

Sunday Sermonette, "It's Not What You've Got!" February 2, 2020

"This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God." Ecclesiastes 5:18-19 NIV

Like Paul Harvey used to say say; "Now for the rest of the story." It's not what you've got, It is what you do with what you've got. 'Doing' is the operative word here. Doing the right thing with what you've got is GOD'S plan.

Have you ever noticed someone who you thought had a lot of money and you judged them for being stingy or not paying their way as you thought they should? It is easier to judge others than ourselves.

So, what have you got; good looks, super smarts, a gift of conversation, empathy, a wheelbarrow full of money, teaching skills or mechanical abilities? How are you using the gifts that GOD has provided you with? Are you sharing what was a gift to you with others who need the benefit of your gift?

Even if you feel what GOD has given you is less, maybe much less, than others, you may find that it is still more than others may have. Don't sell yourself short. GOD gave you more than what you think you need.

GOD gave Daniel "...the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems." (Daniel 5:12) Daniel did not use the gift for his own benefit, but used this gift from GOD for the benefit of others. GOD provided for his people in many ways. In Exodus we are reminded chapter after chapter of GOD'S provisions. "So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the

Lord has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the Lord has commanded." (Exodus 36:1)

We are never short of ability. We are, too often, holding back our abilities and do not use our abilities for our own benefit and for the benefit of others as we could easily do. Just as GOD provided in the days of old, HE provides for you today.

You've got it! What are you doing with it?

Today's Prayer:

"Thank YOU, LORD, for all YOU have given to me. I know I have not used all YOU have provided as YOU would have had me. Help me today to change that and to use all YOU have provided for myself and for the benefit of others. Amen."

Feel His Blessings!

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