

BY PASTOR WALE AFELUMO

## PARTNERS IN PURPOSE: UP TO DATE

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCE

I Chronicles 12:23&32

### ADDITIONAL STUDY

Ecclesiastes 3:1 & 8:5, I Corinthians  
9:20-22 and Haggai 1:2-8

### PRAYER POINTS

+ Lord, may my mission and purpose be relevant and useful to the times I am in and the people to whom I am sent.

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Of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command. - I Chronicles 12:32

David indeed was a blessed man. This becomes more evident as we look at the quality of men that came to him. The tribe of Issachar contributed something remarkable – an understanding of the times. Life happens in cycles and seasons, and there is a right time for all that pertains to a man's life and purpose. Missing the 'right time' for a purpose can thwart a man's destiny and sometimes send his life on irreversible downturns. Although David was meant for the throne, timing was important, and he had on his team, 'timing experts of life's seasons.'

These were intelligent men, who understood the signs and the times, they were well versed in Israel's political affairs, and knew what was proper and needed to be done in all the affairs of human life. These men were up-to-date, they could read the state of minds of the people of Israel, and knew what their hearts yearned for. They perceived that it was in the national and political interest of Israel to install David as king and they were on hand to ensure that. These men could read the newspapers and interpret them in the light of prophecy, or read scriptures and interpret them in the context of their social construct. They knew what was appropriate for every occasion and studied prevailing trends to know how to intelligently engage.

There is nothing like having men who are up-to-date and conversant with the times on your team. They will help you and your organization stay relevant to your 'market' and find a connection between them and what you are called to do. They know the trend and how to propose or package what you are offering, so it can appeal to those you want to reach. They have an uncanny knowledge of decorum and protocols, and know the best way to approach matters and people. They are aware of extant laws regulating your field of interest. Such partners in purpose are often well-read (self-development), feel the pulse of the people and are abreast with the news. They help you align your purpose to your social, political and economic context. Today, they will be those who are savvy with the social media, blogs, mainstream media, etc. They know how to connect with the present millenials and the emerging generation.

I pray that 'Sons of Issachar' will arise for you as you journey into making a success of your calling. You need them and their unique aptitude. They will guide you in a way that your little efforts will make the most impact, just because they understand the right time for things to be done.