

GOD USES WHOM HE CHOOSES

Hebrews 13:2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

James 2:3 And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:

Galatians 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do well unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.



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The booklet outlines a few passages on how God used people to fulfill his purpose. We may feel these people would not have been our choices. We likely would choose the eloquent, upright, healthy and wealthy instead of whom God chose (Ecclesiastes 2:26). This does not mean however, that God doesn't use one who may possess the higher qualities. Don't think for a moment that a person who loves the Lord and is saved, who talks and communicates well or has adequate finances and personal riches cannot be chosen or used of God. The Apostle Paul was very knowledgeable and eloquent in his writings and teachings in the New Testament.

God's ways are not our ways and neither his thoughts our thoughts. We have no reason to question the Lord's doings, even though at times we may find ourselves, "wondering why."

We do know that God is too wise to make a mistake, even though this booklet outlines biblical accounts of how God used people to fulfill his purposes that we might question. He uses the foolish things of the world to confound the wise (1 Corinthians 1:27). In this verse we can gain a thought that it's not about the outward appearance, but the hidden things of the heart that only God knoweth. Many people appear upright and straightforward and inwardly are devious. Likewise, there are many who in appearance sends a message that they are unclean and unconcerned and inwardly are genuinely concerned and have a caring heart. Fortunately, God knows the hearts of all mankind and will use whom he will to bring glory and honor to him. Let's look into a few biblical accounts where God used people that perhaps would not have been man's choices.

I. SAUL BLINDED IN HIS EYES

Stephen was cast out of the city and stoned to death, and witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul (Acts 7:58). And Saul was consenting unto his death at such time there was a great persecution against the church at Jerusalem and they were scattered abroad throughout Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles (Acts 8:1). Saul made havoc of the church and entered into houses hailing men and women and committing them to prison (Acts 8:3). Saul continued making havoc by breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples (Acts 9:1).

With all these evil tidings, who would think God would use Saul? God's ways are certainly not our ways, but he always has ways of getting our attention – And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? (Acts 9:4). And

Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus (Acts 9:8). If you are avoiding God's call unto repentance, avoid no longer; you can't run from God, but to God. Obey St. John 3:5 and Acts 2:38.

But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ (Acts 9:22). The Jews laying await watched the gates day and night to kill Saul (Acts 9:24). When Saul came to Jerusalem he assayed to join himself with the disciples: but they were afraid of him and didn't believe he was a disciple. *This is an example of how people even today are so quick to judge another as "less than", "unfit", or "unqualified" and being the same unchanged person.* Those who have a true concern will seek for God's people. Barnabas departed from Jerusalem to Tarsus to seek Saul (Acts 11:25). And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark. This testimony reveals how God converted a vile sinner into a saved, Holy Ghost filled disciple.

II. ANANIAS USED OF GOD

And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth (Acts 9:11), And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost (Acts 9:17).

III. RAHAB THE HARLOT

Joshua was the son of Nun, and sent out two men who were messengers to spy the land of Jericho (Joshua 2:1). The King of Jericho had sent message unto Rahab to bring forth the spies that entered into her house to search out the country (Joshua 2:3) for the city shall be accursed.

IV. HANNAH CONCEIVES A CHILD

Hannah was a woman of broken spirit because she was unable to conceive a child. Hannah was one of Elkanah's wives, whom the Lord had shut up her womb. She prayed unto the Lord, vowed a vow and continued praying and she conceived a son, Samuel (1 Samuel 1:10).

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V. JUDAS CHOSEN AND WAS A DEVIL

Jesus himself chose twelve disciples as ambassadors of Christ, but could Judas be chosen? If it were according to man he most likely would not have been chosen, but God chose him knowing that Judas was one of the twelve and was a devil (St. John: 6:70-71; 18:1-8). This was also the same Judas to whom the Lord served supper (Matthew 26:25-28).

