# Kicking Evolution, *Lifting Jesus Up* Edison Macusi

In this booklet you will discover ways to

- increase your faith and remove your doubts
- share the word of God without doubts
- increase your love on the Word of God
- Develop passion of confirming the Word of God

Truth is our most powerful weapon in overcoming the darkness of this world

"Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psa 119:105 KJV)

"If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed." (John 8:31 KJV)

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Scripture quotations marked KJV are taken from the King James Version of the Bible

Scripture quotations marked CEV are taken from the Contemporary English Version of the Bible

Note: Even at the cost of violating grammatical rules, we have chosen not to capitalize the name satan and related names.

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# Introduction

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### Introduction

One of the hallmarks of the end of the age is increased confrontation between God's forces and the enemy's. We are wary of this and to combat the enemy requires the light of God's word. The psalmist said that **"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).** True enough, I was one of those most bound on the theory of evolution and philosophy before meeting Jesus Christ. But by His grace, He opened His word before my eyes to see His wonderful truths hidden in His Law.

Knowing then that my struggle was never unique and there are people who wouldn't easily budge to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ gave me impetus to write this book. It is my desire that as you go through the page and learn of Him, He will guide you, set you free from the deception that has bound you. I was a man in bondage, imprisoned by a whole lot of ideas, but the Lord gladly received me and made me free. That love I will never forget.

The Lord mentioned in the gospel that when He will be lifted up on earth, He will draw all men to Himself. I pray that He would open your eyes as you go through the pages and open your heart that you may be healed and be freed by Him too. Like the Psalmist who prayed:

### "Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your principles". (Psalm 119:12)

May all the words in this book guide you to walk in freedom and devote yourself wholly to the Word of God unhindered by doubts or unbelief. His blessings be upon you as you read through.

### Edison Macusi

# **Chapter one**

# **Real Education, Real Science**

Obedience can be the hallmark of a real follower of God. But this obedience stems from a deep love of the Lord and not a mere show. There were two trees in the Garden of Eden. One was to give eternal life to Adam and his descendants and one that can give damnation forever to his descendants. Few people were given such mighty position as Adam and Eve had. They were there to determine the rise and fall of the entire human race forever. Such a position cannot be a source of envy to everyone except with the devil. Let me begin by telling you the origins of education which can determine the destiny of thousands and even millions.

Education did not begin from the east or from the west as some of us might think. As all things were created by the Lord, so was the institution of education. He was the first mentor by teaching Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. To His very first student, He emphasized the importance of obedience and the possible consequences of disobedience. Obedience is not easy and this entails both sacrifice and humility. To obey is to take heed of the one teaching. Adam was humble enough to listen to the Lord. His first task was to dress and keep the garden.

# "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." (Gen 2:15 KJV)

The word, "dress" means to organize, to arrange or to administrate; and the word, "keep" means to protect, preserve or to take charge. Adam's task was so big, but God's power to enable Adam was never short. When Adam was made, He was made in God's likeness. Surely that gave Adam the wisdom to know and the understanding to take charge of the Garden. What happened in that beautiful garden one morning was not just a tragedy but a catastrophe to the human race. By disobedience, sin entered and took hold of the first man and woman. Both of them fell to the subtlety of the serpent. Satan who took the guise of a serpent questioned God's authority while conversing with the woman.

"Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which Jehovah God had made. And he said to the woman, *Is it* so that God has said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden? (Gen 3:1) Rather than fighting back satan or asking her husband about what the serpent was referring to, Eve took her own way. By her defiance, she first fell prey to the evil one and then encouraged her husband to sin rather than tell the truth. At this instance we can also see how sin can easily blind us. Eve does not even know she already sinned! You know what happened next. It brought the curse to the man and woman, the ground and the serpent. Disobedience brought God's sweeping judgment – He asked the man,

"And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.

And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?" (Gen 3:9-11 KJV)

It was the disobedience of Adam and Eve that made them naked, uncovered and an easy prey to the devil. Before that fateful day, the Lord told Adam:

# "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." (Gen 2:16-17 KJV)

He was never a negligent father to a son.

