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## VISION PRAYER NIGHT EXCERPTS

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APRIL 24/25 2019

In the army there are many factors that grant victory in war; one of the factors is called **MORALE**. There is the morale of the army, the way the soldiers behave, ... the way they feel. There is the morale of the army. If the morale is low, there will be many defeats; there will be many losses.

When God gives us a vision, the accomplishment of the vision requires a certain morale. The vision is to be confronted also by morale. In order to succeed in the vision, you must create a morale. Courage, morale, faith, assurance are actually interrelated—They come from a relationship with God.

*I want us to pray that our leaders will have the right morale in laboring for the accomplishment of our vision.*

A shattered morale can't go far and many people lack the morale of a soldier; and more and more as I look at the leaders, I see that many lack the required morale for the vision. Either things are too big and they have just given up or things are moving so fast that they are just drifting towards the periphery. There is a certain morale required.

When the leader has the right morale the troops perform very, very excellently. I used to wonder in the olden days when I was watching *Lord of the Rings* – There is a commander there, they were to face the army of Lord Xoron and then this king stood in front of the troop and told them, a day may come when darkness shall overcome all light and silence all goodness – that day is not today. A day may come when evil rule the world but that day is not today, Today we fight ...

Why do they talk like that to these troops? – For morale.

**One of the jobs of leadership is to create morale.** If you are a leader who complains, leave the people ... The day may come when evil will be up and down the land unchallenged but that day is not today ...

Hallelujah!

Are you a leader? Then one of your job is creating morale, but if you are like that man who when the armed robber enters their house turns to ask his wife, “*Hey, hey, darling what shall we do?*” When the leader is asking the person he promised to protect, “*Darling what shall we do.*” When the armed robber goes, change the trousers, hand over the dress to him.

Leadership creates morale because if the morale is high, performance is high; if the morale is low, performance is insignificant. One of the jobs of a leader is the creating of morale, the morale of the church. The morale of the work.

There are some leaders who have the capacity to create morale. One of the strength of brother Bello is the power to create morale; he gathers his people, they dress in suit and have a day of party with their wives and then after that, he sends them to preach the gospel ... a little party and then results.

When brother Sama started with Goshen, he gathers the brethren every Tuesday and they fellowship, eat 'beignets'... it gingers them a little ... Beignets and 60 chiefs are saved.

There are some leaders who make as if it is right for people to follow them and they make demands and they don't care about producing motivations.

There is a morale that must accompany the vision—A victorious morale and I want us to pray that our leaders will carry themselves and create a victorious morale.

Complaining leaders, leaders who talk about their problems ...

Take C.T. Studd for example, when they landed in the Congo and they slept by the Lake Victoria and he wrote back home: *"God has brought us at last to the land of our mission and a great choir welcomed us; the crocodile sang the bass and the mosquitoes sang treble." We had a wonderful gala throughout the night because the crocodile were singing ...*

What a way of describing coming to the mission field! Has he lied? But when the people read, they will know the facts and it would also give them a sense of adventure. Another person would have said, "Eh, this country is the land of malaria; so many mosquitoes bit us last night and we did not bring many anti-malaria. Oh pray for is that the Lord may kill all the mosquitoes." When you send such a report, you have closed the door to other missionaries from coming.

I told the brethren that when General Gordon was leading the challenge against Sudan, in one of his reports he wrote, *"Ahead of me are my battalion, advancing; the calvary is charging from the right flank, our supply line behind have been cut off.. we are isolated- solution report – Excellent!"* And he says, *"it was for such a reason that I am a general ..."* Only in impossible situation that you know the difference between a colonel and a general.

Morale! Situation report, excellent! It gives me a chance to be a general and he won the battle and died. For five days he writes, I've eaten nothing and I've not slept, I sipped a little coffee, all my senses are alive - situation report, excellent!

Morale, we need leaders of morale. We need leaders with high morale...

I read about the American civil war when the **Union Army (Federals – North America)** were fighting against the **Confederate Army of the South**. The General of the Southern Army, Samuel Lee, watched Abraham Lincoln appoint several generals – about one of them Lee told his army, "You people take a holiday," he told them, "He does not fight, he likes calculating – He will sit in his office calculating troop movement, logistics ... he does not fight ..." He told them, "He was my teacher in military logistics ... I will keep him busy." He selected 500 soldiers and he told them to be moving around a certain bush ... when they come and pass, he will tell them wait for 5 minutes and march again ... He will tell them wait a little, go again ... He did not know that General Lee had sent all the superior leaders on holiday.

There are some people who are always looking for problem, planning problems, when you have such a person, go on holiday. Give him time to calculate ...

After, Abraham Lincoln got frustrated with this general and he sacked him. In one year, President Lincoln sacked five generals. Finally, he appointed Ulysses Grant as the chief of Army Staff. When General Lee heard, he told his soldiers, I don't know what luck made old Abbey to finally find a man. And he called all his generals and he told them – Abraham Lincoln has landed on a man. He said, "Ulysses Grant does whatever he sets his mind to do." He says, "You see him standing under a tree smoking like a chain smoker. Don't be deceived, he thinks slowly and he moves slowly, but you will die." So he told them, "Fight because Grant never returns with an excuse, he never withdraws. He will go back to Lincoln with your head."

*Ulysses Grant will move earth and heaven to get things done, he never comes back with excuse.*

Do you know what happened? Ulysses Grant smoke under the tree, and when they fought Samuel failed. But Ulysses Grant told Samuel Lee, “My general, you taught me war, I cannot humiliate you, send me your sword. I will accept, I don’t disgrace my commander. I have won but you are my commander.” **Morale!**

When somebody finds you and appoints you, what does he have? – A bunch of excuses, poor results?

Let us pray that the leaders of our ministry will maintain the high morale that will accomplish our vision.

Pray that God will give us leaders who create high morale that will accomplish the vision.

After Alexander the Great crossed the Hellespont, he was to face the Army of the Great Darius of Persia the next day; so Darius sent some people to Alexander the Great’s camp and he told the soldiers, “Go and see what kind of people these men are.” When they got there, it was early morning – that day, Alexander the Great had commanded all the soldiers to shave, so the Persians met the Greeks shaving. On a day of battle, when blood will flow and men think about death, they were shaving their face. Darius told them – “You have met the formidable people who can take care of their face on the day of battle, they don’t intend to lose their lives. If a man can take care of his face on the day of battle, you have already died.” Those who plan to win the war, they shave on the day of battle.

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Who here is a chronic complainer? A brother called me once in Lagos and told me that, “Children were playing, and even when children are playing, my own child is the smallest.” I told the brother, “Look at you, you are short and small; your wife is short and small. If that child was big, will you not ask yourself where that child came from?” – A low morale ...

We used to sing this song in the Presbyterian church

*Through the love of Christ our saviour All will be well.*

All will be well!

All must be well!

All is well!

**Morale!**

All will be well!

All must be well!

All is well!

When your wife says she is having a pain on her breast, lay your hands on her and tell her all is well; instead of telling her, “I hope this is not cancer...”

All will be well!

All must be well!

All is well!

Success follows morale. It is a chain.

Success follows morale. It is a chain.