

LET IT MARINATE

Antonwaun K. M. Johnson

KW
Kingdom Winds
Publishing

Copyright © 2019 by Antonwuan K.M. Johnson

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law. For permission requests, write to the publisher at publishing@kingdomwinds.com.

Unless otherwise noted Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version® NIV® Copyright © 1973 1978 1984 2011 by Biblica, Inc. TM Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Scripture quotations marked NLT are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Scriptures marked ESV are taken from the THE HOLY BIBLE, ENGLISH STANDARDVERSION (ESV): Scriptures taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION® Copyright© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission.

“Scripture taken from The Message. Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.”

First Edition, 2019.

ISBN 10: 1-64590-000-2

ISBN 13: 978-1-64590-000-9

Published by Kingdom Winds Publishing.

www.kingdomwinds.com

publishing@kingdomwinds.com

Printed in the United States of America.

The views expressed in this book are not necessarily those of the publisher.

FOREWORD

In the culinary industry, marinating meat prior to preparation versus after preparation is up for debate. Some believe that the process prior to preparation makes the meat more tender and adds flavor, while others feel that afterward allows the meat to remain soft and receive the marinade better. Regardless of before or after, the process of marinating is vital, as it allows the flavors to soak in and make an impactful difference.

The process of marinating over the Word of God is similar. When we take the time to read God's Word and allow it to marinate in our hearts and minds, it makes us more tender and adds to our lives. Joshua 1:8b () says that if we meditate on the Word day and night (in other words "Let it Marinate" in our hearts) and do what it says, we will be prosperous and have good success.

Over the years, I have been blessed with the opportunity to converse with Rev. Johnson, and he's always left me with something to marinate on. He has the uncanny ability to look into the meat of the Word and the situational side dishes of life to create a flavorful seasoning packet full of wisdom and encouragement, which has made an impactful difference in my life and the lives of others.

In these pages, you will find prepared seasonings for the many situations you may encounter in life. I dare you to open up these seasonings, sprinkle them on your heart, and let them marinate in your life daily. Allow them to soak in and watch what God prepares.

-Rev. Angela Robinson

DEDICATION

I am very proud to dedicate this book to the life and legacy of my grandmother Louise Johnson who was my rock, my supporter, my prayer warrior, my rose, my everything and to my heart that lives outside of my body, my son, Caiden Christopher.

I would further like to extend my gratitude to my family, my close friends, my spiritual father Bishop Gregory Fuller who unknowingly planted the seed for this book, the Macedonia Church of Augusta family, my ADP Augusta work family and Facebook friends as they have all contributed to my life as well as encouraged me to share the revelations given to me through the Holy Spirit. I would also like to thank Michael Merles Augusta Photography for my photo on the back cover as well as his amazing and abundantly blessed gift of photography.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the reader, for taking the time to read the words given to me by the Holy Spirit. I pray the words bless you as much as they blessed me. May God continue to bless you exceedingly abundantly above all you may ask or think according to His power that works in and through you!

ARE YOU WILLING FOR HIS GLORY?

Genesis 22:1-2, 11-14

This account of Abraham and his relationship with God is powerful, as it demonstrates Abraham's obedience to God's command and what he was willing to do for God's glory. We are placed in various situations or go through storms that will test our obedience. If you tell God, "For your glory, I will do anything," you better believe your words will be tested (let that marinate).

From the text, it appears that Abraham did not question God's command or hesitate to fulfill the order. How many times have we received a command and questioned it? How many times have we received a command and hesitated in our action to fulfill the command? Better yet, how many times have we received a command and didn't do what we were told *at all*? Our faithfulness should drive our obedience to fulfill *any* command spoken into our lives by God.

Abraham's action shows a strong respect or reverence for God. It also shows that Abraham believed if he sacrificed his son for God, God could resurrect his son as a result of his obedience and faith (testing the tester). Let me throw this in; if God asks you to sacrifice something or someone, then do it with faith in knowing that He can resurrect the very thing He is asking you to sacrifice.

Remember, Job was blessed with more in his latter days than his former. As some like to say, Job was blessed with double for his trouble! Now ponder on this. It's ironic that we see a father willing to sacrifice his son in the Old Testament and our Father sacrifice His Son in the New Testament. From this, I would say that God would not ask us to do something that He is not willing to do Himself (my God, let that marinate for real)!

The beauty of Abraham's willingness to be obedient and sacrifice his son was not only acknowledged by God, but provision was made for the sacrifice: a ram in the bush. Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son, so what are you willing to sacrifice at God's command? The willingness to be obedient may come with a lack of understanding as to why He has asked you to do something.

You may not understand why He asked you to turn in your resigna-

tion. You may not understand why He asked you to pay your tithes with the last little bit of money in your account. You may not understand why He allowed you to endure heartache and pain. You may not understand why He allowed things and people to be taken from you.

When it is for His glory, we will not comprehend it. When it is for His glory, we will not be comfortable. When it is for His glory, we have to trust Him regardless. Through the hurt and pain, trust Him! Through the losses, trust Him! Through the disappointments, trust Him! Through it all, trust Him!

