



# **Fulfilling your ministry of being called to be ~ Part 1**

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27 June 2020**

# Introduction and approach ~ 1



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- **We live in an age where what one sees may not always be what it really is.**
- **Technological advancement has made it so. One can “doctor” photographs, videos and documents to project ideas and images in order to deceive.**
- **Politicians, advertisement executives, salesmen, to mention but a few are very good at this.**
- **Sadly, so called children of the kingdom have not been left behind in this art or science of trickery.**
- **The only problem for those of the kingdom is that “there is One who sees the heart of man”**
- **Image seems to be everything.**



# Introduction and approach ~ 2



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- In our pursuit of image we lose sight of the fact that the first call or ministry that God the creator gives to man is the call to be and the second is the call to do.
- In this sermon I will use the terms “BEING” and “DOING” to make my point.
- I will seek to use direct scriptural examples relating to the call or ministry to be. I will also use scriptures from which credible inferences can be made.
- I will ensure that in making inferences, the examples will not be far fetched and will be agreeable to anyone who thinks in a logical manner.
- Please note that there can be dire consequences for anyone who seeks to do without being.



# This is a life lesson



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- The subject of putting being before doing in the matters of fulfilling our ministry or calling should be seen as a life lesson by everyone who seeks to live a life that pleases the Lord.
- Let this lesson be a fundamental oracle of God to you.
- Make it your aim to learn and personify this life lesson. Do it because Jesus did.
- When you have learned it the next step is to intentionally teach it to others; commit it to others.

- [2 Timothy 2:2](#)

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.



# The heart of the matter



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**At the heart of the matter of being and doing are the small questions of identity, ownership and relationship.**



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# The heart of the matter



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- At the heart of the matter of being and doing are the small questions of:
  1. Identity – Who are you? Satan said “If you are”
  2. Ownership - God to whom I belong and whom I worship, ([Acts 27:23](#))
  3. Relationship – A member in good standing.
- "And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. ([John 8:50](#))
- "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ([John 6:38](#))
- Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come — In the volume of the book it is written of Me — To do Your will, O God.’” ([Hebrews 10:7](#))



# Scripture to concentrate the mind ~ 1



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- [Matthew 7:21 - 23](#)

**21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.**

**22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’**

**23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’**



# Scripture to concentrate the mind ~ 2



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- Please note that the Lord did not deny whatever ministries these people professed to have had:
  1. Did we not prophesy in your name? – YES YOU DID
  2. and cast out demons in your name? – YES YOU DID
  3. and do many mighty works in your name?’ – YES YOU DID
- YES, YOU DID THE MINISTRY BUT YOU WERE NOT.
- The Lord referred to them as “you workers of lawlessness”
- These people played the dangerous game of putting doing before being and now were receiving a severe shock. “I never knew you; depart from me”





# This should make you sit up ~ 1



- **1 Corinthians 13: 1 - 3**

**1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.**

**2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.**

**3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.**



# This should make you sit up ~ 2



- **Mighty tongues and no love: I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.**
- **Move powerfully in what has come to be called the power gifts – faith, word of knowledge, miracles, understand mysteries. But no love – I am nothing.**
- **I give away all I have, and I deliver up my body to be burned, but I have not love. I gain nothing.**
- **There are dire consequences of doing without being.**
  - **I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.**
  - **I am nothing**
  - **I gain nothing**



# This should make you sit up ~ 3



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- **God is love and He wants us to be like Him.**
- **Our God is first interested in what we are. What we do comes next.**
- **After all, it is God who gives us the ability to do what we do so why should He be impressed?**
- **What we are comes as a result of:**
  - **Yielding to God with our bodies on His altar.**
  - **Obeying His word and allowing Him to work in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure.**  
**(Philippians 2:13)**



# This should make you sit up ~ 4



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- Keeping our eyes constantly on Him. (Hebrews 12:2)
- Keeping in mind this: "Only One Life, 'Twill Soon Be Past. Only what's done for Christ will last.



# The heart and the mind = being



- Jeremiah 17:10

**9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?"**

**10 I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.**

- I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind.
- Our heart and mind make up who we really are.



# A note of caution



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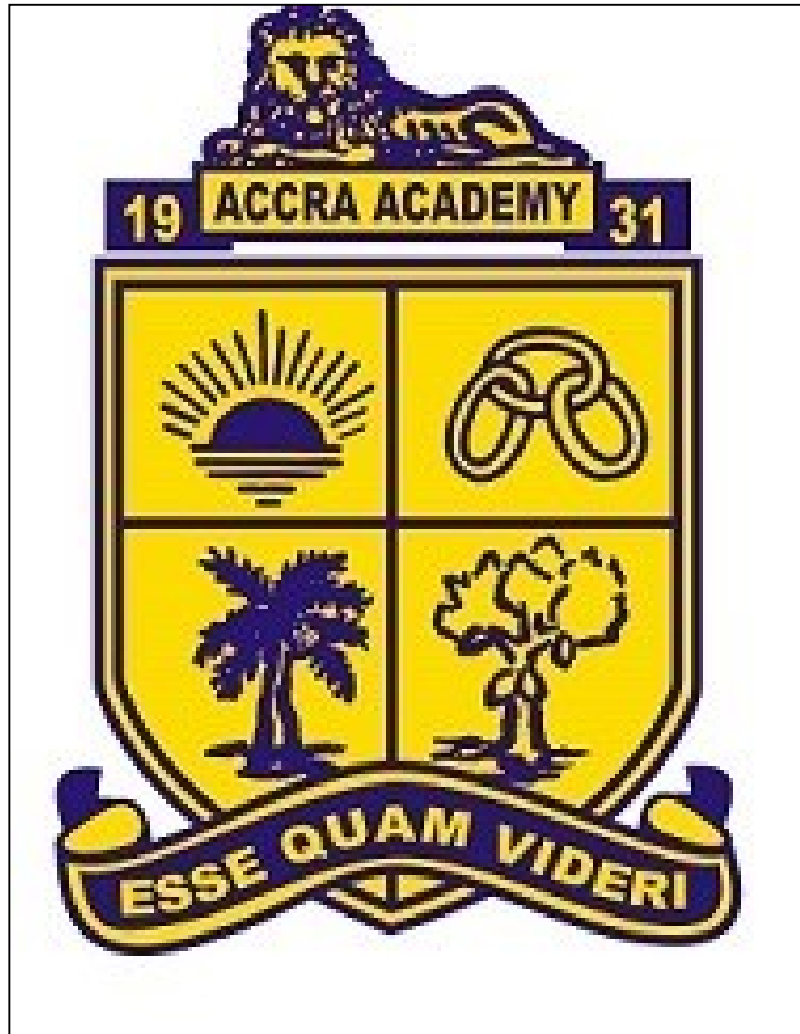


