



Open Heaven 14 September 2024 Today Devotional: VESSELS UNTO DISHONOUR

### **Description**

The Open Heaven 14 September 2024 devotional for today is VESSELS UNTO DISHONOUR.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

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## **OPEN HEAVEN 14 SEPTEMBER 2024 TODAY DEVOTIONAL**

### **TOPIC: VESSELS UNTO DISHONOUR**

MEMORISE:

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Psalms 51:17

**READ: 1 Samuel 15:1-28:**

Samuel also said unto Saul, The Lord sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> Thus saith the Lord of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

<sup>3</sup> Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

<sup>4</sup> And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand

footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

<sup>5</sup> And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

<sup>6</sup> And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

<sup>7</sup> And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

<sup>8</sup> And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

<sup>9</sup> But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

<sup>10</sup> Then came the word of the Lord unto Samuel, saying,

<sup>11</sup> It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the Lord all night.

<sup>12</sup> And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

<sup>13</sup> And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord.

<sup>14</sup> And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

<sup>15</sup> And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

<sup>16</sup> Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the Lord hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

<sup>17</sup> And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?

<sup>18</sup> And the Lord sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

<sup>19</sup> Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the Lord, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the Lord?

<sup>20</sup> And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have gone the way which the Lord sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

<sup>21</sup> But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in Gilgal.

<sup>22</sup> And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

<sup>23</sup> For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

<sup>24</sup> And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord,

and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

<sup>25</sup> Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the Lord.

<sup>26</sup> And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

<sup>27</sup> And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.

<sup>28</sup> And Samuel said unto him, The Lord hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.

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## **RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 14 SEPTEMBER 2024 TODAY MESSAGE**

Amongst the people you find in church, some are unto honour while others are unto dishonour, as we see in 2 Timothy 2:20:

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

God, however, is not the One who makes some vessels unto honour and others unto dishonour.

Rather, people, based on their behaviour toward God and His instructions, choose for themselves if they will be unto honour or unto dishonour.

There are many people who say that since God is merciful, and His mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23), they can commit sin multiple times and ask Him for mercy multiple times.

Therefore, they commit sin purposely, trusting that when they ask for mercy, God will have mercy. Some even say things like, "God, forgive me for what I am about to say." They know it is a sin, but they ask for forgiveness and go ahead to say it. People like this are trying to make a fool out of the Most High God and will become vessels unto dishonour if they do not repent.

The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Even if a Christian gives a big sacrifice or worships God deeply, if his or her heart is still in a sinful state, the wages of sin remain death.

In today's Bible reading, God told Saul to kill all the Amalekites, but he decided to play on God's intelligence by saying that it was the people who brought the king of Amalek and the choice animals back with them to Israel. We see the result of the disobedience in 1 Samuel 15:28:

And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.

Saul begged Samuel to let him worship God, but it was not out of true repentance. He only did that because he did not want to be embarrassed in the presence of his followers. In the next chapter, you will see that as much as Samuel pleaded on his behalf, God still asked him to anoint a new king as his replacement. God later sent an evil spirit to torment Saul, as he had become a vessel unto dishonour.

Beloved, be careful. Don't toy with sin, and don't try to play on God's intelligence so that you don't end up like Saul.

## **REFLECTION**

Do you still indulge in the things that God has been warning you about? Beware, so that you don't become a vessel unto dishonour.

## **BIBLE IN ONE YEAR**

Hosea 5-9

## **HYMN 20: STAND UP! STAND UP FOR JESUS**

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