

**PATHWAY TO FINANCIAL DOMINION:
INSIGHTS ON THE RECOVERY OF THE AFRICAN IDENTITY FROM GROSS POVERTY BY THE
APPLICATION OF COMMON SENSE**

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ABSTRACT

The guiding principle in this entry is to diffuse all the illusiveness of the blame game - blaming government for lack of performance, blaming of parents, or any other folk that we think has caused us our misfortune; and to rise up to taking responsibility of both our individual lives and as well our collective destiny as being connected to one another, knowing that the poverty of one is also the poverty of all, and that it is only when a majority of us is said to be prosperous can we be said to have prospered indeed. Also, it is in the mission of this book to let you know that you can still make it big, no matter where you may find yourself down the ladder that you can still get to the top by beginning to do something meaningful with your life today under God and with determination, focus, diligence, and the fear of God.

*This work precipitates from the vision God showed me in my encounter with Him in the spirit. He brought me to a burial ground, and behold, I saw many young folks crying from their graves in agony, despair and in displeasure – recounting their ordeals in life’s experiences due from lack of opportunities and financial incapacitation. And God said to me: “Go and give hope to my young friends that are yet alive by the power of information and concerted awakening in prayers and entrepreneurship and by doing these men and women will begin to find hope amidst the gloom, while they yet have breath”. And second, I was inspired to write after reading the book of Pastor Sunday Adelaja, titled: *Money Won’t Make You Rich*. Please, listen, read, meditate and apply these principles to your life which is a product of divine writ, empirical inclination and concerted studies and research, having the Bible as the basis of the principal formulation.*

Again, you have to understand that as long as this physical world is concerned, you will be termed as an in-genuine if you don’t have money. Money will be required to pay your hospital bills at birth, provide milk for you as a child, pay you through your career development, and pursue your purpose in life; you will need money to set up a family, guarantee good education for your children and wards, you need money to live in the

society/community, money will be required if you must fulfill your purpose on earth, and money will be required to lead you home honorably in organizing a good burial for you at the end of your short stay here on earth. Jesus was born in a manger but made His grave with the rich – He was buried on marbled and golden tomb. He commanded the followership of both the powerful and influential by goodwill which in turn translated to paying his itinerary bills, and as well run His errands (Luke 8:1-2). He had a purse that was manned by Judas as the treasurer.

You too cannot afford to ignore money or else money will ignore you, and you will live your life in squalor and hopelessness, disgrace and shame; which is not your portion in Christ.

Money is a veritable commodity which will deliver to your doorsteps-limitless possibilities. Money is a derivative of God (Deut. 8:18, James 1:17), and there is no harm in getting money no matter the quantity and currency involved, and that is God's will, and covenant with you to be above only in wealth.

INTRODUCTION

The African continent is a diverse and culturally rich land with immense potential for growth and prosperity. However, it has faced numerous challenges over the years, including poverty, economic instability, and a loss of identity. In order to achieve true financial dominion and overcome these obstacles, it is crucial to understand and address the root causes of poverty while reclaiming and redefining the African identity.

Historically, Africa has been exploited and marginalized, leading to a cycle of poverty that has hindered its progress. Colonialism, slavery, and neocolonial practices have had a lasting impact on the continent's economic development. These external forces, coupled with internal factors such as corruption, political instability, and inadequate infrastructure, have contributed to the widespread poverty experienced by many African nations.

To achieve financial dominion, African countries must prioritize economic empowerment and sustainable development. This involves focusing on key areas such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, and agriculture. By investing in quality education, African

nations can equip their citizens with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in the modern global economy. Improved healthcare systems will ensure a healthy and productive workforce, while infrastructure development will enhance connectivity and facilitate trade.

Furthermore, Africa is blessed with abundant natural resources, including minerals, arable land, and a diverse range of wildlife. Leveraging these resources sustainably and responsibly can provide a solid foundation for economic growth. By investing in modern agricultural practices, African countries can boost productivity, reduce food insecurity, and create opportunities for rural communities.

Reclaiming the African identity is equally important in the journey towards financial dominion. The continent is home to a rich tapestry of cultures, traditions, and histories that should be celebrated and preserved. Embracing and promoting African art, music, literature, and fashion can help redefine the continent's image globally and foster a sense of pride among its people. Cultural tourism can also be an avenue for economic growth, attracting visitors from around the world to experience Africa's unique heritage.

Moreover, fostering regional integration and cooperation is crucial. African nations should work together to create a conducive environment for trade, investment, and innovation. By breaking down barriers and promoting intra-African trade, countries can tap into the vast potential of a unified market, thereby bolstering economic growth and reducing dependence on external forces.

