**GOD KNOWS YOUR DESTINY!!**

Genesis 35:9-15

9. After Jacob returned from Paddan Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him. 10. God said to him, “Your name is Jacob, but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel.” So, he named him Israel. 11. And God said to him, “I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will be among your descendants. 12. The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you. 13. Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him. 14. Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it. 15. Jacob called the place where God had talked with him Bethel.

Last week in (Genesis 35: 1) God appeared to Jacob in a dream, and He asked him to go back to Bethel and settle there and build an altar there for God.  Jacob responds and he and his family moved to Bethel. God was not finished with Jacob God appeared to him again and blessed him. (Genesis 35:9-12), “your name God said to him is Jacob, but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel.” So, he named him Israel. And God said to him, “I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will be among your descendants. The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you. Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him. Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it. Jacob called the place where God had talked with him Bethel.

 Jacob destiny was in God hands, nothing and no one could ever take it away. We all know the story of Jacob, he was a deceiver, he deceived his brother Isaac, and he cheated Esau out of the blessing of the firstborn, he married with two sisters Leah and Rachel (Genesis 27:1-40). Despite of Jacob all fault, his desire was to please God that is why when God told him to go back to Bethel; he asked his family to get rid of the foreign gods before they returned to Bethel, where he placed his full attention to serve God.

God commands Jacob to go back to Bethel because God plan, and purpose was to Blessed Jacob and change his name from Jacob to Israel which means “One who prevails with God” or let God prevails. When you let God prevails in your life, nothing in the world has the power to stop God from blessing you, or your descendants. God will change your name from your birth name to a Sovereign name just like He change Jacob name from Jacob to Israel, which means one who prevails with God, Abram to Abraham which means father of many nations, Sarai to Sarah which means Princes, Simon to Peter which means Rock or Stone. God can change your name based on His plan for your life; He knows your capability; He knows what you were put in here for. People might mistake you for who you are because of your looks or your fault, but God will prove them wrong by changing your name to a Sovereign name; God will make the nations your inheritance, the earth your possession. (Psalm 2:8). Do not look at yourself as a fear-lure instead see yourself as a successful person. Jacob never thought that his name was going to change from Jacob to Israel because of his past, sometimes, your past can prepare you for the future, that is why it is important to rewind the tape so you can see your fault. When you do that, it will help you prepared for what God has installed for your life. The Psalmist says in Psalm 92: 12) The righteous will flourish like a palm tree; they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon. Stay faithful under the Mighty hands of God and He will direct your path; your life will be flourished like the Palm tree.