

ORDER PRECEDES PROMOTION

2 June 2013, Apostle Stephen Smith

Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Psalm 119:133

Your past empowers your present and propels your future.

If you try to step to move on to the next chapter, the next level of your life without putting everything in order in this one, your success – the exceedingly, abundantly, above all success component – will not be activated. Survival, yes. Success, no. Failure, probably.

IN LIFE, THE JOURNEY IS THE DESTINATION.

Conflict will always arise in our lives when something is not in perfect order.

There is order in the process. There is order in the programs. There is order in the systems. There is order in the institutions. There is order of unity. There is ALWAYS ORDER.

What Is The Set Of Metrics For Checking Whether My Life Is In Order?

1. Am I doing everything with integrity? In my work and my finances and my family, is there anything I'm hiding from them? Is there anything that I am not being totally honest about? Am I lying? Is there any sort of deception or lie?
2. Am I giving more than I receive?
3. Am I preparing the way for someone to be more successful than me in the future? Am I guaranteeing someone else's success?
4. Am I being a good steward of my environment?
Am I creating or facilitating an atmosphere that's positive, that's productive, and that edifies, enriches, and empowers?
5. Am I honouring God? My family? Myself?

There are consequences to disorder.

That's What We Mean By Order – DEALING WITH THE DETAILS.

Conflict and drama will always arise in our lives when something is not in perfect order. Perfect, though, doesn't mean without any flaw; it means perfect alignment – a vertical and horizontal alignment.

God will take care of ironing out the wrinkles and removing the stains.

The notion that my spiritual life can be in disarray, yet my finances, my relationships, my marriage, my work, my career will be in perfect order – it's not going to happen.

The opposite of order would be chaos, anarchy. And when we have spiritual chaos, relational chaos, it will transfer to the other parts of our life.

It's Organizational Management and Behaviour 101. It's not obsessive compulsive order. But it is order.

ORDER AND PROCEDURE

These are the statutes and judgments which you shall be careful to do in the land which Jehovah, the God of your fathers gives you to possess it, all the days that you live upon the earth.

Deuteronomy 12:1

God gives us patterns (order) and ways according to which we must operate. The kingdom of God has an order, an administration!

Exodus 18:17-20

So Moses' father-in-law said to him, the thing that you do is not good.

Both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you are not able to perform it by yourself.

Listen now to my voice; I will give you counsel and God will be with you: Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring the difficulties to God.

And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do.

1. Teach them statutes and the laws
2. Show them the way
3. Work they must do

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without preaching?

Romans 10:14

WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM US?

I beseech you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is that good and pleasing and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:1-2

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.

Matthew 6:33

Therefore you shall keep every commandment which I command you today that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land which you cross over to possess.

Deuteronomy 11:8

If we, as co-heirs, function according to God's kingdom, we have to understand that God does not operate in a way that we have always been used to.

Deuteronomy 11:9-12

- *The land is different to Egypt. There they planted a seed and had to do hard labor to water it, like a vegetable garden. (vs. 10 MESSAGE)*
- *There is just mountains and valleys (it is very big and not like a vegetable garden any more), and everybody is dependant on rainwater. You can not water this land with a hose pipe. It will need rain from heaven to satisfy it (vs. 11 MESSAGE).*

If God gives us a bigger land, it means that we will have to do things differently than what we are used to.

WE NEED TO LEARN TO PLACE THINGS IN ORDER.

It begins with the spirit world first. Let's not pretend. It's spirit first. It's Kingdom first. Earth is second. Not the other way around.

One of the things we have to empty ourselves of is our raging auto-dependency, our out-of-control self-dependency. We can't do it ourselves.

Here's the biblical, the spiritual and the cosmic reality of this. It speaks to the notion of free will. It speaks to the idea, that God knows our destiny but he allows us to choose our path.

HAVING A THIRD DAY EXPERIENCE.

Once you have your life in order, once you have order in that specific chapter, once you are able to see the mercy seat, once you are able to see that perfect order, then you too, can proceed to transformation.