In conclusion, achieving financial dominion and recovering the African identity from gross poverty requires a multifaceted approach. It demands addressing the root causes of poverty, investing in key sectors, leveraging natural resources sustainably, reclaiming

cultural heritage, and fostering regional cooperation. By implementing these strategies, African nations can pave the pathway towards a prosperous and empowered future, where poverty is eradicated, and the African identity flourishes.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Africa and its forceful integration into Third World Status: An Overview

The term *third world* was introduced by a French economist during a meeting of the G–5 nations (France, Germany, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States) many years ago in an attempt to describe the different categories of economic situations, suggesting that there were three worlds on the planet:

The *first world* is known as the old world of Europe, built on the agricultural society and governed by the systems of feudal lords and kings.

The *second world* is known as the new world, associated with the discovery and settlement throughout the Americas, both north and south during the industrial revolution, which laid the foundation for automation of both goods and services alike.

On its part the *Third world* (with which we are associated), describes the billions of people in territories that become the victims of oppression through subjugation slavery and colonization who were raped of self-identity, self-dignity, self-worth, and sense of well-being.

Thus, the general definition of third world nations refers to people who were not allowed to participate or benefit from the industrial revolution, despite the fact that the sweat and blood of these people became the human slab and wheel on which the foundation of the industrial revolution was laid.

More intensely, this oppression is seen throughout the African continent where religious bigotry, slavery, and colonialism and all of its weights of economic exploitations, racial discriminations, and social inequalities; was allowed to flourish. Though have attained

independence, but consequently, we were raped of our human dignity, cultural consciousness, corporate correctness (where we still depend on Western validations in so many issues plaguing), we were raped of natural/human resources and wealth spanning across many centuries of hopelessness and are left without the tools, histories, skills and machineries necessary to compete in this highly industrialized and technically driven world of the twenty-first century. To make things worse, we were left in a more sickening situation of neo-colonialism – a systemic structure that ends to circumvent our industrial, economic and political construct for the sole beneficiaries of Western-Overlords. Like the case in Nigeria where all our economical, industrial and political strides as a nation has been manipulated by Great Britain, USA and China to still serve their age-long interest of exploiting Africa.

According to Walter Rodney in his *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, Africa was fully developed before the coming of the Europeans –up to the 15th Century; “before even the British came into relations with our people, we were a developed people, having our own institutions and having our own ideas of government.” It has been shown that using comparative standards, Africa today is underdeveloped in relation to Western Europe and a few other countries around Asia (China, South Korea, Singapore, India, and etc.); and that the present position has been arrived at, not by the separate evolution of Africa on the one hand and Europe on the other hand, but exploitation. As is well known, Africa has had prolonged and extensive contact with Europe, and one has to bear in mind that contact between different societies changes their respective rates of development, most appropriately when one side is weak. To set the record straight, four operations are required:

- (a) Reconstruction of the nature of development in Africa before the coming of Europeans.

- (b)(b) Reconstruction of the development which took place in Europe before expansion abroad.
- (c) Analysis of Africa's contribution to Europe's present 'developed' state.
- (d) Analysis of Europe's contribution to Africa's present 'underdeveloped state'.

The struggle for freedom for the African continent has been for the sum an exercise in frustration, disillusionment and confusion as best seen in the drama of political instability, economic disaster, corporate/individual fraud, social turmoil, cultural confusion, communal antagonism and spiritual conflicts.

The aftermath of these waves of oppression that blew over Africa in the industrial revolution era in the vicious hatred and disdain of the African people by the European overlords and imperialists (Great Britain, France, Portugal, Italy and currently China, and etc.), is now symptomatic of-identity crisis, work ethic deficiency, lack of purpose, vision and self- confidence.

Therefore, in Africa today we find the struggle of independent nations to find their place in global scene of economic opportunity, progress, social advancement and cultural identity to be all a struggle in futility. All these are the scars of the oppression done to Africa in the industrial revolution era. The question is why the struggle for freedom and progress in all of these nations that were formerly oppressed and colonized ended in the present cloud of despair? Why did it seem so easy for these nations to obtain deliverance from imperial colonial oppression and to achieve political independence, but not to experience the freedom they anticipated? The answer lies in the very nature of oppression/freedom, both for the individual, institution, organization, and for the nation. Thus, there is a dire need of leadership, because leadership is freedom, because no one is free except all is free; it is a collective responsibility-telling ourselves the truth.

