

**GOOD NEWS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE AND SEMINARY**

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ACCRA – NORTH – GHANA  
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**A SHORT HISTORY OF THE APOSTLES' REVELATIONS  
SOCIETY**

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS COURSE CHURCH HISTORY  
[HS. 303]**

**PRESENTED TO REV. DR. THOMAS ODURO**

**BY**

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All bible quotations stated are from the kings James version

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G.N.T.C.S Oyibi – Accra, Ghana

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My appreciation also goes to all lectures of Good News Theological College and Seminary for all the kind gesture they shown to me during my studies in the school.

My thanks also goes to the Executive Board, The Apostles Revelation Society Ashiaman Branch, for their direction and information given to me about the church and to all those who in divers ways helped me in achieving this moral and religious education to reach other people.

May God of Host richly bless you in all Jesus name.

## **INTRODUCTION**

As a requirement for every final year student of Good News Theological College to write about any one of the churches instituted in Africa.

I have chosen to write a short History of Apostle Revelation Society. This church was established in a small village in the Volta Region in Ghana, by Mawu Fe Ame Charles Kobla Nutornutsi Wovenu in 1939. How God use the man in performing great things. Even though the founder is dead, the church is still functioning. The church has branches in about twenty countries, fifty four regions, one hundred and forty districts and seven hundred and sixty nine branches.

In figures

Countries - 20

Regions - 54

Districts - 140

Branches - 769

Estimated Pastoral 800

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of writing this history of this church is to help the seminary to know more about different religions bodies and their doctrines, background and practices in Ghana and Africa as whole.

## **Chapter One**

### **The life History of the founder**

#### **The birth**

Apostle Revelation Society (A.R.S) was founded by Apostle Mawu Fe Ame Charles Kobla Nutornutsi Wovenu. The Apostle was born in a small village called Anyako in the Volta Region of Ghana in West Africa. His parents were Mr. Mutornsi Kluvia and Mrs. Mikayanawo Dzakpata. The Apostle was the only child to her Mother Madam Mikayanawo Dzakpata. He was born in the year 1918 after the First World War.

The Apostle was born in the bush because His maternal grandfather Sewonu Dzalata objected his father just because of his daughter's marriage. For that reason, his grandfather was so cruel to his mother and even was sacked from the house when she was pregnant until she gave birth to the apostle. He was then given the name Kobla Nutornutsi Woenu Manu Fe Ame.

#### **EDUCATION AND PROFESSION**

Apostle Manu Fe Ame Wovenu Nuto mitsi stated his elementary education at Adxoun in Togo and continued in Ghana at Anyako since his mother died in 1932 and was catering by a relative Mr. Joseph P. Attipoe at Akuse in Ghana. He was employed as a warder in the prison service in 1935 at Akuse but later resigned from the prison service after service one year.

He also worked with the Consolidated Africa Selection Trust (CAST), a diamond prospecting company in Akwatia. Because of sincerity and faithfulness, he was posted from chemical ranks to supervisor at (C.A.S.T).

#### **RESIGNATION FROM WORK**

In October 1939, there was a conscription that the men from his company are to join the army to fight for their colonial masters in the World War II. This made him break out from the company he was working with.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **BRIEF RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND**

Prophet C.K.N. Wovenu was born into an idol worshipping community. His mother was compelled to another man by his grandfather Dzakpata, therefore became a step son to Mr. Cephas Godor who was a Christian living at Assahoun in Togo. He was then three years of age.

The young C.K.N Wovenu always cried whenever he sees a minister of the Lord and he passionately expressed the desire to be baptized. His mother who was then not a Christian took him to Bremen Mission to be baptized at the age of eight years in the year 1926 by Rev. Robert Doming Baeta. He gave him the name Charles Kobla Nutornutsi Wovenu.

Crises in the early Christian, Prophet Wovenu inscribed his name in gold and like all the great and famous Christian man, toiled very hard to leave indelible marks for posterity. As an evangelist, the Lord ordained him as (King of Light) he was magnanimous father and guardian.

The founding of every institution has its trials and tribulations. The prophet also saddled with numerous difficulties at the beginning tried to established schools and churches in the mist of Idol worshippers through his determination, perseverance and strong will powers. Apart from the Idol worshippers, he was saddened and persecuted by rival religious organizations to thwart his work and even discredited him. In spite of all the hostilities perpetrated against him, he never retaliated but honoured all their functions which he was invited.

However, he felt reluctant to reciprocate his Christian gestures. At the age of fourteen in 1932, his mother's colleagues hated her for attending church with him and they invited her mother to their fetish grove where she was warned not to go to church again and she refused. As a result, his mother was killed by their lay practices in the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 1932. After his mother's death, he stayed with a relative called Mr. Joseph Prenphah Attipoe who took care of him for two years (1932-1934).

The prophet left to Akuse Amedeke to work more as he faced many challenges. His landlady stopped him from singing or praying. Fortunately, a man came in his way who was a Christian who encouraged him greatly to worship God.

