

“ORDER PRECEDES FAVOR!”

Isaiah 9:7 – Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.



As the year 2012 swiftly comes to an end, and I am standing at the cusp of the dawning of the year 2013, I am earnestly striving to put all areas of my life in order – spiritual, financial, emotional, physical and relational. (I Corinthians 14:40) says, “Let all things be done decently and in order.” Looking back over the past few years of my life, I have been faced with great opposition and unexpected and unwelcomed challenges. But I thank my God that I never lost my praise and my faith never waived. I’m still standing y’all! I’ve been in a famine way too long and now I’m ready to experience the overflow of God! How about you?

The word from the Lord that constantly resonated in my spirit this past year was “Order!” That word remained in my spirit the entire year of 2012. Did you know that the number 12 represents “government”? Merriam-Webster defines “government” as: the act or process of governing; specifically: authoritative direction or control. The year 2012 has been a great challenge to the people of God – morally, economically and spiritually. Senseless murders have swept through our nation. Tragedies have been common place in our neighboring states and countries. Terrorist attacks have been unstoppable. Great spiritual leaders have succumb to the tricks of the enemy and found themselves immorally exposed to the world! Churches have suffered greatly by the lack of finances because of the economic restraints we are experiencing as a nation. Church membership has dwindled down to the faithful remnants left from the exodus of those who were not rooted and grounded in the word. Church doors across this country are closing and local church buildings are going into foreclosure because of a great turning away from God and His church! With that being said, the year 2012 ought to have been a year for some structure, some rules and regulations, some boundaries and some spiritual disciplines to be established in the lives of the people of God! (II Chronicles 7:14) says, “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” I am believing God with you on today, that as the year 2012 comes to an end, that we enter into the year 2013 with order and purpose and that we will find ourselves in the right position to receive and experience the Favor of God (F.O.G.) over our lives.

Perhaps I spoke out of turn because everything in your life in the year 2012 was absolutely fine. Maybe your finances were on point. Maybe your boss liked you and you were spared during the layoff at your job. Maybe your children did everything you told them to do and your relationship with your spouse was the basis for a model marriage. But for me, the year 2012 was a year where there were times of lack, uncertainty, doubt, defeat, bitterness, anger, unforgiveness, stress, unrest and resentment. Hey, I’m just keeping it real! But through much prayer and faith in God, I can honestly say that I observed God doing a great shift in my life and those around me. I began to roll out of the bed early in the morning, while everyone else was still asleep. I slipped away and sought the face of the Lord through scripture and prayer. Can I share my testimony? God has answered my prayer. He has shown favor in my situation and He has come through in such a great and powerful and unimaginable way! I have come to the realization that Order must precede the Favor of God! Listen, He can not and will not bless your mess. Do you want Favor over your life? Then put some order in your life!

I encourage you today. (Matthew 6:33) says, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Put Him first in your life, your relationships, your finances, and your spirituality and watch Him fill the void in your life. Experience His favor over your life. Receive His blessings in your life – pressed down, shaken together and running over. When you put God first, everything will fall into place! ... Order precedes Favor! May 2013 be filled with God’s choice blessings upon you. Happy New Year!

BBlessed!

ALB MINISTRY © 2013