The dynamics of oppression in the context of African history and self-determination are complex and multifaceted. Throughout history, Africans have faced various forms of oppression, including colonization, slavery, imperialism, and neocolonialism. These

oppressive systems have had a profound impact on the continent's struggle for self-determination and have shaped its history in significant ways.

Colonialism, which began in the late 19th century and lasted well into the 20th century, played a central role in Africa's experience of oppression. European powers, such as Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, and Portugal, carved up the continent and established colonial administrations. The primary motivations behind colonialism were economic exploitation and the extraction of Africa's natural resources, leading to the dispossession of land and the exploitation of African labor.

Under colonial rule, Africans were subjected to various forms of oppression, including forced labor, cultural assimilation, and political subjugation. Indigenous systems of governance, culture, and social structures were disrupted and replaced with European institutions and values. Africans were relegated to the status of second-class citizens in their own lands, and their agency and self-determination were severely curtailed.

Oppression also manifested through the transatlantic slave trade, which forcibly transported millions of Africans across the Atlantic Ocean as slaves to the Americas and Europe. This brutal system of chattel slavery not only resulted in the physical and psychological suffering of millions but also disrupted African societies and economies. The slave trade severely weakened African states, as entire communities were devastated by the loss of their most valuable human resources.

The struggle for self-determination in Africa gained momentum in the mid-20th century as nationalist movements and leaders emerged across the continent. These movements sought to challenge and dismantle colonial rule, demanding independence and self-governance. Prominent figures like Kwame Nkrumah in Ghana, Jomo Kenyatta in Kenya, and Julius Nyerere in Tanzania led their countries to independence and played crucial roles in shaping Africa's post-colonial trajectory.

However, the legacy of oppression continued to exert its influence even after independence. Neocolonialism, characterized by economic and political domination by former colonial powers and other global powers, persisted in various forms. African nations faced challenges such as economic exploitation, unequal trade relations, interference in domestic affairs, and the propping up of dictatorial regimes.

Overcoming the dynamics of oppression and achieving genuine self-determination has been an ongoing struggle for many African nations. The challenges are complex and interrelated, encompassing economic, political, social, and cultural dimensions. African nations have sought to address these challenges through regional integration, Pan-Africanism, the promotion of democracy and good governance, economic diversification, and the empowerment of marginalized groups.

It is important to recognize that Africa's history of oppression and the struggle for self-determination is not a monolithic narrative. The continent is incredibly diverse, with a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, and histories. The dynamics of oppression and the paths to self-determination have varied across different regions and countries, influenced by factors such as geographical location, colonial legacy, and the specific historical context of each nation.

In recent decades, there has been progress in terms of democratization, economic growth, and regional cooperation in Africa. However, the continent still faces numerous challenges, including poverty, inequality, armed conflicts, and the persistence of neocolonial influences. Achieving genuine self-determination requires continued efforts to address.

What is Oppression?

Oppression in its true nature has associated synonyms that make it what it is: it implies to

press, to distress, to afflict, to crush, to force, to hold fast, and to thrust:

Classically it means the following:

- It can be defined as the imposition of external domination on another person to the point of controlling their physical, mental and spiritual aspirations.
- Oppression is the cancellation of self-determination and the suffocation of personal identity/potential.
 - a. It is the discovery of truth about you.
 - b. Freedom is self- imposed discipline.
 - c. Freedom is taking responsibility for your life
 - d. It is designing your own destiny, and deciding your own consequences.
 - e. It is telling yourself the dare truth about yourself

From the forgoing, we can see that oppression is external in nature which is the outcome of the proximities of an adversary. While freedom is an internal thing- which is telling one-self the truth and taking full responsibility. It is the truth that we tell ourselves that can set us free. We must not sit down and accept a sub-human standard of life as our due lot, no! God did not intend that man be down trodden, but that he should rise and take his rightful place in the scene of life.

The era of industrial revolution eluded us and we can see how it went and where it landed us – simply because we were not allowed to participate. Restoration is possible for us. I mean total restoration. We need vision – fore/spiritual sight, and knowledge – relevant data; and all these are being provided today by the fresh pouring of the Holy Ghost on the realization of a conscious living; and as well the entrepreneurial gestures through the aid of the internet and the wide spread of computer literacy. Thus, the needed change can begin with just having a functional e-mail address and designing a feasible business plan.

The Industrial Revolution period has come and gone, we were not allowed to participate in the process, and thus we were denied of all of its profits that ensued. Thanks to our fathers who had fought to liberate us from oppression –external domination; and we are having another chance to participate in this new era–the era of **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**. Restoration is possible for us. I mean total restoration. We need vision –foresight, and knowledge–relevant data; and all these are being provided today by the fresh waves of technological boom, giving everyone (oppressed or free) a common plying ground on the realization of a conscious living; and as well the entrepreneurial gestures through the aid of the internet and the wide spread of computer literacy. Thus, the needed change can begin with just having a functional e-mail address, and designing a feasible business plan.