### **MSSION**

After a short stay at Anyako, in November 1<sup>st</sup> 1939, he moved to Tadzewu where he commenced his desire missionary work. The prophet certainly improved by God for his ministerial ministry. The power of God was so great in him that he was able to perform many miracles: curing all manner of disabilities and abnormalities. He made cripples walk, he showed benevolence towards the needy, the poor, the destitute, the afflicted, the despaired and other in helpless states were unparalleled.

The prophet established free institutions to enable everybody to have equal access to educate or vocational training. Most of the institutions were later absorbed into Ghana Education Service.

Prophet C.K.N. Wovenu did not have any tertiary education yet he impressed and astounds many people with his astute knowledge of the scriptures. In spite of all the persecutions, he was able to transform and convert the remote pagan village to Tadzewu into a modern Christian worship. He

linked it surrounding towns and villages with roads e.g. Akatsi, Devogo, Dzodze, Xevi and Abor all in the Volta region in Ghana. He provided the communities with Post Offices, Police station, electricity, portable drinking water, he commenced good housing scheme and heavily centre.

## **PATRIOTISM**

The prophet is so patriotic that involve himself in activities with the church and the communities as well. As a philanthropic gesture, he created the Agortor weather project due to his loving, kindness, selflessness and concern for peace unity and development of rural communities through self reliance.

The prophet travelled to other countries to continue his mission of evangelism. He established branches of the Apostle Revelation Society churches in the United Kingdom (UK), United States of America (USA), Canada, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Israel and Yugoslavia. He has to his credit over seven hundred branches in the West Africa Sub Region. This includes eleven (11) branches in Togo, Nine (9) in Benin, Two (2) in Ivory Coast and Nigerian and in Ghana, there are many branches opened in all the regions.



## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **HIS DEATH**

For everything has its season and for every activity under heaven has its time: a time to be born and a time to die Eccl. 3:1-2. As usual task, on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 1999, the prophet travelled to London with some of his evangelical team.

According to her, they went and perform all that is assigned to them and a day before they were to return to Ghana on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1999, the Prophet chatted and ate with them, sing his usual song in ewe song [A.R.S. 115 Novviwo Miva Minyo] while they all went to bed.

According to my inquisition, the prophet passed away that night the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1999 in London at the age of 81 years.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **EVANGELISM AND PRAYER GROUP**

In the process of his evangelism in the area, the Lord enlightened some people and they had a prayer groups. Finally, he returned to his hometown at Anyako on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1939. The prophet formed a prayer group among the pupils of Anyako and after prayers and fasting a revelation was revealed among them that the fellowship should be called Apostles Revelations Society. The church's motto is Thy Kingdom come.

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHURCH**

Since the spirit grew more in Prophet Wovenu and God manifested Himself through him in all activities, the group consulted a man call Togbi Cahume gbor Sedzro at Tadzewu for some piece of land. The man willingly offered to him and the first church building called Tadzewu was built on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1939 (see the first building from the pictorial history at the back). These are some of the first bed rock of the Apostle Revelation Society.

1. Christian Yaavi Ahanazi
2. J.B. Tetey
3. Leonard Attipoe
4. Florence Fefemwole
5. Vincentia Alipoe
6. Samuel Hoggar
7. Prosper Akaba
8. Harry Senayah
9. Godson Akaba
10. Lumorvi Agbeyome

### **SUCCESSORS**

Prophet Mawu Te Ame C.K.N Wovenu did mothering of his own without consulting God by fasten and prayer. He sealed his prayer that, in case an officer or pastor Judje dies or remove they should quire from God through prayer and fasting then the pastor should perform all the necessary purification.

### **ACTIVITIES: EVANGELISM**

Apostle Revelation Society and the evangelism team of Apostles Revelation Society bases into doctrine on the Holy Bible. Therefore they use the commission given to all Christian in the Gospel of Mark 16:15 "Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature". Base on this scripture, the church considers it as incumbent on every member of the church to evangelize wherever he or

she and it is imperative that this duty must be accomplished before the second coming of Jesus Christ in order that the whole world may be saved.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **MARRIAGE**

- a. Apostle Revelation Society beliefs that marriage is a divine institution and divine obligation for mankind to fulfil according to the scripture Genesis 1:26 “let us make man in our image, in our likeness and let them rule over all the earth”.
- b. The church belief that in this way, mankind can increase and multiply as in Gen. 1:27
- c. Apostle Revelation Society belief that marriage is started before also being about the union of man and woman and the joy and the help desire one of the other and ends all the gloom of loneliness and blessing to Gen. 28.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Holy Communion is an act of retrace of God and His son Jesus Christ who instituted it. It's an expression of true love towards our neighbour which is the will of God. The church belief that whenever they eat communion, they become union with Christ and members of God in their present as in Luke 22:19.

