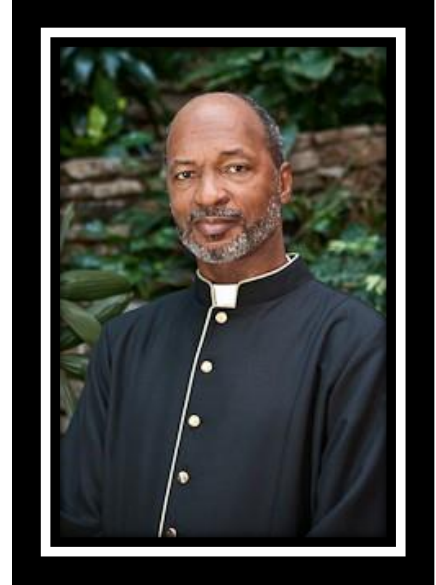


# The Bishop's Corner

## *God is Our Advantage*

Praise the Lord Saints,

“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord: and the Lord delivered them into the hands of Median seven years. And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour. And Gideon said unto him, ‘Oh my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us?’ And where be all His miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the Lord hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites. And the Lord looked up him, and said, ‘Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?’ And he said unto him, ‘Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? Behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.’ And the Lord said unto him, Surely, I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man” (Judges 6:1, 11-16 KJV).



God is the advantage that we have over the devil. God always gave Israel another chance no matter how many times they did evil in His sight. Gideon had faith in God and defeated the Midianites with only 300 men because God was with them. Just as God was glorified in Gideon’s victory, we should want to see God glorified in our lives. The earth is the Lord’s, and we can never say that we have done anything on our own; we always need God’s help.

Have faith in God (Mark 11:22 KJV) because everything we need is in Jesus Christ. If we wait on God, things will work out because He is our advantage, and He will be glorified in everything we do. If we’re sick, God heals us, and it’s to the glory of God.

Sinners need to know that God is their advantage, and we need to tell them that we have found the savior as Philip told Nathaniel. “We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph” (John 1:45 KJV). When people come to our church, they need to hear about the savior; they can learn everything else about the church later. We need to tell them to try God. Jesus showed Nathaniel the power of God, which caused him to believe (John 1:47-49 KJV). When we were sinners, God said something to each of us to cause us to believe and come to Him. My prayer for sinners is that God will cause them to need Him.

We need to talk more about Jesus because He is only way to God and heaven. Without Jesus we remain sinners and are lost. We must keep our name in the Lamb’s Book of Life. Repent if you need to, but make sure your name is in the Book of Life. Is there any good thing that comes out of Nazareth? Yes, there is, Jesus!

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith  
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction