



50-DAY PRAYER AND FASTING SEASON
19th August – 7th October 2023

PRAYING FOR THE BUSINESS AND ECONOMY SECTOR

Isaiah 60: 5, 6

*Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.*

PRAYER GUIDE

WEEKLY FOCUS 2023

Week 1:	20 th August – 26 th August	Family and the Business/Economy Sphere
Week 2:	27 th August – 2 nd September	Church and the Business/Economy Sphere
Week 3:	3 rd September – 9 th September	Government and the Business/Economy Sphere
Week 4:	10 th September – 16 th September	Education and the Business/Economy Sphere
Week 5:	17 th September – 23 rd September	Media and the Business and the Economy Sphere
Week 6:	24 th September – 30 th September	Celebration/Arts and the Business/Economy Sphere
Week 7:	1 st October – 7 th October	Global Business/Economy

THE OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2023/24 PRAYER SEASON ARE:

1. To seek divine enablement for the Body of Christ to rise to its place in the Business/Economy Sphere.
2. To pray for the economies of Uganda and Africa to rise to their divine destinies.
3. To pray for the restructuring of the global economy to a more righteous and just one.
4. To seek divine enablement for the individual, family, and organizational fulfillment of divine destinies in our generation and the ones to come.

MAIN PRAYER FOCUS OF THE WEEK:

1. A breakup the current global economic system and its replacement with one that is fair to all nations.
2. An economic awakening in Uganda and Africa.

WEEK SEVEN: AFRICA AND THE GLOBAL BUSINESS/ECONOMY SPHERE

1st October - 7th October 2023

PSALM 72: 1-4

¹*Give the king Your judgments, O God, and Your righteousness to the king's Son.*

²*He will judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice.*

³*The mountains will bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness.*

⁴*He will bring justice to the poor of the people; He will save the children of the needy,
And will break in pieces the oppressor.*

A good biblical example of international cooperation is that which took place between King Solomon of Israel and King Hiram of Tyre as recorded in 2 Chronicles 2. Solomon had been charged with building the temple and though his father King David left a lot of resources for the task, they were not enough to complete the work. Through international cooperation between the Kings of Israel and Tyre, the assignment was completed to the glory of God. In the account given in 2 Chronicles 2, there was a fair exchange of goods, services and resources between Israel and Tyre; no country exploited the other. In His wisdom, God has distributed resources all over the world. He expects nations to fulfill purpose and destiny through international cooperation and fair trade, not through manipulation, oppression and theft fueled by greed.

This week we are appealing to the God of Justice, the Judge of the whole earth to break in pieces the oppressor, bring justice to the poor of the people and save the children of the needy. We are also asking His help to enable Uganda and Africa to maximize the opportunities He has given us.

Africa is so rich and yet so poor. The continent is the most endowed with natural resources, of all continents. 30% of the world's minerals reserves sit in Africa and yet according to official figures the continent contributes less than 3% of global output and accounts for over 50% of the world's poor. The situation African countries face regarding world trade was succinctly put by President Nyerere when he lamented.

"The price at which cotton is bought and sold in the market is determined by the workings of the international free market; countries of the South learn what the prices will be by listening to reports from Britain, USA, and Europe. The cost of producing that cotton is completely irrelevant; so is the cost of living of the worker or peasant in the cotton fields. On the other hand, the prices of lorries, tractors, railway wagons, fertilizers, etc., are all determined by the producers – the transnational corporations and other firms."

The prices of Africa's main products – diamonds, coffee, oil, cocoa, cobalt, sugar, iron ore, tea, aluminium, gas, cotton, maize – are determined in the commodity markets overseas but not in Africa.¹ Even with the coming of the Chinese, Africa's relationship with China is essentially structured like the one it had with imperial Europe: a source of raw materials, a market for manufactured goods, and a field for some development projects. China's voracious appetite for resources touched off the second "Scramble for Africa."

Given the amount of mineral and other resources taken out of Africa for a pittance, Africa's true contribution to world trade is much higher than is officially acknowledged. Indeed, a good

¹ (Ssepuuya, p.59)

number of global industries would collapse if the African continent was suddenly closed off to the rest of the world. The reason is that what Africa produces today is often simply looted or is greatly underpriced. That which is taken out is often in its primary state with no value addition, where it fetches the lowest value.

Africa supplies most of America's strategic minerals. China, which has over 50% of the 17 rare-earth minerals, is consolidating its hold by stockpiling these industrially strategic resources.² The sources of these industrially strategic resources will probably be in Africa while Africa's leaders and peoples still sleep.³ Unfortunately this would be at the cost of Africa's prospective industrialization, unsuspecting as the continent usually is.⁴ If industrialized countries are doing it, African governments need to think quickly and deeply about setting aside strategic reserves of its resources for use in prospective industrialization drives or refusing to mine them at all until the countries are ready to industrialize. Unfortunately international trade policies are skewed in a way that makes it difficult for African countries to industrialize.