The answer is personal development which implies increased skills and capacity, creativity, self-discipline, responsibility and mental well-being, and lightly on spiritual soundness.

Haven established the historical background of our dilemma as Africans, and the dare need to switch onto the new era-the era of information and communication technology (ICT)-having the capability to aspire, explore, acquire and apply relevant knowledge/experience to harnessing the frontiers of one’s chosen career or business will definitely put one back to his rightful place, either as a nation or as an individual.

For instance, India was one of those nations that equally suffered from the terrible blight of colonialism, and was then also labeled as ‘Third World Nation’; but this nation gradually and consistently worked her way out of this third world syndrome through purposeful investment into ICT. Today, India ranks number one in ICT In the world. The matter can be said to be a double dilemma in Nigeria-where we can all feel in a greater measure the poverty burden - on the streets and the high level of dependency. A deepening crisis which receives little attention is the breakdown of the social ladder, values, and networks

traditionally used in our society to climb out of poverty. Poverty is consequently becoming an inheritance - a dynasty - whereby the children of the poor will in all likelihood, end up poor. Increasingly, the rich won't be able to sleep because the hungry and angry poor are awake!

Nothing empowers like knowledge, either as acquired or as revealed.

The importance of information cannot be over-emphasized; it is result orienting. Coming to think about it, the tide is changing, nature is paying Europe back for raping Africa in the industrial age; their economies are collapsing, all the institutions they built on African blood through unjust means-crying over the years is now yielding fruits of justice.

It now behooves Africa to unite, and raise the stakes high because their recovery is in Africa. We will now move on to the second issue on the outline Knowing the way forward from obscurity onto significance in order to reclaim our lost glory and identify. I mean mastering money, breaking from the yoke of survival syndrome (poverty), to finding your financial freedom.

Basic Facts about Money

Money is a medium of exchange that is widely accepted for transactions of goods and services, as well as for the repayment of debts. It serves as a unit of account, a store of value, and a standard of deferred payment. Here are some basic facts about money:

1. **Forms of Money:** Money can exist in various forms, including physical coins and banknotes (referred to as "cash" or "currency"), as well as digital representations like bank account balances and electronic payment systems.

2. **Currency:** Each country typically has its own currency, such as the United States dollar, Euro, Japanese yen, or British pound. These currencies are issued and regulated by central

banks or monetary authorities.

3. Denominations: Physical currencies are divided into different denominations, representing different values. For example, the U.S. dollar has denominations such as \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, and so on.

4. Fiat Money: Most modern currencies are known as fiat money. This means that their value is not backed by a physical commodity like gold or silver but is based on the trust and confidence of the people using it. The government declares fiat money to be legal tender, meaning it must be accepted as a form of payment.

5. Central Banks: Central banks, such as the Federal Reserve in the United States or the European Central Bank in the Euro zone, are responsible for regulating the money supply, managing interest rates, and maintaining the stability of the financial system.

6. Electronic Money: With the advent of digital technologies, electronic money has become increasingly prevalent. It includes transactions conducted through online banking, mobile payment apps, crypto currencies like Bitcoin, and other digital payment systems.

7. Inflation: The general increase in prices over time is known as inflation. Inflation reduces the purchasing power of money, meaning that the same amount of money can buy fewer goods and services in the future.

8. Counterfeiting: Counterfeiting refers to the illegal production and distribution of fake currency. Governments incorporate various security features into banknotes and coins to prevent counterfeiting, such as watermarks, holograms, special inks, and unique patterns.

9. International Exchange Rates: When dealing with different currencies, exchange rates come into play. Exchange rates determine the value of one currency relative to another and fluctuate based on factors such as economic conditions, interest rates, supply and demand, and geopolitical events.

10. Financial Instruments: Money can be utilized through various financial instruments, including bank accounts, credit cards, loans, bonds, stocks, and investment vehicles. These instruments enable individuals and businesses to manage, invest, borrow, and make use of their money in different ways.

It's important to note that the specifics of money can vary between countries and economic systems, and there are ongoing developments and trends in the world of finance and monetary systems.