The Lord's first educational system was a one to one mentoring program with Adam which was then encroached by satan. It was the devil's subtle manipulation that brought the downfall of man. This failure can be attributed to the failure of the man to mentor his wife and the failure of the woman to ask her husband. The Lord's description of the serpent was – "**more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made**" (Gen. 3:1 KJV). Had Adam and Eve not underestimated satan, they would have asked the Lord for more grace on how to overcome the evil one.

It can be said that they fell because they disobeyed, but they could not have disobeyed if only they did not open themselves to the subtlety of the serpent. Likewise today, the marks of the enemy are well imprinted in education. It's time the church reclaim this powerful tool of teaching. It's time to shine God's light for the world's needs. Just as the serpent carefully implanted the words **"Yea, hath God said in Eve's mind"**, he is doing the same today to countless people using subtlety in the very tool God used to teach Adam. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil, and He set us with the same destiny. The apostle Paul clarifies, **"We are destroying speculation and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ."** (2 Cor. 10:5)

The primary battle field is the mind. There is none more powerful tool than to sow God's word to the minds of the people and set them free. True education is heeding God's word. Adam listened and knew the voice of the Lord, but his wife was not as familiar as he was. This is why the apostle Paul wrote "the woman was deceived but not the man" (1 Tim. 2:14). I'm saying this not to blame Eve, but that the sin of one is the accountability of each other as they are considered as one flesh.

Understanding that education started with God and later adulterated by satan, we have a great task before us to discern the error from the truth. But we can only do so much if we have the love for the truth. It is love that overcomes. It is love that will enable us to drive away the darkness from our own hearts and from the heart of others. We do not preach the truth to pummel the head of others but we want to use the truth to open the eyes of the blind and lead them to the person of Truth. Truth is our most powerful weapon and we cannot give in to misusing it. Truth can be misused and not received by the way we speak and carry it. But we are sure the grace is there for us to bring the truth to others as we do this with His love and might. We are not to be like those pretending as ghost hunters, yet not knowing that they themselves are powerless since Jesus Christ is not with them.

In the ancient times, the only way to educate a person was by his cultural understanding. His upbringing was enough but as civilization and trade became increasingly international in nature, people came to understand the need to teach and mentor their young children. We trace this to old Babylon where the oldest civilization existed. From it, came writing and oral tradition. By this time, satan was using education to propagate his lies on earth. He used it by encroaching deeply into the cultures of men. He made them bow to the suns and the stars. He started the cults of astrology and animism.

True education then is recognizing God's hand that in spite of the evil that happened, He is still in control. And that He is able to bring down Heaven's blessing to set free the people from the lies of satan and enlighten the masses. This enlightenment brings both cultural and spiritual revolution into the very fabric of a decaying society. When this affects a large proportion of the world or a region it is called awakening. The great Awakening that occurred in the United States enabled it to bring great upheavals in its society. Pietism, and personal faith became the norm in the society and it preceded the Independence of the American colonies from Great Britain. This is in contrast to the French enlightenment where Jesus was rather thrown out by the philosophy of man.

### Abel and Cain

After the fall of Adam and Eve, both of them were driven out of the Garden (Gen.3.23), but as tragic as what happened to them, the Lord continued to communicate with them. We see this in the Lord making an animal coat for their first clothing (Gen.3.21). Although the Lord's plan for Adam and Eve was now in shatters. He knows that this would happen and in spite of this He decided to make man in His own image. The Lord continued to watch over Adam's family long after the fall, even talking with Cain and Abel (Gen.4.6). In here we can see that long after the enemy has encroached into the territory of God, the Lord did not just gave up and left. Rather, with patience, he continued to mentor the humans who were willing to walk with Him. We see this in the life of Abel being a shepherd, he continually walked into a pleasing relationship with the Lord and whose brother became so jealous of him because of this. In the two brothers we can see the seed of God and the seed of the devil. In Abel, we can see the Lord working in his life, teaching him His ways and applying this knowledge in both shepherding as well as praying to the Lord. In Cain, we can see him becoming passionately evil because of jealousy towards his brother. The Lord even warned him of this but the serpent got the better part of him.

"And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him."

