SYNOPSIS OF "ACTS OF APPOSTLES CONTINUES WITH YOUR NAME"

The book is a vivid picture of what will happen to believers when we complete our journey here on earth and we go to meet J esus Christ our Lord to recieve the reward for whatever we have done on earth.

We have been taught in the scripture that after the Holy Spirit came upon the church, He the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to become effective miracle carrying witnesses going about doing good.

Records were kept of all they did both privately, or in the church or in the mission fields, wherever they went, whatever they did. The same Holy spirit is residing in the church until the end of the times of the gentiles and the morning of resurrection.

He the third person of the trinity that worked in the apostles in the book of Acts is still working to accomplish the will of God the father through J esus christ the head of the church who is also coming back again.

The book reminds us that someone is watching and writing all that we say or do because we shall be judged from the book of our assignment before him.

Revelation 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; <u>and the books</u> were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

We shall appear before the judgment seat of Christ and there is nothing we can hide from Him. This book is for believers. It is for those who are pilgrims and strangers on this side of eternity. Those who are interested in living on earth forever and making a name here need not bother themselves to read it.

The book is a must read for anyone who is interested in going to this wonderful place that J esus has gone to prepare for those who believe and trust in Him. Those who intend to lie forever and spend their eternity in the bliss of God's glory and His presence.

Acts of Apostles Continues with Your Name!

BY: EMMANUEL RABIU EDACHE

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Introduction

Exodus 33:20-23 "....And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shalt not be seen."

A brief peep into the backs-side of God made Moses to know and to write the whole story of creation as if he was there.

David pressed deep into God until he saw and heard the discussion in heaven, "The Lord said to my lord, sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your foot stool"; talking about the final victory that J esus would have after resurrection. Is aiah, J eremiah, Zechariah, all prophesied about the coming of J esus the Lord, the church age and the final battle of the saints and total redemption. God has given knowledge to the sons of men that you can have a common chip planted in you and all your activities are recorded in a video, cctv's and other security gadgets are a common thing in this age.

Remember the Lord's Prayer ".....As it is in heaven......"

How would you feel watching your own video from the day you were born to the day you gave your life to the Lord J esus, then to your last moment on earth before you die! All your secret moves, actions, activities, leis ure, discussions, everything you have ever done in this life, everywhere you've ever been and everyone you've ever spoken to, all recorded in a video. Remember God's video includes your motive for every action.

The book of acts is just a written record of what happened to the disciples after the Holy Spirit came upon the church.

The disciples are gone, the Holy Spirit is still here, and we are here. We are the new apostles to our own generation and the Holy Spirit is recording our acts.

Remember the prayer of J esus in *John 17:20. "I do not pray for these (the apostles) alone but for as many as will believe me through their words".* We are the extension of the apostles, disciples, Christians and the Holy Spirit is in us. Our deeds are recorded every second.

Series 1

THE BOOK OF ACTS OF THE APOSTLES CONTINUES WITH YOUR STORY!

One of the greatest gifts God has given to us is the gift of imagination. We can sit in one place and imagine the whole world; it is a gift and we thank God for it.

It is only on this side of eternity while we are alive that we can change anything about us, make decision concerning our soul and eternity.

He that judges himself will no longer be judged but he that lives as if he is not responsible to anyone will give account of his stewardship (daily life), while the man who judges himself and corrects himself as if he is accountable to the people will no longer be judged.

Let us put our imagination in to work now!

Now, all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinks he stands take heed lest he falls' 1 Cor. 10:11-12.

READING YOUR OWN RECORD

Imagine for a moment that you are in the church, your local assembly, one Sunday morning; then King Solomon, the wisest king came to fellowship in your assembly. The pastor introduced him as the Son of David, a man after God's own heart, the wisest and richest king that ever lived, the writer of the book of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Songs of Solomon, the one who built the most magnificent temple for God, the great grand-father of our

Savior J esus Christ. And the pastor continued the introduction;

This man married Seven hundred wives, Three hundred regular girlfriends, he came to the throne by the mercy of God because he was not the first son of David that should have taken over the throne; he built the magnificent temple for God Almighty in Jerusalem and also built one thousand altars to different gods and idols because he loved strange women and their idols. 1King 2¹⁻¹³.

He forsook the Lord God who established him. He oppressed the poor so much that Is rael had to weep. They told his son Rehoboam; your father so tortured the masses with 'SAP' (Structural Adjustment Program) that never ended, hard austerity measure, please lighten our burden and we will serve you. *1king 12th Thy father made our yoke grievous; now, therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter and we will serve thee.*

Because of this your father could not be named among the heroes of faith in Heb.11.