1. There is a wide range of difference between cash (currency or legal tender), and money (a man's worth in relationship to his financial status on a broader scale). Cash is the economic capacity of a man per time in direct proportion to his wants and needs. While money is the total sum of a man's worth in direct proportion to his spiritual, physical, biological, social, economic status in a process of time or in the long run. And this is what God gives-money and not cash, you have to earn your own cash by work. You cannot be said to be wealthy, and be sick, or be spiritual or morally bankrupt, because these are the basic areas where a man's true worth is valued and revalued in a broader spectrum.

2. What we all need in life are the very things which both cash or money can buy, and we must understand that what God promised us in scriptures, and what he severally did in history is making the provisions available at our disposal-the very things which we needed cash/money to purchase or to acquire. Thus cash is earned by individual efforts-in obeying

the natural law of work; it is no respecter of persons (color, race, height, sex), whether a Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Christian, or whether you believe in God or not, 'born again' or 'unbelievers', if you solve a problem, create a utility, render a service and etc., you will definitely have a corresponding reward meted back to you either as cash or money-which implies an increase in your earning capacity. There are no sentiments about this.

3. Understand that from the very beginning of creation God created mankind to be a wealthy man, a man of substance-by putting everything under his charge, and as well making sure of the availability of every good thing he will need in an abundant measure – surpassing expectations:

As we can vividly see here that God dealt bountifully with man from the very beginning of time, He made man in His own likeness, made everything available that man will ever need and brought them at man's disposal, and as well made man the manager and director over all His creatures-these is all beyond what mind can ever comprehend. And thus the dissatisfaction that is today seen around the world is not the primary designs of God, but rather they are the consequent manifestations of man's foolish and fatal choices in the wicked usage of his free will:

And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Gen. 2:16, 17, NIV).

Everything went the contrary and became bizarre as soon as man violated God's rule, and it has never been the same again. However, God did not leave man in a helpless state; He provided a ransom guaranteeing the possibilities of making a comeback onto his glorified life in the person of Christ, with whom, mankind can live again as it were in Eden then; even much more.

2.2 What is money?

- a. Money is a by-product of the process of production of goods and services
- b. Money is the compensation or reward for engaging the forces of life for man's benefits
- c. Money is a tool that guarantees the experience and manifestation of the expectations, desires, and preferences of man in his mortal experience
- d. Money is the physical conversion of a man's success or achievements in life (Jesus was born in a manger, but was buried in a golden tomb).
- e. Money is the recognized medium of exchange of value for value received
- f. Money is the recognized medium through which equity and honor are expressed between man and man.
- g. Money is the total worth of a man in the long run, proportional to his wants and needs.

Tragic Effects of Poverty

- Poverty denies you claim of your inheritance
- Poverty defeats the gift and purpose for life
- Poverty denounces and deforms the wisdom and knowledge which you Claim to possess:
- Poverty disrobes you of your human worth and dignity
- Poverty enslaves you: by implication, no matter who you claim to be, if you are poor, everything and everybody will lord over you-directly or indirectly.
- The blessedness of the poor attracts pity and indignation: the best of admiration accorded to the poor man is to pity him; and in other times he is treated with disgust.
- Poverty makes destruction and death imminent to any man: poverty is synonymous with death as both parties share common boundaries, and each can cross-over to

either side of the lake. We have seen common malaria sending a vibrant life to its early grave due to lack of accessibility of medical care occasioned by lack of funds, or pregnant mother under labor struggles to death, when she was supposed to have earlier-on get relieved by surgery, but lack of funds constrains her to the point of death. And we have seen innocent people rot in jail due to poverty.

- Poverty repels friendship and brotherhood: the earlier one understands that you really do not have a relative or a true friend when you are poor, the better for you because you will be let alone to tackle this enigma ruthlessly.
- Poverty negates the possibilities of kingdom expansion: no matter the vision you have towards the kingdom or the godly vision you have to do, you will only do little or nothing big for God on this earth-world if you are poor; there is really nothing to do with the spreading of the gospel if you are poor. You can only become an embarrassment to all.
- Poverty denounces your sanctity, and questions his faith as a man: no matter how pious you tend to sound or look, if you are poor, it really does not mean much to anyone or to yourself.
- Poverty defames personality, and hands you over with left- over: that is how sad it is that in the game of life you really can't join in the competition; only when it is over, or everyone has taken.
- Poverty poisons people's dreams and makes them believe that they are incapable of fulfilling purpose by inducing on them a sense of mediocrity
- Poverty makes an indictment against God's covenant upon our lives: every poor believer lives in a state of constant contradiction of God's covenant of blessing bestowed upon His children:
- Poverty makes men voiceless: it does not really matter what gender, name, personality or status you claim to be, if you are poor, you can't take a stand on it.
- Poverty is the consequences of a rebellious and disobedient life:

God sets the solitary in families: He brings out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.” (Ps. 68:6).

