SEGUN ADEWUMI



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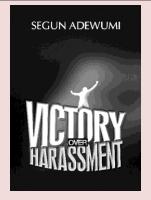
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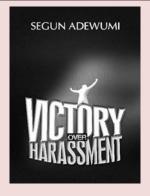
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DEDICATION

dedicate this book to the Almighty God, who gave me the wisdom and ability to write and to Christians worldwide who are facing harassment as they run the race. My prayer is that this book will help in their deliverance.

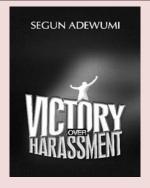


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- i Brother Tunde Agara
- ii Princess Yemisi Ayodele
- iii Akin Osuntuyi

May the Lord bless you all, Amen.



PREFACE

RUE BELIEVERS H AVE p re-ordained spiritual immunity. By this, it means that they are fully protected from the wiles, schemes and deceits of the devil. From the day you got saved; you became covered by this token of immunity. It is like sheep that are kept within an enclosure to prevent wolves from attacking them. But the wolves have their own strategies with which they draw out the sheep. They simply get near the entrance of the gate of the fence to let out a terrible roar that makes some of the sheep panic and jump out of the fence into the mouth of the wolves. This strategy of powerless roars that is being adopted by the devil to cow weak and ignorant children of God is what is addressed in this book, and it is known as harassment. Peter wrote,

"Be sober; be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour". (1 Peter 5: 8).

This book is intended to encourage you to be steadfast in your faith, knowing fully that the devil has no power beyond harassment. Note that the scripture does not say that the devil is a roaring lion; he is just like a roaring lion. He only employs deceitfulness and subtlety like he did to Eve in the Garden of Eden; imitating the lion's roar. Such roar could be scary but as someone said, "it is like the roar of a mouse using a microphone". He has always been a liar but once he is resisted based on revealed knowledge, he flees.



INTRODUCTION

HARASSMENT

o harass is to trouble a person persistently and incessantly. The key word is persistence; the harasser keeps bordering and attacking his victim by launching. repeated attacks with the intention of annoying and exhausting him. The assailant's job is to pester, hassle, worry and constitute a nuisance to the victim until he is derailed from his intended dream or goal. He sees the victim as an enemy and so does everything within his means to destroy something valuable in his life.

Harassment is usually a nuisance that is beyond the capacity of the sufferer to endure. It is one of the three strategies often used by Satan to mislead God's faithful ones and cause a derailment in their walk with God until, they misplace God's purpose. The other two strategies include taking an advantage of the "ignorance" of the believers in spiritual matters to mislead them by using enticement to charm them out of God's grace and liberty.

THE IDEA BEHIND IT

Why harassment? For what purpose does the devil adopt the strategy known as harassment? In trying to answer the above questions, I found out that the devil harasses a believer to make him commit errors. An Error is one of the three major sins that have the capacity to ruin the life of a child of God. The other two are trespasses and transgressions. An Error is the inability to hit

the intended goal. Errors could mean mistakes or acting foolishly. It is often defined in Hebrew words as 'distortion of what is right'. The Sin of Error may be illustrated with the throwing of a Javelin at a given spot on a wall. When the Javelin misses the spot, it can be said that an error has been committed. The thrower therefore stands disqualified and no longer merits his call.

TYPES OF HARASSMENT

From my studies and for the purpose of this book, I have unveiled three major forms of harassments that are visited on believers with the intention of misleading them. They are:

- **Verbal Harassment** which borders on the vocal or spoken words,
- **Physical Harassment** which bears its weight on the corporal existence of man and
- **Spiritual Harassment** which has to do with our rrelationship with the Almighty God.

I am very confident that these pieces of information will do you a great deal of good as it will expose you to divine secrets that will enable you live a more prosperous Christian life. That indeed is my vision: that you live a better and healthier Christian life and make it to heaven on the last day. I can therefore say that you have in your hand a treasure that you will cherish forever. Thank so much for embarking on this journey with me.

Yours-in-God's Vineyard,

Rev. Segun Adewumi.

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Verbal Harassment Verbal Haras

VERBAL HARASSMENT

ERBAL HARASSMENT has to do with the use of words. Words are intangible missiles and have great effect on whatsoever they are used on. And if such words come for the purpose of harassing its victim, it leaves behind lasting and sour consequences.

Verbal harassment is a pronouncement that is made to mislead the victim so that he will make a mistake that will render him unworthy of his call. A believer could be a target of abuses, threats, insults, gossips and other forms of verbal assaults but he must rely on the Holy Spirit to decide his reactions. One may not be able to decide what happens around him, but he is definitely in control of how he reacts to the

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happenings as his reaction would often represent his personality.

In every situation that requires some sort of reaction, one is either proactive or reactive. While the reactive people allow event to control them and lead them to take decisions as they react to emotions, the proactive people take charge of situations and events and take decisions based on reason and not just emotional feelings. Those that are proactive take initiative by

acting rather than reacting to events. I will therefore advise that you learn to be proactive at all times. That way you showcase a real, positive and progressive personality.

VERBAL HARASSMENTS IN THE BIBLE

We shall now take some Biblical examples of verbal harassment vis-a-vis the equivalents of such attacks on today's believers.

NEHEMIAH

The story of Nehemiah (who later became a governor after the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem) and what he went through in the course of carrying out God's mandate, serves as a good example of verbal harassment.

Nehemiah had a God-inspired burden to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and the house of the Lord that have fallen down. God gave him favour in the sight of King Artaxerxes who granted him the permission from duty and also made available to him all materials required for the project. But Tobias and Sanballat, some two harassment agents and enemies of progress became jealous and said a lot of ridiculous things about him and the project. It became so serious that, at a time, they threatened to attack him and the builders physically but his word of faith on that occasion can be bequeathed as a legacy of encouragement to whoever finds himself in a similar circumstance.

"And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses." (Nehemiah 4:14)

VERBAL HARASSMENT

If your sincere attempt to help bring progress to the work of God in your church is resisted or you are being ridiculed, attacked and despised in any other sphere of endeavour, the words of Nehemiah is not only a consolation but also a power gasoline that should propel you to charge on ahead to accomplish your given task. Like Nehemiah, simply tell yourself, "I will not budge; No matter the pressure".

Do you know that at a time a monk who was supposed to be an embodiment of truth and chastity was commissioned to mislead Nehemiah? He actually raised fake alarm requesting Nehemiah to hide in the church for an impending attack that never existed. Yet God strengthened him. And by some divine inspiration, he came to know that the message was a snare, designed to discourage and ridicule him. Hear how he both encouraged and motivated himself:

"And I said, Should such a man as I flee? And who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in. And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. Therefore was he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and that they might have matter for an evil report, that they might reproach me". (Nehemiah 6:11-13)

Drawing from this account, it is a fact that, vision, dreams and other spiritual messages can be used to mislead a believer. I have discovered that the devil has access to our dreams and