



My Victory

From the power of darkness onto light

My name is Junot Cochilus. I was born on the 7th of September 1977 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. I am the eldest of a family of six and have three brothers and two sisters. Becoming a Christian was the biggest challenge I have ever faced. My mother and all the people around me were strong voodoo believers, deeply rooted in witchcraft. In the small town where I grew up, about 80% of the people were Satan worshippers. Most of my friends had to go to a voodoo ceremony twice a week believing that they were serving the one true and living God.

I remember there were several worship centers in the vicinity, four were dedicated to voodooism and one was dedicated to Christianity. My whole life was strongly influenced by voodoo worshippers but God had a plan for my life and had claimed me before this world came into existence. One of my best friends, Olgens Toussaint, convinced me to attend some community Christian revivals. He would tell me that worshipping idols is a sin against God. *“Do not worship any other god beside me. Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish...”* Gen. 20:4. After I read these verses, I feared that one day I would die without the assurance of salvation.

photos by Jeremy Ball

I strongly supported my mother and father, worshipping 31 other gods representing 31 nations in the voodoo world. The devil was convincing me that the bible was in contradiction with itself. As a son, I had to learn to obey my mother according to scripture *"Honor your father and mother..." Eph. 6:2*. Satan used this verse to trick and govern my life for eighteen years. I was so confused that I threatened to join a Masonic lodge because the Masons in Haiti were known for wisdom. At the same time I was invited to a revival where Evangelist Billy Joe from Oklahoma spoke about Jesus Christ's sacrifice on Calvary. I read in Romans 3:23 *"For the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord."* I did not want to be punished for the sins of my parents. Knowing the truth, I turned away from accepting Him into my life because of relentless ridicule from friends.

New Life and Trials

In 1995, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior and Redeemer. Because of my decision, I suffered persecution at the hands of my friends



and family. Spells were cast on me day after day. I went through many hardships during this time, backsliding in my walk after being thrown out of my house by my mother. I stopped going to school for a few years to raise funds for my last two years of high school by working as a civilian translator with the "US Military / Operation Uphold Democracy".

In 1998, during a "Global Mission Fellowship Evangelistic Campaign", I rededicated my life to the Lord. Since then I have been involved with more than 50 evangelistic campaigns throughout Haiti. Later I joined "Grace Assembly Network of Churches" before I becoming a leader of "Walk Thru' the Bible Ministries in Haiti".

Start of a Dream

I'd been living in the US for three years when I began praying and asking God for new directions. He answered my prayers, calling me back to Haiti as a missionary to serve my people. Early this year, I met with many fellow Christians from Charlotte, sharing my vision and passion to serve the people of Haiti. Through this work we started United Effort for the Poor (UnEP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to feeding the Haitian people and

returning Haiti to her destiny as a blessing to the nations.

Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas. It ranks 150th out of 175 countries on the United Nations Human Development Index. Some 80 percent of Haitians are unemployed and most of the country's 9 million residents live on less than \$2 per day. UnEP seeks to serve the poor in Haiti by providing services to improve the health and vitality of the communities where UnEP is involved.

I will embark on my first mission trip to Haiti in September 2009. For a month, I will be working with the Haitian Network of Pastors, preparing for a revival and leadership seminar. Please join me by supporting me during my trip.

**Join me on my mission to Haiti
with a donation of any amount.**

Please send all contributions to:

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