How do you think this special visitor will feel after this elaborate introduction?

Imagine for a moment you were King Solomon; all eyes on you! How would you feel listening to the story of your life? May be he didn't know that someone was watching him and recording all his acts.

Imagine that you were king Hezekiah, who served God with the whole of his heart, you visited the house of God one day, and because you had caused reformation and revival in Israel, your good records, how you trusted God, removed all the idols in your kingdom, broke Nehushtan, (Moses' lifted serpent in the wilderness that now became an object of worship in Israel), fought battles in

the name of the Lord and defeated, prayed to God to change the date of your death, and God added 15 more years to you with an uncommon sign. Your credentials of the exploit you did for God is unending 2 kings 18 & 19.

Then when you came to church, the pastor handed over the bible to you to read the text for the day from 2 kings 21¹⁻¹⁸ where Manasseh your son ruled after you and all the evil he did; rebuilding all the idols you destroyed and even putting them in the house of God, shedding innocent blood even more than heathen kings.

And when you reflected back, you knew that you gave birth to this

Manasseh after God had told you that his plan for you had been accomplished, that you should come and rest. You started praying a soulish prayer that God should give you more years. Within the years of your desire, you exposed the secrets of your God by showing the king of Babylon all the secret treasures of God's house 2king 20¹²⁻¹⁷ you gave birth to Manasseh who became a reproach. Your successor became a reproach instead of a success.

How would you feel reading your own account to the on looking saints; elated or as hamed?

Maybe the last two examples were taken from the Old Testament; and as a New Testament believer, you are saved by grace and the Holy Spirit will not lead you into such assembly where you will be disgraced and embarrassed! Amen.

But imagine that you suddenly became Ananias or Sapphira, and you were invited to a fund-raising dinner for charity; and the chairman of the dinner knew you were there because you are a rich man with so many landed properties in choice places. The man chose to give his maiden address from the book of *Acts 5^{t-11}* where in the midst of a mighty revival you lied, fearlessly lied in agreement with your wife to cheat, frustrate and test the Holy Spirit; and you received instant judgment of death, how would you feel sitting on the high table?

feels itting on the high table?

Now all these things happened unto them for ensample and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the end of the world is come 1Cor. 1011.

If human wisdom is so smart in this age that the government can put CCTVs on the roads, in the malls, cities, and this can be stored, played back when needed, zoomed where necessary,

How much more will the almighty God record your daily living as a special creature that Christ died for?

So our deeds are recorded.
There is a hand that is writing now
Christians live your life in J esus,
To His royal mandate bow
For the day is approaching;
It must come to one and all
When your acts and your behavior

Will be shown for all to see."

THE BOOKS OF RECORD

Rev. 2012

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God, and the books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which where written in the books.

2cor. 5V10

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether good or bad".

When we stand before the God of all flesh, all our gifts, our talents, our special grace, our special anointing will be removed from us, leaving only our character.

To what extent has the engrafted word of truth reformed your character? The bible says in "Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; To what extent has the blood of Jesus purged you from dead works to serve the living God, To

what extent have you been CON-VERTED from your old ways because of the conviction that you are a sinner, the remorse that you offended your creator and the determination to consciously live your life to please him all the days of your life. These are some of the basis for judgment for the saints.

The measuring parameter will be the *fruit* of Holy Spirit, not the *gifts*. How much fruit do you bear from your genuine character that makes up **YOU?** How much of the likeness of Christ do you have that qualifies you to bear the name *CHRISTIAN?*

If you can honestly answer these questions to yourself and amend your life, you may have saved yourself some embarrassment that is waiting for many children of God on that great day.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT

From the book of Revelation, we find out that there are books that are opened apart from the book of life.

There are things that were written concerning you that you would come to fulfill before the world began. You are a fulfillment of a destiny which God ordained from the foundation of the world. You are not just a product of pleasure between your father and your mother; you are not an accident in creation.

Psalm 139:14-16, 18 NLT

Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous-how well I know it. [15] You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. [16] You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. [18] I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

When you finish from this side of eternity, you would have either fulfilled your destiny or you have only wasted your time. Jesus, our master, found

out what was written concerning himself at the beginning of His ministry. Luke 4:17-18 and there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah and when he opened the book he found the place where it was written—

Many of us don't get to find out what is written concerning us, so in our walk with God, we find no fulfillment, no lasting results. We are busy walking in disobedience, we find ourselves copying other saints, emulating other believers and trying to be like them.

Some of us are busy copying others because we see them having result in their assignments, some are just following the vision of their local assembly even when in their spirit

they don't believe it or even understand it, but because of what others will say! Remember, when God called you, He called you alone! When you die to stand before Him to give account of your stewardship, you will stand alone, therefore, listen to God alone.