- Poverty keeps you in a state of perpetual vulnerability to your captors: keeping you in perpetual slavery to them:
- Poverty denies you the capability of exercising your will power in the survival agenda of your life:
- Poverty makes you submit to a lesser principality and personality to you without an option:

Here we see how poverty and lack has turned Joseph’s vicious and voracious brethren to be referring to their father-Jacob (The Prince of Israel) as a servant unto Joseph.

- Poverty makes you give up your PEARLS for meals, you dispose your hard earned fortunes for food, and you even give up yourself just for the business of survival.
- When you are poor, you record no consequential impact to your adversaries; he counts you as an invalid person in his power calculus.

How to Break Loose From Poverty

a. Think abundance: Everything that is coming into your life is being attracted to you by virtue of the images you’re holding in your mind (thinking and reasoning). Whatever is going on in your mind you are attracting to you. Your thoughts determine your frequency, and your feelings tell you immediately what frequency you are on. When you feel poor, you are on the frequency of drawing poverty experiences. When you feel abundance, you are powerfully attracting plenty of money to you. “The law of attraction is really obedient. When you think on the things that you want and you focus on them with all your intention then the law of attraction will give you exactly what you want; the law of attraction does not hear you don’t want it. It automatically manifests the things that you are thinking of,

and so it's going to show up over and over again. The law of attraction is not biased to wants or don't want. When you focus on something, no matter what it happens to be, you really are calling that thing into existence by just your thoughts." (Rhonda Byrne-The Secret- The Power). "You can't be said to be solving a problem, and be thinking the way you thought when they were created." (Albert Einstein)

b. Place a premium value on your time, gifting, talents, trainings, energy/strength:

Discover your advantages by engaging all your forces to refine your ideas from its crude states into finished products. These are your acres of diamond, know and value what you have by giving your all to it; and never place it on the table of transaction without a comparative or proportional value for it:

c. Speak abundance: Make it your intention to look at everything you need and say to yourself, 'I can afford that. I can buy that'. Speak good things unreservedly about yourself; prophesy goodness to your own life, by claiming with your own mouth-all that God has promised you.

d. Live generously: be a giver, seek for opportunities to bless the lives of people around you with the little you have and see God multiply and replenish your life.

e. Be diligent in your business: Be in readiness to making meticulous, thoughtful, conscientious and careful efforts to render services, and to improve in your work-habitually on a daily basis.

f. Live joyfully and rejoice for the goodness of God upon your life and those around you: When you are joyful, you attract heavenly attention to yourself and what you celebrate, you increase in, and what you despise-you depreciate in:

g. Apply the principle of financial multiplication: Before you eat sow, before you spend invest.

h. Seek for financial freedom: You do not need a job security, you can be your own boss, take the risk, and think as an entrepreneur.

i. See and visualize abundance: See the things that you want as already yours. Know that

they will come to you at need. Then let them come. Don't fret and worry about them. Don't think about your lack of them. Think of them as yours, as belonging to you, as already in your possession.

j. Major on your strength: Invest yourself where you are most needed and celebrated, and let your expertise lead you into this.

k. Act on a prophetic instruction, or a revelation from God.

i. Ask God in prayers for a change and an upgrade.

The foundations of the earth belong to God, and He is the sole determinant of the rising and falling of men, and thus, He banquettes to every man in the abundance of His wisdom, kindness and mercy. He can make something good out of your misery if you can just trust Him, yield to Him and call upon Him your location is not really the matter, because he is a miraculous God who specializes in making things out of nothing, and making little men to be mighty from the dung hills:

Understand that abundance is for all: Believe that there's enough for everyone:

Many people think that abundance is not for all, that it is for just a selected few, and so due to their prevailing circumstances, they exclude themselves from the experience of it by resigning to a false moderation and a mediocre life. You must tell yourself-that abundance is for all and that you too will experience it against all odds; don't bother yourself so much on why a great number of people are in squalor and abject poverty, but get interested on any move under God that can move you from where you are now to that sublime pinnacle of rest in your finances:

Bless the servants of God, orphans, widows, and strangers and the less privileged around you

Most times we see these categories of people around us-the servants of God, specifically the struggling young ones who has no one to give to them, no farm, no physical jobs; the orphans and less privileged who are also looking up to heaven, and right there in your

hands are all they need, and you only wait until when they come crawling to your door steps, or when they are dead, you now make contribution to funeral-no, start today to budget for them, and heaven will increase your earning capacity.

Get involved into creative activities: Endeavour to deliberately get a job for yourself or be self- employed-at all cost under God.

