

KINGIONAL AND ART21

The Single-Eyed Believer (cont'd) VOLUNTEERING AND WORKING IN YOUR FATHER'S FIELD

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"And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." (Habakkuk 2:2-3 KJV)

VOLUNTEERING AND WORKING IN YOUR FATHER'S FIELD

"These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report." (Genesis 37:2 KJV)

"For with thee is the fountain of life: In thy light shall we see light." (Psalm 36:9 KJV)

Understanding your future is simply understanding the plan and purpose of God for your life. Without having a good understanding of the direction of your life, you will not understand the times and seasons of your life. The sons of Issachar stood out amongst their brethren because it was recorded in the scriptures that they have an understanding of the times—

"And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment." (1 Chronicles 12:32)

When you have an understanding of the times, you will know what to do per season of your life and it will automatically put you in command always. The question is, "How do you have an understanding of the times?" The answer is straightforward; it is by looking into the timeless Book of Truth, The BIBLE.

We have been looking at the benefits of staying in the Master's field for us to have a good grasp of our vision. All the giants of faith had a footprint on the field prior to becoming the faith giants that we now know or remember them to be. In this regard, Isaiah prophesies,

"And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed: and the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned." (Isaiah 29:11-12)

Note those first few words, "The vision of ALL"; it is neither the vision of some pastor or prophet, nor the vision of someone called into the ministry, it is the vision of life discovery which is given to ALL. As you continue reading the passage, you will begin to get the understanding that this type of vision is such that favors equality—the learned do not necessarily have an advantage over the unlearned. In fact, we do know that many big businesses in our world today were founded by those who do not have a formal education and those who dropped out. The true vision of life cannot be interpreted by the wise because it is sealed and can only be activated and set in motion by working in the Master's field. Those that attended the best school do not have any advantage over those who never saw the four walls of any college.

This understanding of the business of life—of knowing the appropriate time to strike—can only be found in our engagement with the Book (the Bible). When Abraham tried to bring Ishmael as the child of the promise (as orchestrated by the impatience) of Sarah, the plan ended up in a total disaster and further delayed the coming of their child of promise. Staying on the path with the Master will bring light and enlightenment to your conscious

mind; nothing can be fruitful in your life if God is not in control of your subconscious and conscious mind. This is where the life we live is authored.

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You may recall the story of the two disciples who were on a seven-mile walk on the way to EMMAUS. (I will encourage you to catch up on their story from Luke 24:13-35.) Their story can offer us a blueprint for our journey of discovery. They were very depressed that Jesus had died but, though not knowing what will become of them, they kept on working on the Master's field as it were. As Luke records it,

"And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight." (Luke 24:15-16, 30-31)

When you choose to stay on the Master's field—in spite of any prevalent seeming confusion—you will attract Jesus to your cause and vision. Jesus will not abandon you to yourself; His relationship with you on the journey of life's discovery is not a temporary one but a permanent one. You will recall how He sat down to break bread with those two disciples—a symbol of intimacy and agreement. Of course, dinners are a perfect place to sort many issues. In fact, many business deals of a lifetime have been sealed over dinner. That is what Jesus is doing here! He is striking a deal with these disciples—opening their eyes to catch a vision of their future and life's journey.

As we have previously pointed out, this vision of life that we are talking about is sealed; it is beyond the comprehension of both the learned and the unlearned through earthly wisdom. What opens our world and future to us is in breaking bread with Jesus (as symbolized in the Lord's Supper / Holy Communion). Beloved, I don't joke with the Holy Communion; every time I have an opportunity to break bread with Jesus either through my personal fellowship with the Bible or when I partake of the Holy Communion with other believers, I always look forward to an unsearchable understanding. It is no wonder that the Kingdom of God is secured by mysteries and we have the right to have a deep understanding of such mysteries. Let's continue to see how Gideon encountered God while serving on the master's field.

GIDEON'S ENCOUNTER (continued)

Gideon had outstanding success because of his patience for the vision to fully develop. We see down the road that when you get the right perspective of your vision, you do need people to help you to the finish line. With 300 men, Gideon destroyed an entire army of a very powerful nation. From this season forward may your life take the right shape and may God send you the right amount of help for your vision.

