

Fruitful in the Land of Affliction. *By Rev. Dereck Chunda*

Welcome to 2008! God has impressed upon my spirit that 2008 is the Year of Divine Opportunities. God will promote His people by way of giving them opportunities. Let me share with a word from God.

In the Bible there is one person who really ministers to me each time I read his account. The man is Joseph. The Bible says in Gen 41:50-52:

And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On, bore to him. Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: "For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house." And the name of the second he called Ephraim: "For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."

There two things we can learn from the names of Joseph's sons. Firstly we learn the need to FORGET. In the school of progress there is a requirement on everyone to forget the toil. Challenges of different forms will come along our way from time to time. There will always be some setbacks once in awhile. The worst thing that can happen is to be distracted by those setbacks. You must forget the toil and the struggles. Joseph made a deliberate decision not to be bogged down by the toils of the past. The best thing to do with 2007 is to forget the toils. The second word is FRUITFUL. God made Joseph fruitful in the land of affliction. Joseph prospered in the same place he had suffered loss and pain. This sounds like the experience of Peter who was able to catch fish in the same place he had failed before once he met Jesus (Luke 5:1-7). Jesus made all the difference to the experience of Peter. It is interesting to notice that it is God who made Joseph forget his toil by reason of prospering him. The same thing is going to happen to you. In 2008 God will make you forget simply by doing for you what you never imagined in Jesus name! Your business will grow beyond your wildest dreams. Your career will blossom! Your family will prosper! God will send people into your life who will be the source of your breakthrough. I want you to know that 2008 is your year!