Get financial education: Faith comes by hearing...and hearing, and by reading books on business and finance. Attend business/financial seminars, listen to experts, and brainstorm with entrepreneurs.

Have a creative/inventive idea:

Engage your subconscious mind into creative thinking to manufacture an idea that can solve a problem, create a utility, and bring answers to the questions that surround you or the people around you.

Others are:

- Be a kingdom promoter
- Search the scriptures for answers
- Expect favour from God
- Look out for needs around you and begin to fill them or solve the problems around you
- Grow restless and rebel against poverty with the last drop of your blood:
- Make a decisive plunge onto the unknown with a forthright demonstration of faith on your first cause
- Believe in God's miraculous capability for your life
- Be humble and have the fear of God

- Associate yourself with great men and run errands for them. Also find out what their needs are, and make an attempt to meeting them
- Declare a state of emergency over your destiny
- Ask God for counsel
- Be committed in your tithing and offerings.

RAISING CAPITAL FOR YOUR BUSINESS

a. **Have a business plan**

Start your capital search with a good business plan that shows investors and lenders your idea's potential. Follow that up with a thorough knowledge of the resources available and a determination to make your business a reality, and you would be on your way to uncovering limitless possibilities.

b. **Start saving from your current employment**

Your current employment can serve as a resource vehicle that can drive you into your own business, by you having a financial plan of some feasible years that enables you to start saving money for the business plan you have already drawn. Now you have a workable vision and you start saving purposefully by a modest lifestyle. If you meticulously continue in this plan, you will discover that you will really not need any credit from any one to kick start your business when you want to. Do not quit your current job until you are sure that you have it under your control. This will save you from some reckless disappointments and embarrassments.

c. **Start the business from home, or from a non-renting premises:**

You can start your business for much less money if you don't have to foot the bill for office space and utilities for an out-of-the home office. While you may not want to advertise the fact that you work from home, it has made it possible for you to launch your business idea in the first place without having to incur bogus costs on

double rents.

d. **Raise Capital Through the internet/international donors**

The internet still offers a mixed bag for the seeker of capital. Go through the search engines to find out and be in touch with donors locally and internationally. A lot of individuals and agencies are looking for credible and serious-minded people and agencies that they can push their excess or extra resources to as a way of enriching the nations. Among the sites, I like to recommend www.vfinance.com, which provides information on more than 200 venture-capital firms, as well as frequent news updates about the industry, and as well-www.partnersinternational.ca

e. **Get Advance commitments for work**

Line up one or two sources of business before you take the plunge. Former employers, if you left on good terms, are often a source of star-up work, or sometimes funding. Big companies that can send you their overflow work or small jobs that they don't want to do can also provide the initial stream of work and income.

f. **Borrow from family and friends**

Family and friends are a frequent source of funding for small business. Don't borrow from them unless you have a business plan and have done enough research to know there is a market for what you want to sell. Be sure your plans provide a way to also pay interest on the money borrowed from family and friends.

g. **Get a part time job**

There is no way a new business can consume your twenty-four hours of the day, there will be some free intervals that you could as well utilize into doing some errands for other people and you use the returns from there to supplement what you are getting in your own business. You will continue doing this until when you can vividly see that your own business outfit is fully enterprising to fully pay you and pay your bills without running it down. If you are coupled, one of you can run the

business while the other gets a full-time employment.

h. Joint Venture

Look for people with funds and present your idea in a convincing manner. If you lack the expertise to package your idea for partnership and funding, get the help of experts and mentors. Every viable plan will attract partners if properly presented.

Work with these ideas and your business idea will see the light of the day, **you will succeed!**

5 Tips for Entrepreneurs

Every entrepreneur faces challenges, and many of them will tell you it's how you handle those challenges that will determine success or failure as a business owner.

Here are five tips for success from business owners who

Know what growing and winning are all about.

- a. Put your networking skills to work. "Find people you can learn from", says Nelson, founder and inventor of the Good Nite Lite, who first created his product to solve his son's difficulties falling asleep. "What you may not need from them today, you may need tomorrow".
- b. Don't be swayed by naysayers. When Rhodes was pushed by bankers and experts to start manufacturing her hand-blown glass candleholders in China to save money, the experiment backfired: "We lost a fortune," says Rhodes, founder of Glassybaby, which donates a percentage of revenue to programs that help cancer patients. "I listened to people who didn't understand Glassybaby. It's all about the story and there was nowhere to fit 'Made in China in my story.'"