The communion help them jeep watch agencies all uncleanliness and keep them Holy through constant partaking of it as stated in the bible 1 Cor. 11L: 28-29.

### **PURIFICATION AFTER CHILD BIRTH**

A woman who becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son will be ceremonially and unclean for seven days just as she is unclean during her monthly period and on the eight day, she is to be circumcised. Then the woman waits thirty-three days to be purified from her bleeding. She must not touch anything sacred or go to the church until the days of her purification is over. If she gives birth to a girl then for two weeks, she should remain unclean for the end of sixty six days for the purification.

From my inquisition, the inception of the society up to the present, the following are the sacrament they perform.

- Baptism by inversion
- Confirmation
- Holy anointing oil ordination of elders as judges and pastors

### **NAMES: OUT-DOORING**

A new born baby is kept in the room till he or she is one week i.e. 8 days but if the baby is a girl then she would be in the room for 2 weeks i.e. 16 days according to the law given in the scriptures Lev. 12:1-7 and Luke 2:21.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **THE CHURCH GOVERNMENT**

When the missionary works was expanding, the man of God selected some of the members and trained them to be pastors judges in 19<sup>th</sup> June 1949. The church is governed by the successors as the founder commissioned: National headquarters, districts leaders and judges.

### **THE SYNOD**

The church have synod as counsellors or board of directors. The first synod was established on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1958 with 16 members together with the district pastors.

All the District Pastors

- |                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Ben King, Esq. For     | Anlo District  |
| 2. Rev. R.K. Nutsuatko    | Synod Clerk    |
| 3. Mad. Emma Gordon       | Accra District |
| 4. Philip Siaw, Esq.      | Accra District |
| 5. J.K. Agrobom Esq.      | Buem District  |
| 6. J.K. Amenu Esq.        | Buem Dist.     |
| 7. Rudof Edifor, Esq.     | Kpando Dist.   |
| 8. T.M. Bassaba, Esq.     | Kpando Dist.   |
| 9. N.K. Ababio, Esq.      | Dededo Dist.   |
| 10. J.K. Ahakuto, Esq.    | Dededo Dist.   |
| 11. D.K. Gagakumah, Esq.  | Ho Dist.       |
| 12. William Nunguie, Esq. | Ho Dist.       |

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### CALENDAR: THE CHURCH HAS IMPORTANT EVENTS OF CELEBRATIONS IN EVERY YEAR

1. New Year's Day Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. 2000 Elects do Day Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>
3. Bible Sabbath Day Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>
4. Palm Sabbath Day Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>
5. Declaration Day Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>
6. Good Friday Day Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>
7. Holy Saturday Day Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>
8. Easter Sabbath Day Mar. 28<sup>th</sup>
9. Death of Founder Day April 10<sup>th</sup>
10. Pentecost Day May 15<sup>th</sup>
11. All Souls Day June 22<sup>nd</sup>
12. Children's Day June 26<sup>th</sup>
13. Women Council July 31<sup>st</sup>
14. Governing Body Day Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>
15. Agbenunyale Day Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>
16. Victory Day Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>
17. Annual Harvest Day Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>
18. Founder Day Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>
19. Marriage Day Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>
20. Christmas Day Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

## **CHAPTER EIGHT**

### **THE CHURCH DOCTRINES**

The Apostles Revelation Society (A.R.S) belief in God the Jehovah, The Son Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit, The Bible and The Angels.

- A. Jehovah God: the A.R.S believes God Jehovah is the creator of Heaven and earth and the things in it. He is eternal God Ps. 102:27
- B. The Son Jesus Christ: God revealed Himself as man to some of us. John 8:58
- C. The Apostles Revelation Society believes that the Holy Spirit is the third person of God. The comforter and teacher John 14:16-17
- D. The Bible: A.R.S believe that the bible is the word of God and the word is spirit John 6f:63, John 14:15.
- E. The Angel: the church believes that angels are messengers of God and they deliver God's messages to man.
- F. Holy Oil: the Holy Oil is applied in the church to heal the sick, ordination and baptism.
- G. Holy Water: special Holy Water is use for purification Num. 19:7-22.
- H. Sandals: the church believes when going to the sanctuary, it is proper to remove your sandals as you give honour to God since it is the Holy place to the Lord Ex. 3:5, Joshua 5:15.

### **CONCLUSION**

The strength of any building depends upon its foundation. In the same way, the quality of one's Christian life depends upon the spiritual foundation he lays when he first comes to the Lord. From my research of the Apostle Revelation Society, I have notice that their whole teaching and doctrines emphasize on prophetic healing and evangelism.

The founder of A.R.S. shows clearly that he was chosen by God to show his mighty power on the members of the whole church body especially in Ghana; he cited the Tema Harbour to be built in Tema and consecrated the castle in 1966.

I notice that Prophet C.K.C Wovenu, the founder, did not preach alone but did many miracles. Tracing his background, he opened many school churches and his opinion is to help the widow orphans and the needy.

Pictures from here on.