Gideon encountered God in a big way and we have explored about thirteen of those encounters, viz:

- 1. Gideon had a divine visitation—he was visited by an angel.
- 2. Gideon's designation changed forever. He became 'a mighty man of valor.'
- 3. Gideon was not playing around; he was able to let the angel know that he knew this day would come.
- 4. The Lord LOOKED upon him and was very pleased with everything He saw in this young man.
- 5. When you follow the divine order of events in your life, beginning with your faithful service in the vineyard, you go from being the LEAST in your generation to becoming the GREATEST in the eyes of many.
- 6. The Lord promised this inexperienced young man HIS PRESENCE
- 7. Gideon became empowered with divine authority.
- 8. Gideon mastered the art of giving while he was on the master's field.

- 9. Gideon encountered God in a strange way through his giving.
- 10. Gideon built an altar there to the LORD.
- 11. Gideon's encounter with the Lord of vision extended to his family.
- 12. As a result of his encounter with God, Gideon was able to redirect his assets.
- 13. If you don't conquer internal opposition, you will never be able to overcome external opposition.

Let's continue from there.

"And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? Will ye save him? He will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar. Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar." (Judges 6:31-32 KJV)

14. Gideon received support from an unlikely arena because His vision aligned with His Master's. When your vision aligns with your Master's vision for you, help will arise from places you least expect. Joash was the father of Gideon, the man who built the altar of Baal, put the prophets of Baal on his payroll, and promised to kill anyone who touched his son, not because he was pleased with what he did, but rather was upset because Baal could not fight for itself. Remember the promise of God's Word that no weapon fashioned against us shall prosper (Isaiah 54:17); when you tarry on the field and your vision aligns with God's, the devil and his agents will bow to you. Your vision brings you to a place of unusual power, honor and prestige as you labor on the Master's field.

"Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel. But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abi-ezer was gathered after him." (Judges 6:33-34 KJV)

15. Gideon did exploits by the anointing of the Spirit of God. The scripture tells us that God has given us His Spirit without measure in Christ; if Gideon could do the things he did because the Spirit was on him, how much more those of us who believe in the New Covenant? Gideon, by the Spirit, used his boldness to destroy the altar of Baal, and when all his enemies gathered together to fight his vision, there was a fresh breath of anointing on him. When you stay put on the field you will get the fullness of God's power at work and at your disposal. Elisha asked Elijah for the double portion of his spirit, and Elijah gave him a simple condition—"If you see me when I am taken up, you will receive what you have requested." This is the equivalent of tarrying on the Master's field for the fullness of God's grace to be made operational in our lives.

"And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them." (Judges 6:35 KJV)

16. When you are in your season, following the vision of heaven for your life, men from every walk of life will rise to your support. Indeed, if you are struggling with your life, it is often a wise choice to retrace your steps backwards and retreat to the Master's field. I encourage you to do something for the cause of the Kingdom and life will smile at you again.

"And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said, Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside,

then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said. And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water." (Judges 6:36-38 KJV)

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17. When you are living out of God's vision for you, you will become a savior in your own right. Gideon, a mere man, was able to make this audacious statement: "... if you will save Israel by my hand..." When you are in the right lane, God will do some awesome things by your hand. We can see the patience of God here with man; God is okay with you asking or praying the prayer of enquiry. This is the only way we know that we are on the right path of life and it builds our relationship and solidifies the way God communicates with us. We know God can use any method to speak to us but He would rather let us pick sometimes when we need to be doubly sure.

"And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew. And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground." (Judges 6:39-40 KJV)

18. Gideon sought to be absolutely certain of God's involvement in the journey. One will think that God will be upset with Gideon for asking again about the certainty of his assignment but God was not perturbed at all! He knows that in the mouth of two or three witnesses, every truth is established. It is wise to stay and be sure that God is on the boat with us—just as Moses, the man of God, said in Exodus 33:15, *"And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence."* Gideon secured the presence of God for this journey and his vision was fulfilled to the minutest detail!

CALL TO ACTION

Do you have your vision written down? Are you reading the Book? Are you staying long enough to get His mind concerning your vision? Do you have the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit? Are you partaking in Holy Communion regularly?

PONDER THIS: "HIS BODY WAS BROKEN"

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Corinthians 11:24-25 KJV)

His body was broken and His blood was shed for you and I, so that we can discover our own body and not sweat for our future. His brokenness is for our wholeness; what a mystery! Shalom.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Father, give me the grace to fall in love with Your Word more and more that I may always live in alignment with its Truth in the name of Jesus.

2. Lord, baptize me afresh with Your Spirit and Your power in the name of Jesus.

PS: Reach out or pray for ten souls to be added to the Kingdom in your area. God bless you as you do so.