(Gen 4:6 -7 KJV)

Abel showed the path to righteousness and his brother that of perdition. Righteousness here comes as a result of their constant walk with the Lord. After Abel, Enoch lived to be one of the prime examples of how a disciple walks with the Lord. And after him came Noah who also led the next generation of man. In all of this generation, the Lord was always seeking someone who will not only agree with Him but would bid Him for that generation. All of them can be distinguished by the lives that they have lived and their legacies that affected generations after. They learned the righteousness of God by their constant walk with Him. True education will not come to us not unless we learn that it is both a spiritual matter as well as vocational. Abel has to learn how to live by himself and not just depend from his parents' cupboards and at the same time learn for himself how to distinguish the voice of God.

### Mandate in the Hebrew nation

We can see God's hand to recover this mandate during the days of Moses by giving the Hebrew people His laws and regulations. This was to serve as their framework of governance from the time of Moses to the days of the Roman

Empire. He consolidated this to become the Scriptures which were then commanded to be taught to the children of Israel (Deut. 6:20-24).

- "*And* when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What *mean* the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you?
- Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand:
- And the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes:
- And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers.
- And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as *it is* at this day" (Deu 6:20-24 KJV).

His purpose for the Hebrew nation by calling them out from slavery to freedom was to champion a life of true freedom by living under God. The Israelites would be just the best people who would be able to teach and show other nations how different it would be to live under the system of the Lord and that of Egypt, the most powerful nation of that time. Peter wrote this mandate and reinstated the same for the Christians,

- "But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:
- Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." (1Pe 2:9-10 KJV)

The Israelites were indeed the chosen people of God. They were freed from the Egyptian oppression; rescued by the Lord through the hands of Moses and Aaron. As this happened physically with the Israelites, this happened spiritually for every Christians being rescued from darkness by the Lord, as the apostle Peter wrote. We obtained mercy by His mercy and we obtained freedom by being brought to His marvelous light.

While all the nations grappled in darkness, Israel has a shining bright light in its midst. We therefore understand that through the blessed Law, the Word of God, we are all indebted to the Lord. This contribution of the Jewish civilization, of teaching a monotheistic system and a system run by priests and kings, has been unmatched in any civilization. Without the Jews, there would have been no Bible and no Savior.

### Primary way of teaching

The primary way of how God teaches us is through our relationship with Him. Just as He did not made a robot but man that needed to be taught, it will be the same with us. Our learning comes from this relationship with Him. It is by this relationship with Him through His Son that we will learn how to hear His voice. We learn His teachings from the written accounts in the Scriptures just as the Israelites have to hear from Moses and read from the written accounts. As we do, He connects to us through His Holy Spirit. The apostle John wrote,

#### "But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and know that no lie is of the truth." (1Jn 2:20-21)

John tells us that it is the anointing of God that guides and leads us concerning the Lord. It is this anointing also that allows us to know Him. He further distinguished how this happens,

#### "But the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as His anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true and no lie, and as He has taught you, abide in Him." (1Jn 2:27)

Jesus also taught us that, "He, the Spirit of Truth, has come; He will guide you into all truth. For He shall not speak of Himself, but whatever He hears, He shall speak. And He will announce to you things to come." (Joh 16:13) Doesn't this leave us to too much subjectivity in the interpretation of the Scriptures? Yes. But subjectivity is required if we want to learn from the Lord first hand. Are deceptions and mistakes part of the package? Again, the Lord does not lead us to deceptions but at times we can be deceived by our own circumstances as well as petty doctrines and ways of interpretation. But by giving this freedom to the people to interpret for themselves, the Holy Spirit is also given the freedom to lead them into the truth and we can trust Him to do His job well. We are not to fear deception as much as we should fear lacking the love for the truth.

How then do we connect and learn from the Lord? This connection with the Lord happens when we received Him as our Lord and Savior and commit our lives to follow His way. It does happen automatically but without much fanfare and do not expect to see such things although it can happen that there are. Salvation can come as silent as one single child realizing he has hurt the Lord so much and needs to repent and then prays. It can also happen to an old rugged gentleman, already sick and weak and bed ridden; his conscience bothering him to prepare to meet His maker. Such promptings can come from the Holy Spirit.

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