When we are going through a storm, He will provide! When we are standing in need, He will provide! Obedience, however, is the key! When we are obedient to His command, He will provide! Deuteronomy 28:1-14 speaks of the blessings we can receive through our obedience to God's command. He will make you the head and not the tail through your obedience! He will put you above and not beneath through your obedience! He will make you a lender and not a borrower through your obedience! In order to receive the blessings He has for us, we have to follow Abraham's example and be obedient to Him. Obedience will always produce a ram in the bush!

For His glory, are you willing to do anything? Think about it, pray about it, and let it marinate!

IT WILL COME TO PASS

1 John 5:14-15

God wants to remind us that we should trust and believe in Him. Whatever we are going through *will* pass! Yes, you may be in the midst of a storm right now, but it *will* pass! Yes, you may be going through a hardship right now, but it *will* pass! Yes, your health may be under attack, but it *will* pass! Yes, you may be at a breaking point, but it *will* pass! Yes, you may be on the verge of losing your job, but it *will* pass! Yes, you may be dealing with an attack on your home, but it *will* pass! Yes, your family may be under attack, but it *will* pass. You've been in a wilderness situation for a long time, but it *will* pass!

God is not a God that will leave us when we need Him the most! God is not a God who will go back on His word! God will never fail you! Your momma can't do it! Your daddy can't do it! Your brothers or sisters can't do it! Big momma can't do it! Your friends can't do it! Dr. Phil can't do it! Oprah can't do it! Iyanla Vanzant can't do it! Buddha can't do it! Muhammad can't do it! Hennessy can't do it! Marijuana can't do it! But God *can* and *will* do exactly what He says He will do!

Stop and think about everything you went through before your current storm. He brought you through before, so He can bring you through what you are in right now. And if you are not in a storm at this present time, trust and believe that the promises He spoke in your life will come to pass!

Here is the key! You *have* to trust Him! I know you are experiencing pain and it hurts! I know you have been shedding tears and may not have any tears left to shed! But if you believe, you *have* to trust Him! Job said, "Though He slay me, yet I will trust in Him" (Job 13:15). Job made another powerful statement that I would contend is overlooked. He said, "If a man dies, shall he live *again*? All the days of my hard service I will wait, Till my change comes" (Job 14:14).

Through your storm, you *have* to wait on Him! Through your pain, you *have* to wait on Him! The Word says, "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord" (Ps. 27:14). You can't hurry God! You have to wait on Him! He wants you to wait on Him! Wait on God; it *will* come to pass!

Whatever you need, trust and believe in the Lord! It *will* come to pass!

Breakthrough? He's going to do it! Deliverance? He's going to do it! Healing? He's going to do it! Peace? He's going to do it! Promotion? He's going to do it! Increase? He's going to do it! Overflow? He's going to do it! God is right by your side! He said that He would never leave nor forsake us! He will see you through your situation! He will see you through your storm! Don't you give up but put your trust in the Lord! Don't bow down to your situation but bow down to God! Trust in the Lord! Believe in the Lord! Wait on the Lord! It *will* come to pass!!

Related Reading

Proverbs 3:5-6; Philippians 4:19

YOU CAN HANDLE IT!

Job 1:8-12

In the midst of my storm and wanting to give up, I questioned God about my storm. I asked God, "God, why would you allow me to go through what I am going through?" He said, "Because you can handle it!" I said, "God, really? Do you not see me now?" He said, "Yes, and I see you after the storm. I knew you would be where you are now, but I also know the outcome. I am the Author of your life, so I *know* your story. My son, you *can* and *will* handle this!"

My brothers and my sisters, I may not know the full extent of your circumstances, your situation, or your storm, but God wants you to know that you can handle it! As His Word says, He knew you before you were formed in your mother's womb (Jer. 1:5). As a matter of fact, He knew you before your mother and father decided to hook up! He knows every step that we will take in life. God allows us to use free will to decide the way we go, but even if we go the wrong way, He has written a way out! Since He knows everything about us, then we should be still and let God be God!

When God questioned Satan about Job, He had complete faith that Job would not turn away from Him. God "allowed" Satan to cause limited harm to Job. I say limited harm because Satan could not kill Job. This should give you a new perspective on the Scripture, "No weapon formed against you shall prosper" (Is. 54:17). The weapon attacking you has limited power and needs God's permission to attack you (let that marinate)!

Job withstood Satan's attack. I love the statement Job made to God, "I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose *of Yours* can be withheld from You" (Job 42:2). Job was blessed with more in the end than he had before Satan attacked him. I believe that if we are steadfast and immovable, God will bless us with more *after* the storm than we had *before* the storm because we remained faithful *through* the storm!

With all of that being said, I got this! You got this! We got this! Keep pushing! Keep pressing! Don't give up! Don't give in! Be encouraged! You *can* handle it!

