



THE MAN GOD USES

TEXTS: 2Chron.16: 9; Jer.5: 1; Ezek.22: 29-30

I. INTRODUCTION:

1. God has always used men in every generation
2. God is always looking for a man to use, not methods, plans, systems, organizations, but God uses men
3. God's Plan is God's Man
4. 70 Elders (**Num.11: 24-30; 16: 1-end**) and 12 spies (**Num.13: 1-33 - 14: 1-24**) messed up the children of Israel
5. Even the 12 disciples of Jesus Christ eventually had to distinguish themselves individually.
6. All New Testament callings were personal – **Matt.25: 14-15; Acts 13: 1-4; 15: 36-41; Eph.4: 11-14; Rom.12: 3-12.**
7. Likewise, we shall render account to God individually – **Rom.14: 12; Rev.22: 12**

Deduction: Distinguish yourself as you stand out for God and don't hide in the congregation or in group dynamics

II. HOW GOD USES MEN:

1. For good or for bad e.g. Satan & Judas
2. Unto honor or unto dishonor – **2Tim.2: 19-21, Acts 6: 2-4**
3. Hidden & public
4. Short-term, Medium-term or Long-term
5. Temporarily or permanently – Stone or stick, Handkerchief & Tissue paper – Naaman's Housemaid; Boy with lunch pack
6. Local, Regional, National or International
7. Leaders of 10s, 50s, 100s, 1000s, etc

Important Question: How do you want God to use you?

Deduction: How God will eventually use anyone of us depends on a number of factors that include – our nature, gifts, level of preparedness and faithfulness in our present position of service

III. MEN & WOMEN GOD USED IN THE PAST:

- 1.** Noah built the Ark for God
- 2.** Abraham was the father of faith and Israel
- 3.** Jacob gave us the twelve tribes of Israel
- 4.** Joseph took Israel to Egypt
- 5.** Moses delivered Israel from Egypt and legislated for God
- 6.** Aaron served as Priest for God
- 7.** Joshua led Israel into the Promised Land and shared it for them
- 8.** Rahab the harlot hid the spies Joshua sent to Jericho
- 9.** The Judges (plus Deborah) brought temporary relief & rule in Israel
- 10.** Hannah gave God & Israel Samuel the great prophet
- 11.** Samuel represented God and spoke for Him
- 12.** David prepared materials for building the Temple
- 13.** Solomon built the Temple for God
- 14.** Elijah & the Prophets brought revival upon the Land
- 15.** Esther interceded for Israel before King Ahasuerus
- 16.** Daniel & his colleagues represented God in Babylon
- 17.** Jonah brought salvation and deliverance to Nineveh
- 18.** John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ
- 19.** Virgin Mary conceived and gave birth to Christ
- 20.** Joseph served as foster father to Christ
- 21.** Judas Iscariot betrayed Christ
- 22.** Peter was an Apostle of the Jews
- 23.** Paul was an Apostle of faith and Gentiles
- 24.** James was an Apostle of works
- 25.** John was an Apostle of love

Deduction: God uses all kinds of people – male & female, old & young, rich & poor, great & small, weak & strong, literate & illiterate, etc.

IV. WHO DOES GOD USE?

In the entire Bible, there are no particular physical criteria for those whom God uses. In the Bible, God used all kinds of people - male and female, old and young, rich and poor, literate and illiterate, tall and short, fat and thin, weak and strong. The truth however is that although, God can use anybody but He does not use everybody. There are spiritual qualities or criteria for those whom God uses.

V. JOSEPH: A CASE STUDY OF THE MAN GOD USES: Gen.39-50

- 1.** Joseph had a dream – **Prov.29: 18**. Dreams and visions are the blueprints God uses to shape our destiny. Fannie Crosby once said, *"There is something worse than blindness, having eyes and not seeing"*
- 2.** Joseph made the best of a bad situation. He used a setback as a setup for a comeback. He turned his scar to a star – **Rom.8: 28**
- 3.** Joseph overcame bitterness and unforgiveness. He forgave his brothers who sold him into slavery and Potiphar's wife who lied against him – **Matt. 6: 12, 14-15; Eph.4: 30-32**
- 4.** Joseph was a man of personal integrity. He managed things well both in Potiphar's House and in Pharaoh's Palace – **2Cor.8: 21**
- 5.** Joseph overcame temptation. He learnt both how to resist sin and run from sin. Your ability to handle temptation will determine your level of success in God – **Prov.1: 10; 1Cor.10: 12-15; Jam.1: 13-16**
- 6.** Joseph was spiritually sensitive and discerning. He had a sense of destiny. He knew that God was up to something in his life! And he cooperated with the Holy Spirit of God – **1Chron.12: 32; Ps.32: 8-9**
- 7.** Joseph was a man of faith. He was confident that God could use any situation for good, even when others intended it for evil – **Heb.11: 1, 6; Romans 8: 28; Heb.10: 35-39**
- 8.** Joseph had good priority and was focused. He told his brethren – "This place is not our home, God will visit us and lead us home. Joseph kept his eyes towards that goal in the future" (**Genesis 50:24-26**). Joseph did not want to be left behind. We must keep our eyes on the goal and future and remind ourselves all the time that this world is not our home. We are pilgrims and strangers on earth. We must work now while it is day, realizing that the Lord has promised to return and take us home. He is coming again! He is coming soon! – **Jn.9: 4; 1Pet.2: 11; Rev.22: 12**
- 9.** While waiting, Joseph was busy serving. We must continue to serve too – **Ps.100: 2**
- 10.** Joseph was anointed. The anointing breaks the yoke – **Isa.61: 1-3; Zech.4: 6-7**

11. Joseph was faithful in service to the end – **2Cor.4: 2**
12. Joseph was a type of Christ – The Model Servant – **Isa.42: 1-4**

Dare to be the man God uses!

VI. DESIRED QUALITIES OF THE MAN GOD USES:

1. Must be born again – **Jn. 3: 3; Acts 16: 31**
2. Must be consecrated (yielded & surrendered) to Christ – **Rom.12: 1**
3. Must be pure and clean inside-out – **Ps.15: 1-5; 1Cor.3: 16-17**
4. Must know the Word of God – **Josh.1:8; Ps.119: 9, 11, 105; Matt.4: 4; Col.3: 16; 2Tim.2: 15**
5. Must be prayerful – **Matt.4: 1-2; 26: 36-46; Mk.1: 35; Lk.18: 1; 1Thess.5: 17**
6. Must be full of faith – **Acts 6: 2-3 Heb.11: 1, 6**
7. Must be full of the Holy Ghost – **Acts 6: 2-3; Gal.5: 22-23; Eph.5: 18**
8. Must be honest & have honest report – **Acts 6: 2-3; 2Cor.8: 21; 1Tim.3: 7**
9. Must be full of wisdom – **Prov.4: 7-9; Acts 6: 2-3**
10. Must have clear vision & be passionate about his vision – **Prov.29: 18; Ps.69: 9; Jn.2: 13**

VII. ESSENTIAL QUALITIES OF THE MAN GOD USES:

The essential qualities of the man God uses can be summed up in the acronym: **FANTASTIC**. We can in effect, in that context then say that God uses fantastic men.

1. **F** = Faithful
2. **A** = Available
3. **N** = Normal
4. **T** = Teachable
5. **A** = Accountable
6. **S** = Sacrificial
7. **T** = Talented/Temperate
8. **I** = Intelligent
9. **C** = Called