VI. PETER'S BEHAVIORS

Peter drew his sword and smote the servant of the High Priest's right ear (St. John 18:10).

Peter denies Jesus thrice (St. John 18:15-27), but was chosen of God as one of his apostles.

VII. KING PHARAOH'S PROCLAMATION

Proclaims every son shall be cast into the river, and every daughter shall live (Exodus 2:1)

A man of the house of Levi took to wife a daughter of Levi. After the woman conceived and bare a son she hid him for three months. Since she could hide him no longer she made an ark of bulrushes and put the child therein and it was laid by the river's bank. His sister stood off. The daughter of Pharaoh came to the river to bathe. Her maidens walked along by the river's side; she sent her maid to fetch the ark when she saw it among the flags. When she opened it she saw the child. She said that this is one of the Hebrew's children. Pharaoh's daughter was asked by the child's sister if she should call for a nurse of the Hebrew women to nurse the child. The maid called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said unto the child's mother to take the child away and nurse it for wages. The woman took the child and nursed it, and as the child grew she brought it unto Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She called his name Moses. This is an amazing story of how God used several people to bring about his purpose for Moses. Even though when Moses was grown he slew an Egyptian (Exodus 2:12) God brought about his purpose through Moses. By virtue of King Pharaoh, Moses was to be cast into the river, but yet God had it so fixed that his mother was able to keep her own son. Moses was only a keeper of the flock of his father in law Jethro. God had a plan for Moses to intervene in delivery of the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt to bring them unto a good land flowing with milk and honey. God called for Moses to go unto Pharaoh "that thou mayest

bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt." Moses did not heed the call immediately or without excuses...(Exodus 3:11; 3:13; 4:1; 4:10) Moses returns to his father in law Jethro and did not go into Egypt until he took his wife Zipporah and his sons.

VIII. JOSEPH INTERPRETS KING PHARAOH'S DREAM

How could Joseph be the one to interpret the dream of King Pharaoh? After all, couldn't Joseph be considered as the "black sheep" of the family; an outcast by his ten brothers? Joseph was sold unto the Ishmanites (Genesis 41:15).

God had a work to be done and it could only be done by Joseph, despite his ill treatments.

IX. HEALING THE LEPER

Jesus went to Jerusalem having passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. As Jesus entered into a certain village ten men that were lepers stood afar off. The lepers lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us" (St. Luke 17:13). Jesus said unto them, "Go shew yourselves unto the priests." (St. Luke 17:14). As the lepers went they were cleansed. Though all ten were cleansed, yet only one of them, "when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God." (St. Luke: 17:15). God also worked through four leprous men who felt they were going to die by remaining in the city due to a famine, but pressed in courage (2 Kings 7:3-4).

X. QUEEN VASHTI UNCROWNED

Vashti was Queen and refused to come at King Ahasuerus's commandment. Vashti made a feast for the women in the royal house of King Ahasuerus. On the seventh day the king was merry with wine and commanded the seven chamberlains to bring Vashti before the king to show her beauty. As a result of Vashti refusing the king's commandment he was wroth and she again refused to be brought before him. One might wonder why Vashti is the queen anyway when she appears to be disobedient to the king on several occasions. (Esther 1:10).

XI. ESTHER ELEVATED

Hadassah was Esther whom Mordecai took for his own daughter when her father and mother were dead.

And Esther the maiden was brought unto King Ahasuerus's house and pleased him. And because the king loved Esther above all the women, he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. Again, God uses whom he chooses - He very well could have had Esther as queen to begin with, but God's ways are not our ways, neither his thoughts our thoughts. It may seem unfair for Esther not to have been the chosen queen at the beginning, but it was not God's plan. It is not doubted for a moment that Esther was qualified to be the queen to King Ahasuerus and perhaps more so than Vashti.

Esther vows to go see the king in attempt to save her people. Esther decrees a fast (Esther 4:16) for three days and nights and on the third day stood in the inner court of the king's house. As a result of Esther's forthrightness in approaching the king her people were spared. God does not always take us out or around the storm, but takes us through the storm for a testimony to and for his glory. It's not about status, position or prestige, but God uses whom he chooses.