Let us be humble enough to ask God to show us what is written concerning us; for out of that book, we will be judged. Some of us are deceived by our talents and gifts, some by popular opinions or

by the vision of our General Overseer, Bishop/Set Man, Pastor or papa and you lose your own identity. Jesus died as **YOU**, not **FOR YOU**. He died as **YOU** so that you may live As **HIM**, to fulfill His purpose which was written before you were formed in your mother's womb.

Rom 8:29-30 For whom He did fore-know He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His son—
(you did not get born again by accident) Moreover, whom He did predestinate, them He also called, and whom He called, them He also justified, and whom He justified, them He also glorified. It is never a struggle. Ps. 65:4. "Blessed is the man who thou choose! And cause to approach unto thee—
Because He called you, your assignment is written in a book out of which you shall be judged. Find out from the Holy Spirit what your assignment is or you will waist your few years running on a wrong track.

Some of us are written in the book of those who will receive revelation and accurate direction for the saints. You are busy doing church work in your local assembly to please your pastor simply because they said you are a very good committed brother, the pastor will recommend you to a good sister. Some of us have the ministry of Barnabas, Son of encouragement and our duty is not to be known, but to introduce the Paul's of the end time to the church, encourage him to come out of hiding and fulfill his ministry to the saints. *Acts* 11:25-26.

You remain in your church judging such generals who are still in the hiding, be ready to give account.

These are all written in the book of your assignment out of which you will be judged. It is written that J esus was tempted in all points so that He can help us when we are tempted. He defeated for us so we can trust Him and pass through whatever flood or fire the enemy may bring.

Some of us are also ordained and given grace to pass through some terrible fire so that we may chart the way for up-coming saints, set road maps for them and empathized with those that should be honored to partake in those fiery trials.

Child of God, aren't we guilty of selfishness, holier than thou attitude, lack of compassion for our fellow wounded soldiers. Aren't we full of judgments, self defense, and our own righteousness?

Remember, it is not of him that wills or of him that runs, it is of God that shows mercy.

God did not train you or allowed you to pass through your peculiar experience because of yourself only, it is because of His whole body-the Saints. Someone is out there waiting for you, without you, his assignment will not begin. Don't miss your job.

Moving away like the stars of the morning Reaping the field we in springtime have sown Thus would we pass from the earth and it toiling Only remembered by what we have done

Oh, when the Savior shall make up his jewels, When the bright crowns of rejoicing are worn This shall pass onward when we are forgotten Only remembered by what we have done

THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Mal. 3¹⁶ Then, they that feared the Lord spoke often, one to another, and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon His name".

This book is not to record our sins; it is strictly for those who fear the Lord and thought upon His name. In fact, it is for servants who are covenant children, who meditate upon His word. This book is for believers indeed.

If we scan through the whole of chapter three of Malachi, we will see the category of people God is addressing. Those who will pass the refining fire supervised by Jehovah himself, to qualify as priest who will offer righteous offering, Those whom the Lord will judge for them, whose dependence and defense is in the Lord; those who are qualified to bring their tithes to Jehovah, tithes that will trigger open heavens, (not those who *trade by batter* with God in their casino syndrome. The process is:

- (1) You will receive the messenger of the covenant
- (2) Seek Him and His righteousness
- (3) Yield yourself to the refining fire to be purged
- (4) Qualify to offer praise and peace pleasantly before Him
- (5) The Lord becomes your witness and your defense
- (6) Then you will be qualified to bring your tithe that will open the window of heaven. *Mai 3:1-11.*

These dear children have a book of remembrance written about them as they daily speak one to another.

Consider what Jesus said in Matthew 12.36 but I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall

speak, they shall give account of it in the Day of Judgment".

This brings us home to what makes us speak idle words. Motives, your real you, your heart. Let us check our relationship with our own wives, children, brethren, leaders in faith and the entire people.

If you relate with the spouse & kids of some Men of God, you will realize that some don't even know anything about the value of righteousness, no character, they don't even hold their daddy in reverence as God's servant like the congregation, because they know the secret lives of their father, and there is nothing special about him; their wives only pretends to respect him in the congregation; privately he is empty, canal and useless, only gift covering him. No fruit.

What is the motive behind your relationship? If the motive is right, is your attitude the same as that of J esus if He were in your shoes.

One of the most renowned <u>preachers</u>, brother Jude in vs 16 talks of "<u>having men's persons in admiration because of advantage</u>" as a description to these filthy dreamers who have filled our churches and turned the grace of God into personal gain.

Whatever they do for a saint, they do it because of what they will gain; either in name or in kind.