Related Reading

Psalm 46:10a; Jeremiah 1:5a

YOU ARE QUALIFIED

1 Samuel 17:31-37

One day, I was reading the account of David and Goliath from the perspective of: speak to bring your “giant” down. After I completed the thought, I was guided back to what took place before Goliath was defeated. David left his duties of watching the flock to join the army in battle with the Philistines. If you notice, David was ready to fight, but Saul tried to disqualify him by saying that he was not able to fight because he was a youth and Goliath was a man.

Now, keep in mind that Saul was the king, and they (he and David) were on the same side or team. It is amazing how the ones who may try to disqualify you from doing something are the people who are in your corner (really let that marinate). I like to believe that they try to disqualify you from doing something because they have disqualified themselves from doing the very thing that you are courageous enough to do (help me, Holy Spirit. Let that marinate, too).

Here is the good news! Man cannot disqualify what God has already qualified. David’s response to Saul explained why he was qualified to fight the Philistine. Man will try to disqualify you for not knowing the prerequisites you have completed that qualify you to do what God wants you to do. Don’t forget, Saul was the current king, and David was the future, anointed king (read 1 Samuel 16:1-13). The future king brought down the “giant” of the current king; word to you, you may be qualified to take down the generational “giants” of those before you so those after you will not have to face them!

Again, man cannot disqualify what God has already qualified. You don’t have to argue, defend, or debate someone when they say you are not qualified. They don’t know the pre-work or basic training you have completed that qualifies you for your assignment. “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” (Eph 3:20). You are able because *He* is able, and because *He* is able, *you are qualified!!*

KEEP P.U.S.H.I.N.G

So you have been praying and feel that your prayers have gone unheard. You have been praying, but you haven't seen any actions as a result of your prayer. You are getting discouraged because you think God is not listening to you. Well, let me encourage you by saying God hears you! Our timing is not God's timing. When we want things to happen may not be God's time for them to happen! Don't think that just because you don't see any change in your situation that God is not listening. Check this out:

Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard" and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come" (Daniel 10:12-14).

See, Daniel was praying and fasting for *three weeks* (according to the Scripture); hence we have the phrase we use commonly today: "Daniel Fast." In Daniel's case, it wasn't that God didn't hear him; the delay was due to Gabriel being held up in battle (spiritual) and then receiving help from Michael (SN: God will *always* send help when you need it). Gabriel had to fight his way to get to Daniel to deliver the message.

Let me share something with you; you are *so* important that the Kingdom of Light and Kingdom of Darkness are fighting over you! In fighting over you, Satan will send out agents to stop you from receiving a word or blessing. But we all know that Satan can't win! We serve a *great* and *mighty* God! The battle is not ours but the Lord's, and because it is His battle, victory is ours!

Be encouraged! Stay focused! Keep praying as you wait on the Lord. He hears you and *will* answer you! A delay is not a denial! "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy will come in the morning (Psalm 30:5). Hold on for your morning and experience the joy of God!! Keep **Praying Until Something Happens!**

YOUR BETTER DAYS ARE ON THE WAY

Psalm 30:5

From one survivor to another (yes, you *are* a survivor), *today* is the start of your better days! You are coming out of the storm! You are coming out of the rain! You are coming out of the sadness! You are coming out of the pain! *Today* is the start of your better days! Even though you may be standing in the midst of a storm, you are coming out of the storm! Even though the clouds hang over, the “Son” is piercing through and shining upon you; you are coming out of the rain!

Your strength will be renewed! Your peace will be restored! Your faith will be stronger than before! You will say bye-bye to fear and hello to joy! Your cup will overflow with new blessings! The things that bothered you before will *not* bother you anymore! The people that bothered you before will *not* bother you anymore! No more stressing! No more sleepless nights! No more heartaches! Your better days are on the way!

Yes, you have been in the storm for a long time, but guess what? You are *still* here!! The storm did not take you out! You didn't think you would make it, *but God!* God kept you even when you didn't want to be kept! God held on to you when you wanted to let go of Him! And through the grace of God, your better days are on the way! The storm lasts for a little while, but the joy of God lasts *forever!*

“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning! “ You've been through the fire, and you've been through the storm. You are a survivor! You didn't believe you would make it, but you did! The storm tossed you around, but it did not sink you! The pressure of your situation caused you to bend, but it did not break you! You were hard-pressed on every side but not crushed! You were struck down but not destroyed (2 Cor. 4:8).

The water was above your head, but you did not drown! You have been steadfast with immovable trust in God, and this is a reminder that your labor was and is not in vain! Today is the start of your better days, so speak it into the atmosphere, believe it, and rejoice in the Lord. You've passed the test, so your blessing is on the way: your better days!

Can you feel it coming? Can you see it coming? Walk into it! Step out

to receive it! Open your mouth and speak it into the atmosphere! You got a new anointing! You got a new praise! You got a new mind! You got a new start! It is your time! It is your season! Hold your head up high and praise God because your better days are here!

Related Reading

1 Corinthians 15:58; Galatians 6:9