XII. WISDOM OF KING SOLOMON

Wisdom cannot be seen by the eye, but the results of wisdom will be seen. For example, two women who were harlots each delivered a child and one child died. One of the women claimed the other woman took the living child and placed the dead child beside the bosom of the other woman. When the women reached no agreement as to who the mother of the living child was they spoke before King Solomon. No one could see or know what King Solomon would do, but after he applied wisdom the results were seen by the women and others. By the King requesting a sword to divide the living child in two the woman who was not the mother said "give her the living child, and in no wise slay it." (1 Kings 3:26). The king said to give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. When all Israel heard of Solomon's judgment they feared the king.

XIII. THE POOR WISE MAN

There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it:

Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man (Ecclesiastes 9:15-15). Don't underestimate the wisdom of the wise.

XIV. DAVID'S SKILL AND VICTORY

David's skill was used in a way to bring refreshment (1 Samuel 16:23). King Saul was made king over Israel and anointed David, keeper of the sheep and the youngest son of Jesse (1 Samuel 16:11-13). After the Spirit of the Lord came upon David, the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him. When the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, David played an harp to refresh Saul and the evil spirit departed (1 Samuel 16:23).

David was the youngest brother, yet that did not weaken his faith. David was willing to face the enemy. Even though, one of David's brothers was angered because David left the sheep in the wilderness to see the battle. David convinced Saul to let him face the uncircumcised Philistine, being clad with his armour. David elects not to be girded with the armour and puts them off. David takes instead his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones and put them into a shepherd's bag.

David's sling was in his hand. Little is much when God is in it – David was blessed prior to deliver a lamb from a lion and a bear before he slew them.

David defends the name of the Lord as he came to the Philistine, confident that "This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand;" (1 Samuel 17:46). David prevailed over the Philistine when he slang a stone and smote the forehead of the Philistine causing the stone to sink therein, and the Philistine to fall upon his face. David then proceeds to take the enemies sword and slew him, cutting off his head, causing the Philistines to flee (1 Samuel 17:51). Even though David was continually sought after by Saul's messengers for to slay him, God prevailed. The scripture comes to mind – No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; (Isaiah 54:17). When God is using an individual, none can stay his hand. This victory over the Philistine is impossible with man, but possible with God. Another scripture that comes to mind – When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him. (Proverbs 16:7).

Biblical References

King James Version Holy Bible

Hebrews 13:2 (Cover page)

James 2:3

Galatians 6:10

1 Corinthians 1:27

Ecclesiastes 2:26 (Wisdom)

Acts 7:58, Acts 8:1, Acts 8:3, Acts 9:1, Acts 9:4, Acts 9:8 (Saul)

St. John 3:5, Acts 2:38 (Repentance)

Acts 9:22, Acts 9:24, and Acts 11:25 (Saul)

Acts 9:11, Acts 9:17 (Ananias)

Joshua 2:1, Joshua 2:3 (Rahab)

Samuel 1:10 (Hannah)

St. John 6:70-71, St. John 18:1-8, St. Matthew 26:25-28 (Judas)

St. John 18:10, St. John 18:15-27 (Peter)

Exodus 2:1, Exodus 2:12, Exodus 3:11; 3:13; 4:1; 4:10 (King Pharaoh)

Genesis 41:15 (Joseph)

St. Luke 17:13, 17:14 (Leper)

2 Kings 7:3-4 (Leprous men)

Esther 1:10 (Queen uncrowned) Esther 4:16

1 Kings 3:26 (King Solomon)

Ecclesiastes 9:14-18 (Poor wise man)

1 Samuel 16:11-13, 1 Samuel 16:23, 1 Samuel 17:46, 1 Samuel 17:51, (David's victory) Isaiah 54:17

Proverbs 16:7

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