

## *Endorsements*

Reading "*The Leaders' 7 Deadly Venoms*", I couldn't help but to remember the many battles, trials, attacks, and ultimately the victories that Bishop Orrin and I have seen over the past 20 years in ministry! Wow! I'm so thankful to God who has given us the VICTORY! We NEEDED a book like this coming up! Lol! It surely would've been a great help. Bishop Orrin gives leaders and congregations a deeper look into the warfare of a leader, pitfalls to watch out for, exposes the tactics of the enemy, and gives strategies for winning! There are so many pastors/leaders silently suffering and hurting. I am certain this book will help many people. Every pastor/leader needs a copy of this book! Every member should be armed with a copy. I'm so proud of my husband's courage to pen this script! I've watched him navigate through so many battles. Preaching his best sermons during the worst of times! Building despite of all. Marching forward because of the duty of the call! Don't waste time in getting your copy! This book will transcend your life!

***Medina Pullings***

Bishop Orrin K. Pullings

A familiar refrain from pastors and church leaders is, “Why is this person (or group) so adamantly opposed to what I’m attempting to accomplish? I’m just trying to help people!” Relentless opposition is at best a distraction, and at worst can cause a God-given vision to be compromised or even canceled.

Bishop Orrin K. Pullings new book, *The Leaders' 7 Deadly Venoms: Conquering 21st Century Opposition* gives you invaluable insight into the reasons for the opposition you experience, as well as strategies to overcome it. Opposition is inevitable, but it doesn't have to be fatal to your vision or your personal well-being. Bishop Pullings provides the antidote to the venoms every successful leader will encounter.

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The Leaders' 7 Deadly Venoms

# *Chapter One*

The Spirit of Venom

The word venom, in its simplest explanation, means poison. Often times, the two words are used interchangeably. Venom has two definitions; one of which expresses the natural science of what venom really is and another to express a more psychological state of being that is used.

**Definition:**

VENOM: 1) A poisonous substance secreted by animals such as snakes, spiders, and scorpions and typically injected into prey or aggressors by biting or stinging.

2) Extreme malice and bitterness shown in someone's attitude, speech, or actions.

The spirit of venom is a psychological state of using past hurt and pain as a catalyst of venom.

It is also a defense mechanism that people use every time they notice something familiar coming along. People will often “throw up a wall of venom,” as a means of protecting themselves. Venom is also the backlash that someone might receive, as a result of someone else’s actions. You see, venom is a major form

## The Leaders' 7 Deadly Venoms

of defense, almost like putting a wall up. Most people that have any type of venom, also have been used or mistrusted by someone else in the past. You see this often in the case of someone that may get into a relationship with someone new, but holds onto the offenses of the last person.

When the Word of God speaks of poison or venom, it uses both definitions in correlation with each other. The insects mentioned in scripture are used, as metaphors, to depict the behavior of humans and the wicked one, not the righteous.

Such is the case with Psalm 58:1-4:

### ***Psalm 58:1-4 NASB***

*“Do you indeed speak righteousness, O gods?  
Do you judge uprightly, O sons of men? <sup>2</sup> No, in  
heart you work unrighteousness; on earth  
you weigh out the violence of your hands. <sup>3</sup> The  
wicked are estranged from the womb;  
these who speak lies go astray from birth.  
<sup>4</sup> They have venom like the venom of a serpent;  
like a deaf cobra that stops up its ear,”*

***Psalm 140:3 Parallel***

*“<sup>3</sup>They make their tongues as sharp as a snake's bite; viper's venom is under their lips. Selah”*

***Romans 3:13 Parallel***

*“<sup>13</sup>Their throat is an open grave; they deceive with their tongues. Vipers' venom is under their lips.”*

Venom or poison is lodged inside of insects such as spiders, bees, snakes, and scorpions. Their venom is used as a defense mechanism for the prey and predators. In the expression of psychological thoughts, venom is used by humans against the character of another person and even used to demean, undermine and dethrone or remove from a place of authority and influence in the minds of people. Some are blissfully unaware of the negative impact that they have on those around them and others seem to derive satisfaction from creating chaos and pushing people's buttons. Either way, they create unnecessary complexity, strife and worst of all, stress.