- c. Keep taking risks. “Our personal motto is: ‘Fail cheap, fail quick,’” Nelson says. “Don’t be afraid to try.”
- d. Hire your weakness. “Remember as an entrepreneur, you’re probably a big picture person and the details aren’t as important, but they will be and it’ll come back to haunt you,” Rhodes warns. “If you’re not good at (something), make sure you have someone beside you that is, as you know”.
- e. Don’t be afraid to share your idea. “There’s always the opportunity where they may not be able to help you, but somebody else will,” Nelson says.

If you truly engage all these forces, your life will double for good, and you will be significant, and unstoppable.

WISDOM FOR ENTREPRENEURS:

- Life is not a problem to be solved but a mystery you must enter into; in order for us to become full human beings, we must integrate both the light side and the dark side of our existence into our selfhood.
- Riches do not respond to wishes: They only respond to definite plans backed by definite desires, through constant persistence.
- We are the masters of our fate, the captains of our souls, because we have the power to control our thoughts, the freedom and liberty to desire and to have what we want.
- The best that you can have out of life are the very things you can afford and offer yourself, which is happiness and love. And you can only have them when you have given

them. No one should promise you tomorrow than God/yourself. Negotiate with people on the terms and realities of today.

- Don't regret on things you hadn't or couldn't do right; concentrate on the now?
- Stop building the monuments of your yesterday
- Stop celebrating what couldn't work out well yesterday
- Be very minimal to people who usually reminds you of your odds of yesterday.
- Begin now to start doing something for your future; why wait for fair weather that may never come
- Retrieve the potential you have allocated to your past and throw them all up-front to your future
- Stop preparing to do what you did last year this year
- How much of your real time are you giving to your past, and how much of it do you give to your future?
- Do you stay on what happened or you stay on the possibilities ahead of you?
If you are to meet yourself ten years today, who will you meet-your ideal person or your discouraged person?

CONCLUSION:

The African continent has rich resources and a vibrant cultural heritage, yet it has faced significant challenges in terms of poverty and economic development. To overcome these hurdles, it is crucial to embrace a holistic approach that acknowledges the African identity and leverages common sense solutions. This article aims to explore key insights and practical steps toward achieving financial dominion, empowering individuals, communities, and the continent as a whole.

1. Embracing Cultural Identity:

One of the fundamental steps toward overcoming poverty is embracing and celebrating the African cultural identity. Recognizing and valuing Africa's diverse traditions, languages, art, and music can foster a sense of pride and unity. By preserving and promoting cultural heritage, Africans can build a strong foundation for economic development and create opportunities for entrepreneurship, tourism, and cultural exchange.

2. Developing Human Capital:

Investing in education and skills development is essential for empowering individuals and communities. By prioritizing quality education, vocational training, and lifelong learning, Africans can equip themselves with the necessary knowledge and skills to thrive in the modern economy. This includes promoting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, as well as fostering entrepreneurship and innovation.

3. Fostering Good Governance:

Transparent and accountable governance is crucial for economic growth and poverty reduction. African nations must prioritize good governance practices, including fighting corruption, strengthening the rule of law, and promoting transparency in public

administration. By creating an enabling environment for investment and business development, governments can attract domestic and foreign capital, spurring economic growth.

4. Promoting Inclusive Economic Policies:

To address poverty effectively, African nations must adopt inclusive economic policies. This involves promoting equitable access to resources, healthcare, infrastructure, and financial services. Governments should prioritize investments in critical sectors such as agriculture, energy, and healthcare, while also empowering marginalized groups, including women, youth, and rural communities, through targeted programs and initiatives.

5. Encouraging Regional Cooperation:

Enhancing regional integration and cooperation can unlock significant economic potential. African nations can leverage their collective strength by fostering trade agreements, investment partnerships, and infrastructure development projects. By removing trade barriers, harmonizing regulations, and promoting intra-African trade, the continent can create a more robust and interconnected economic ecosystem.

6. Leveraging Technology:

The digital revolution presents immense opportunities for Africa's economic transformation. Embracing technological advancements, such as mobile banking, e-commerce, and renewable energy solutions, can leapfrog traditional barriers and provide access to financial services, markets, and information. Governments, businesses, and individuals should embrace digital literacy and invest in technological infrastructure to harness the power of innovation.

Thus, the pathway to financial dominion for Africa lies in the collective efforts of individuals, communities, and governments. By embracing the African identity, investing

in education, promoting good governance, adopting inclusive economic policies, fostering regional cooperation, and leveraging technology, the continent can overcome poverty and achieve sustainable development. It is through the application of common-sense solutions and a shared commitment to progress that Africa can unlock its true potential and secure a brighter future for all.

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