

Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

1 Samuel 16:23

“And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul that David took a harp, and played with his hand; so Saul was refreshed, and was well and the evil spirit departed from him.” 1 Samuel 16:23

We must first understand that the LORD never testes us with evil or is the cause of evil. (James 1:13-17; John 10:10). Saul’s blatant rebellion had opened the doors for this demonic oppression. This phrase “evil spirit from the LORD” is a statement of God’s permissive will, not His intended will. In the Lord’s sovereignty, He allows certain things, but it is not His best nor is it His desire for people to be oppressed.

As Christians, we carry the anointing of God. We are containers of His presence and glory. When we come on the scene, whether at home, work, or in the market place, we should expect the oppressed to be refreshed. We should expect that the bound would experience a certain freedom. We should expect the burdened to be encouraged.

But we must never allow these brief respites to satisfy us. Never allow the anointing to be used as a salve that offers only temporary relief. Men must be born again! They must know not just a momentary relief from oppression but the eternal answer to their sin – “neither is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

Jesus is LORD!