**Please note that this teaching on being before doing is not a call for us to be perfect before starting to do anything. That would be wrong. Rather it is a call for constant recalibration.**

# Esse Quam Videri



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be



- **Esse quam videri is Latin for “To be is better than to seem to be.” The problem with those who are not is that they try to give an appearance of being.**
- **And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11:14) This is very worst extreme!**



# First ministry = Called to be ~ 1



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- The ministry of being – called to be
- [John 10:36 \(New King James Version\)](#)  
do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?
- The order of things:
  1. The Father sanctified = MADE HOLY - BEING
  2. The Father sent = GAVE A TASK - DOING





# First ministry = Called to be ~ 2



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- **Romans 1:7 English Standard Version**

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **1 Corinthians 1:2 English Standard Version**

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:



# First ministry = Called to be ~ 3



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- [Romans 12:1 \(English Standard Version\)](#)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

- [Romans 12:1 \(Berean Study Bible\)](#)

Therefore I urge you, brothers, on account of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

- **TO BE IS TO HAVE A BODY THAT IS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD.**

- **THIS IS THE VERY ESSENCE OF TRUE WORSHIP.**



# First ministry = Called to be ~ 4



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- 1 Peter 2:9 New King James Version

**But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light;**

- 1 Peter 2:9 (English Standard Version)

**But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellences of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.**



# Why Christians can stop being



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- The fundamental problem is that one starts well in the ministry. Being and doing are going well.
- Then comes success, adulation and praises.
- Or else criticisms and jealousies come.
- Soon and rather too soon one forgets about the being part and is taken in with the doing part.
- The gift is loved more than the Giver.
- Results, rather than means gain prominence.
- Perspectives are lost and derailment is certain.
- If one does not repent quickly, disaster will set in and the dreaded “I never knew you” might come.
- Let us sit up quickly without delay.



# E. M Bounds on the need to be ~ 1



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- **The character as well as the fortunes of the gospel is committed to the preacher. He makes or mars the message from God to man. The preacher is the golden pipe through which the divine oil flows. The pipe must not only be golden, but open and flawless, that the oil may have a full, unhindered, unwasted flow.**
- **The man makes the preacher. God must make the man. The messenger is, if possible, more than the message. The preacher is more than the sermon.**
- **The preacher makes the sermon. As the life-giving milk from the mother's bosom is but the mother's life, so all the preacher says is tinged, impregnated by what the preacher is.**



# E. M Bounds on the need to be ~ 2



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- **The treasure is in earthen vessels, and the taste of the vessel impregnates and may discolour. The man, the whole man, lies behind the sermon.**
- **Preaching is not the performance of an hour. It is the outflow of a life. It takes twenty years to make a sermon, because it takes twenty years to make the man.**
- **The true sermon is a thing of life. The sermon grows because the man grows. The sermon is forceful because the man is forceful. The Sermon is holy because the man is holy.**
- **The sermon is full of the divine unction because the man is full of the divine unction.**



# Beware: The root of bitterness



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be



**Treat bitterness as you would treat a deadly virus or cancer as it will surely poison everything that proceeds out of you.**

**(Hebrews 12:15)**

**You will have a “death dealing” ministry if you do not avoid it.**



# Get things in the right order



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be



**I must not forget  
that my first calling  
and ministry is to  
be and then comes  
the ministry of  
doing.**



# Doing must always follow doing



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be



**To be without doing is inconceivable. It would be a make believe, a sham, and a false profession.**

# Problems of doing without being



Fulfil your ministry of being called to be

- To have a ministry without the pre-requisite being will lead to the following:
  1. Frustration with yourself and with others.
  2. Disillusionment with others.
  3. Anger displayed towards the innocent.
  4. Domineering. Forcing people to acknowledge you.
  5. Controlling spirit – very unsavoury.
  6. Turn to dubious means because you are not real.
  7. People will avoid your company because you become unpleasant company.
  8. Bad, bad news for all.
- Perfect examples are King Saul and Diotrefes.



# How to remain true in being



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- **Matthew 11:29 (Contemporary English Version)**  
Take the yoke I give you. Put it on your shoulders and learn from me. I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest.
- Follow the be attitudes (beatitudes) in Matthew 5
  - Blessed *are* the meek – verse 5
  - Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness - verse 6
  - Blessed *are* the merciful - verse 7
  - Blessed *are* the pure in heart – verse 8
  - Blessed *are* the peacemakers – verse 9

