

Open Heaven 17 May 2025 Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 17 May 2025 devotional for today is GOD DOES NOT FORGET.

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

- Read: [RCCG Open Heaven 16 May 2025 Devotional](#)

OPEN HEAVEN 17 MAY 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: GOD DOES NOT FORGET

MEMORISE:

Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.
Isaiah 49:15

READ: 1 Samuel 1:9-20

9 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the Lord.

10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore.

11 And she vowed a vow, and said, O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his

head.

12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli marked her mouth.

13 Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

14 And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord.

16 Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

18 And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.

19 And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the Lord, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the Lord remembered her.

20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the Lord.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 17 MAY 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

Phrases like 'God remembered', as seen in today's Bible reading, might look strange because God knows the end from the beginning and cannot forget anything.

However, when the Bible uses that phrase, it doesn't mean that God forgot anything, but at that moment, He decided to pay attention to something in particular. If God has made promises to you in the past, rest assured that He has not forgotten about them. They will surely come to pass at the appointed time.

In 1979, my Father in the Lord, Pa Josiah Akindayomi, and a few of us attended a Kenneth Hagin campmeeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA. The meeting ended on a Saturday, so we worshipped at a nearby church on Sunday. As it was our first visit, we were made to sit in the front row.

During the sermon, the preacher suddenly got down from the altar, stood before Pa Akindayomi, and said, "Thus saith the Lord, 'That which I promised you is about to come to pass.'" Pa Akindayomi didn't understand English, so he asked me, "What did he say?" Because I didn't want to miss the rest of the sermon, I said, "I'll tell you when we get to the hotel, sir." When we got to the hotel, he asked again. After I told him, he started crying. God had told him in 1952, "I am starting a church through you, and it will be known around the whole world." At that time, the church was still only in South-West Nigeria. The old man was already preparing to go to heaven, so he thought that God had forgotten His promise. Today, God has taken RCCG to 197 nations in the world and still counting.

Has God promised you anything? Rest assured that He will fulfil it. However, His promises will only be fulfilled in His time. After many years of serving God faithfully, Zachariah and Elisabeth remained barren and must have thought that God had forgotten them. The God who does not forget visited them

at His appointed time and gave them a son (Luke 1:5-25). God's plan was to give them a great prophet who would be the forerunner of Jesus.

When people thought it was too late for them to have a child, God said, "Now, it is time to attend to this matter."

Beloved, men can forget their promises, but God can never forget His promises to you. Keep trusting Him, and He will fulfil His promises in your life at His appointed time.

KEY POINT

God does not forget His promises; He will fulfil them at the appointed time.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

2 Chronicles 35-36

RCCG HYMN5: BLESSED ASSURANCE

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 17 MAY 2025 COMMENTARY

Memorise: Isaiah 49:15 (KJV)

This powerful verse assures us that **God's memory of His promises is more reliable than even a mother's bond with her child.**

Bible Reading: 1 Samuel 1:9-20 (KJV)

The story of Hannah's answered prayer demonstrates **how God "remembers" His people at the appointed time**, turning barrenness into fruitfulness.

Key Insights from Today's Open Heavens Devotional

1. The Meaning of "God Remembered"

- **Not Divine Forgetfulness:**

God is omniscient (Psalm 147:5) – He never literally forgets. The phrase signifies:

1. *Appointed time for action* (Genesis 8:1 – flood waters receded)

2. *Covenant faithfulness* (Genesis 9:15-16 – rainbow promise)
3. *Moment of divine intervention* (Exodus 2:24 – Israel's cry heard)

- **Three Biblical Examples:**

1. *Hannah* (1 Samuel 1:19) – Years of prayer suddenly answered
2. *Zacharias & Elizabeth* (Luke 1:24) – Barrenness broken in old age
3. *Pa Akindayomi* – Waiting for the fulfillment of God's promise of a global church.

2. Why God's Timing Seems Delayed

- **Divine Purposes in Waiting:**

1. *Character Development* (Romans 5:3-4) – Like Abraham's faith tested
2. *Perfect Alignment* (Ecclesiastes 3:11) – All elements must converge
3. *Maximum Glory* (John 11:4) – Lazarus' death magnified Christ's power

- **Human Perspective vs. Divine Plan:**

- Pa Akindayomi thought that God had forgotten His promise concerning RCCG
- Zacharias doubted angel's message (Luke 1:18)
- Sarah laughed at God's promise (Genesis 18:12)

3. The Certainty of Divine Promise

- **God's Unchanging Nature:**

1. *Cannot lie* (Numbers 23:19)
2. *Word never returns void* (Isaiah 55:11)
3. *Faithful to generations* (Deuteronomy 7:9)

- **Modern Testimonies:**

- The devotional recounts how a 1952 promise to Pa Akindayomi about RCCG's global reach was confirmed in 1979 and fulfilled beyond imagination

4. How to Wait Productively

1. **Maintain Persistent Prayer** (Luke 18:1)
 - Hannah kept coming to Shiloh year after year
2. **Reject Doubtful Thoughts** (James 1:6-7)
 - Unlike Zacharias, believe without requiring signs
3. **Prepare for Fulfillment** (Amos 4:12)
 - Like Abraham preparing baby clothes before Isaac's birth
4. **Worship While Waiting** (Habakkuk 3:17-18)
 - Praise demonstrates faith in God's character

Practical Applications

For the Weary Waiter:

- *Action:* Create a “Promise Journal” documenting God’s words to you
- *Prayer:* “Lord, help me wait with confident expectation like Hannah”

For the Doubting Heart:

- *Study:* Compare Zacharias’ doubt (Luke 1:18) with Mary’s faith (Luke 1:38)
- *Declaration:* “What God has promised, He is able to perform” (Romans 4:21)

For the Impatient Soul:

- *Meditate:* On God’s eternal perspective (2 Peter 3:8)
- *Fast:* From calculating timelines for one month

Warning vs. Encouragement

- **Warning:** “*Presumption tries to force promises (Sarah with Hagar)*” (Genesis 16:1-2)
- **Encouragement:** “*Patient faith always receives reward*” (Hebrews 6:12)

Conclusion: Your Set Time is Coming

1. **God’s delays are not denials** – they’re divine preparations
2. **Human impossibilities are God’s specialties** (Luke 1:37)
3. **Your story will glorify God** when His promise manifests

Prayer Response

“Father, thank You for remembering every promise You’ve made to me. Strengthen my faith to wait without wavering. Prepare me to steward the fulfillment for Your glory. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Final Charge

“The same God who remembered Hannah, Zacharias, and Pa Akindayomi is working on your case. Will you trust His perfect timing?”

Your divine remembrance moment is coming!

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