

## Message from Roy Wanta

esus came to proclaim an evangelistic message of life for the widow and also for us. Imagine if you were a widow in Africa. With the death of your husband, life almost ceases to exist. A majority of these ladies, without anyone representing them, lose everything. A widow is forced to a life of poverty with no home for her and her children, many times having no where to live. In the case of Maria, with her husband (the breadwinner) dead, her children are dying because she can't afford medicine and they have no roof over their heads.

Isaiah 61:1 says of the coming Messiah—Jesus—that He came to heal (bind up) the brokenhearted. Jesus quotes this verse in Luke chapter 4. Isaiah says that one of the ministries of the Messiah will be that of the healer. The word "broken" comes from the Hebrew word "shahbar" meaning crushed into pieces, shattered, bruised, disconnected. Brokenhearted literally means to shatter one's strength. These are women whose hearts have been broken to pieces by pain, who have been deceived, abused, financially broke, and let down by people in their lives. These are women who are suffering under crushing grief and are bound by bad memories; they are hopeless and sometimes see no reason for living.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18) This year, we would like to raise a shelter for some of these widows, who, at times, have no place to live. We would be putting up a building on our property next to our new school. We have some vacant land where some of them could plant some

food for themselves. Help us to help them. Can you help them each month? Jesus met a lot of people for a reason; one of the people that touched him was the widow of Nain. He had compassion on her. The phrase Luke uses to describe Jesus' reaction to this widow's grief was that it was spontaneous and heartfelt, rather than a deliberate encounter.

Luke 7:13 says that when the Lord saw her, His heart went out to her. In my experience, no one can feel that compassion unless a person has been there and dealt with these

widows firsthand and seen the hurt in their eyes. Words can not describe this. That is why I encourage people to come with me to Africa and help these women while there is still time. Again I say, if vou have a heart of compassion, they need your help. The word used in the Greek here is one of the most intense that could be used for this emotion. The KJV says, "...he had compassion on her". But even that phrase doesn't quite catch the depth of what Jesus felt at this

point. I believe the translation called *The Message* actually describes it best when it says, *"When Jesus saw her, His heart broke."* Jesus literally hurt for this woman. He was touched in the very depths of His heart by her tears.

Luke 7:12 says, "...a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow." Some of these widows in Africa are destitute with no visible means of support. That is why I am asking for your support to help with whatever you can.

God bless you, Roy



Brokenhearted

and suffering

from the desk of

Reverend John



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The 2012 widow's banquet, held on December 8th, was attended by 150 widows. Staple food items like rice, yam and garri were distributed to them.

This banquet was remarkable, considering the fact that the ravaging flood that swept across the nation brought hunger to many homes in Nigeria. Some widows came to me after the banquet with tears of joy and said that they lost hope of eating rice this season, if not for this banquet. Praise be to the name of the Lord.

(To Roy Wanta) I wish to express my regret over your inability to personally visit the widows in Enugu. My old vehicle has broken down beyond repair. Because of this, I will not be able to go and visit them to take care of their needs. It is my prayer that God, Who sent you to Nigeria on this mission, will supply this need of a vehicle, so you will have the safe ability to travel to view the project site. Please pass this report on to all men and women who love charity that it would be a work of mercy to help us buy a vehicle that will assist you and "I AM" World Outreach Mission to touch the lives of more widows in this remote part of Nigeria. May the Lord bless all "I AM" partners and supporters in America.

(To all partners) I wish to begin by thanking all the "I AM" partners in the United State of America. God indeed used all of you in 2012 to give relief and smiles to many widows in Nigeria. May the Lord reward you richly, in Jesus' name Amen.

Seeing the suffering of numerous widows in Africa is heartbreaking and mournful. That is why "I AM" is taking action of protecting and giving provisions to this helpless part of society. On the 26th of December, while "I AM" was distributing food, clothing and other materials to the widows, three of the widows caught our special attention.

I am, therefore, putting out a call to all lovers of humanity to come to the aid of these women. Remember, whatsoever you do to the least of these, Christ said you did unto Him. It is an investment that guarantees you an eternal dividend. The news of all that God is using all of you to do in the lives of these widows is spreading to all the nooks and crannies of our community like a wildfire. Surely, heaven is keeping your deeds as a memorial. No sacrifice is too big or too small. My household wishes all of you a happy and prosperous new year in 2013, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Yours in Christ, Rev. John Ani

"...the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest."

Deuteronomy 14:29





