You will not sow on barren soils!"
- 2. "Every Ahaziah in your life is exposed and removed!"
- 3. "Your 'good ground' partnerships are revealed today!"

#### Stand on These Promises:

- "The righteous should choose his friends carefully" (Proverbs 12:26).
- "He who walks with wise men will be wise" (Proverbs 13:20).

# Final Thought: Your Network Determines Your Net Worth

Jehoshaphat's legacy was marred by two bad partnerships, but yours won't be!

"Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future. Choose wisely!"

### **Action Steps:**

- 1. List your top 5 influencers. Assess their spiritual impact on you.
- 2. Fast for discernment to confirm/cancel key relationships.
- 3. Initiate godly alliances (join a small group, seek mentors).

"A single God-ordained connection can catapult you into destiny. Pray for one today!"

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