For centuries, Africa's trade with the rest of the world: engagement in slave trade, low-value agricultural production, and the present-day extraction of minerals were all done with an overriding foreign interest (Muhumuza in Ssepuuya, p.14). Africa exports the best of its natural capital while importing back goods processed from that natural capital at multiple times the cost. Producing what we do not consume and selling it at very low prices and consuming what we do not produce while buying it at very high prices. It is a net loss both ways, for example coffee African countries like Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Ethiopia are the among the top producers of coffee globally. Among these, only Ethiopia appears among the top fifteen countries that export the highest dollar value of coffee. The list of countries that benefit most from global coffee trade is populated by countries that do not grow a single tree of coffee.⁵ "African countries are trapped in a state of existence in which by giving away their natural capital (people, agricultural produce, mineral resources, hydrocarbons) to others to convert into their own productive capital, they forfeit the intermediating benefits that include factories, jobs, deepened and widened tax bases, reinforced financial services, broadened logistical industries, increased civil infrastructure, diversified exports and skilled manpower."⁶

It is evident that the global trade and economic systems are rigged to favour certain nations while disadvantaging others. As a result, Africans continue building other continents while we remain poor. The Atlantic slave trade that lasted about 400 years from the 15th to the 19th centuries was critical in building the economies of the Americas and some European countries to the detriment of Africa. Today the rigged economic and trade systems of the world ensure that Africa remains a net producer of raw materials for the world. In addition, all the noise about global warming and policies related to it are framed among others to ensure that Africa does not industrialize.

Pray for God's intervention to prepare the continent of Africa economically for the future that is unfolding:

- In the next 70-80 years Africa will see a population explosion nearly unprecedented in human history.
- By the end of this century almost half the world's children may be African.
- 40% of all humans will be African by the end of the century.

² (Ssepuuya, p.281)

³ (Ssepuuya, p.281)

⁴ (Ssepuuya, p.281)

⁵ (Ref Ssepuuya, p.36)

⁶ (Ssepuuya, p.41).

- In 2100, Africa will be as densely populated as China is today.

Pray that:

- God will break the stranglehold of the unjust global economic system that has tied chains around the necks of African countries.
- The power of both foreign and local interest groups that are determined to keep the status quo in which Africa is a consumer of imported manufactured goods will be broken.
- God will break to pieces the power of oppressor nations, institutions and organizations that are holding us captive.
- God will rid the continent of leaders who are greedy and 'parasiting' off the African people for their personal gain. Pray for a collective rejection of those with an Esau mentality – selling off our birth rights as African people.
- Africans will increasingly get a full appreciation of who God has made us to be.
- A new sense of ownership and nationalism will emerge all over the Africa continent regarding all that God has endowed us with, together with a collective commitment to safeguard them and responsibly utilize them.
- God will raise leaders that will wisely steward the abundant mineral and natural resources that Africa has on behalf of her people and the future generations.

Pray for Uganda and Africa that:

- We will have a reduction in import dependence (Uganda currently exports goods and services worth \$4.4 billion and imports \$8 billion worth of goods and services).
- We will have an increase in exports.
- There will be a maximization of our potential in all the ways that the Creator endowed us.
- Value addition will become the norm for everything we export.
- The attitude of mediocrity will be broken.
- There will be a major attitudinal change to value what we produce locally (Pray for the success of *Build Ugandan: Buy Ugandan - BUBU*).
- The service sector will grow to its full potential: this includes tourism, establishment of call centres, etc.
- Through improvement in education, there will be a major upgrade in the quality of labour exported; that our sons and daughters will not end up simply continuing to provide slave labour for other nations.
- African countries will be delivered from the debt trap: that there will be prudent debt acquisition, prudent utilization of loans. Pray for God's intervention in unjust loans that have already been acquired that have tied a rope around our necks.
- There will be an enabling environment for trade to flourish across the continent: security, low inflation, stable exchange rate, quality standards, fair tax systems, no corruption, infrastructure development.
- There will be free movement of people, goods, and services across African countries.
- Policies will ensure that we get quality investors and not exploiters.
- There will not be over dependence on any resource at the expense of others (the term 'Dutch disease' is widely used in economic circles as a shorthand way of describing the paradoxical situation in which seemingly good news, such as the discovery of large oil reserves, negatively impacts a country's broader economy).

SCRIPTURES FOR PRAYER

ISAIAH 60:6

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

PSALM 72:15

Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him!

May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day!

PSALM 68:30

Rebuke the beasts that dwell among the reeds, the herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples.

Trample underfoot those who lust after tribute; scatter the peoples who delight in war.

Nobles shall come from Egypt; Cush shall hasten to stretch out her hands to God.

MATTHEW 5:9

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

ISAIAH 40:15-18

Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales;
behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.

Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering.

All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and
emptiness.

To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him?

DANIEL 2:21

Daniel answered and said:

“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might.

He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings;

he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding

DANIEL 4:34-35

At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation;
all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven
and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

ACTS 17:26

And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place...

DEUTERONOMY 32:8

When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

LEVITICUS 19:33,34

"When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

JEREMIAH 10:6,7

There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might.
Who would not fear you, O King of the nations? For this is your due;
for among all the wise ones of the nations and in all their kingdoms
there is none like you.