What of your relations hip with your wife and children or hus band? Can your spouse in his/her heart say before God, that truly, my wife or my hus band is indeed a man of God?

This is not a matter of how much you know the bible or how committed you are in the things of the church. These are what the book of remembrance records.

Hi brothers, just to remind you someone is writing all you do, say and think. Think of it; who was there when Onan poured his sperm on the floor because he didn't want to raise seed for his brother? This was the thought in his heart, he acted it out and it was recorded. And then God killed him for this wickedness,

Who was there?

Who was there when Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi of the tribe of Benjamin hid those Babylonian garments in the earth;

and the indignation of God fell on Israel that they could not stand before their enemies. Josh7⁻²⁶.

Who was there when Ananias planned with his wife; had a water tight arrangement in their bedroom. How did Peter who was just a pastor in the church know?

Someone is watching you, someone is writing everything about you. The morning of glory will soon come. The day of reckoning will soon be here.

God is not a secret God; your secret life will be read in the congregation of the saints very soon.

If sin can find a man out, righteousness will surely exalt and publish you. There is a book of remembrance kept for them who fear and meditate on His name.

Jesus said a new commandment I give unto you; that you love one another as I have loved you. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples.

John 13³⁴⁻³⁵, 15¹².

We also know the properties of true love 1 cor. 13⁴⁸, long suffering, kind, envies not, not proud, not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, does not seek its own, it is not easily provoked, does not think evil, rejoices in truth and not iniquity, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, never fails.

Now if we judge the love we have for our brethren with these properties, does our kind of love stand this test?

Aren't we full of complaints? The sister is too difficult to love, that brother is too proud to be loved; they are looking down on me, they are taking me for granted and so on.

Someone is writing all we think, say or do.

Keep me through Lord Jesus keep me through.

Keep me through Lord Jesus keep me through

For there is a race, I must run

And a victory to be worn,

Give me power, every hour to be true.

Every ideal organization or community has a process of record keeping, the reason for this is that there will be available information on request to guarantee a testimony or remember who you were and what you have done Heaven our eternal home is not different.

THE RECORD KEEPER

When J esus was leaving for heaven, He left us with a promise that the Holy Spirit was coming to abide with us forever. In J ohn 16, we see all that the Holy Spirit of God would come to do.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

The moment you call on the name of the Lord out of a pure heart, you are calling Him by the spirit. *I John* 4^{2-3} .

The Spirit is in you to teach, guide and lead you into all truth. The Holy Spirit is not the lesser in the trinity. He is the quiet, enduring one. He is in you, \underline{He} is the owner of his church, Matt. 16^{18} He is tone who knows the mind of the father, He censors your prayers! Every prayer that does not originate from Him will not even pass through the ceiling of your room. He is the one that seals you. *Eph.* 1^{12-13} , 4^{30} , 2 Cor. 1^{22} .

Why we are told not to grieve Him is because He is always in you.

You are the temple of God; and He lives in that temple .How do you feel defiling that same temple (body) with alcohol, smoking, illicit sex and the

likes. He tells you the secret of heavens, and He searches your heart and tells heaven about you. There is nothing hidden to Him. That is why He knows everything about you and keeps every record.

Rom 8:14 says "As many as are led by The Holy Spirit are sons of God"

Hi child of God, do you really allow this third person of the trinity to lead you, to teach you or even guide you?

Do you differentiate His voice from the voice of your mind; can you identify His voice from the voice of reason?

Check your prayer list, who gave you those prayer requests; the Holy Spirit or religion or self? Any prayer that does not originate from Him will not receive any answer! It is off-key, illegal in the court of heaven, alien and odd when it gets to the rainbow circled throne.

In your country, whoever you are, you may not have direct access to your president's bedroom anytime you want without personal recognition, seal or authority. Even cabinet members and ministers. Except the president's wife and his children. Those ones enter anyhow because they have a covenant relationship and they don't see him as the president, they see him as the father or the husband!

How do you think you can visit the King of kings and Lord of Lords without a special covenant relationship sealed by the Holy Spirit Himself? *Who is the earnest of our inheritance*?

Most of us are guilty of calling the name of our Lord God in vain by our soulish, selfish prayers. Sons are always led! Are you a son? Are you always led.

WITNESSES

Apart from God and the Holy Spirit who is in you, there are other witnesses that help in record keeping. We will consider some of them.

- 1. Your Conscience
- 2. Your Prayers and Your Messages
- 3. The Angels
- 4. The cloud of Witnesses
- 5. The Word

A. YOUR CONSCIENCE

ROM 2¹⁵

Which show the work of the law, written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them.

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