

God's Calling Requirements

Part 12

“18 So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth. 19 And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah. 20 And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. 21 And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. 22 Then went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that is in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where are Samuel and David? And one said, Behold, they be at Naioth in Ramah. 23 And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah. 24 And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?” (1Samuel 19:18-24)

As we know after David was anointed by God to be a king over Israel, he faced persecution from Saul who even threatened his life and he was working out to execute him to finish his life to keep him away from the throne.

David in facing the threats he did not go to Bethlehem to his relatives, or to his friends or to any city in Israel, but he ran straight to Samuel and told him all that Saul had done to him. He did that because Samuel was the man that anointed and had given him assurance of the crown, and in flying to Samuel David made God his refuge, trusting in the shadow of his wings. Most likely David thought, with Samuel as a prophet, who receives direction and instruction from God, and then he can receive the same privileges from God.

With Samuel there was a college of prophets, with whom David might join in praising God, and the pleasure of this exercise would be the greatest relief imaginable to David in his present distress. David was dissatisfied in Saul court therefore he went to Samuel's church. Worshipping God among the saints is the most comfortable place when you find yourself cannot manage life, and when persecution breaks out against you as you live your life to serve the Lord. David chose to worship God. Not only that, but David chose to whom he will go to worship God; he went to Samuel for the following reasons:-

1- Samuel was the one who declared to him the will of God in His life and define to him his service and ministerial duty. God call you to worship Him with people who will help you and declare to you God's will and God's plan in your life.

2- Samuel was a person with pure heart and clean intension. He is a person who fears God. He has no politics or manipulation. He was not using the ministry for making living or for personal motive and desire. Samuel was serving and not expecting to receive privileges from the people. God call you to serve Him among people who fear Him, and have clean heart and pure motive in serving the Lord.

3- Samuel was a keen person who keeps God with him. David knew that when he will go to Samuel, there he will receive the council and instructions about the purpose of God in his life. As we have read when David went there, God did not block his enemy from reaching the place,

but he changed the circumstances, that even when they came to harm him, they left the place without achieving their purpose. God call you to serve Him with people whom you know that they are keen to keep God with them. People who are keen and has noble heart and purpose in serving God, there you will find yourself in God's presence, counsel and protection.

After Saul came to know where David is by some of his spies, he sent officers to seize him. When they did not bring him he sent more; when they returned not he sent the third time, and, hearing no news of these from them, he went himself. Saul was impatient, in thirst and was restless after David's blood. Saul did not perceive that David was under the special protection of Heaven. Saul lays aside all public business to hunt David. It was below the king to go himself on such a task as this; but being a persecutors, he step into mean thing to gratify his malice.

But how was David delivered, now he was like a lamb that ready to fall into the mouth of the lions? David was delivered as a lamb, not by slaying the lion, nor, as Elijah was delivered, by consuming the messengers with fire from heaven (Read **2Kings 1:1-18** in your bible), but by turning the lions into lambs.

When the messengers came into the congregation where David was among the prophets with Samuel the Spirit of God came upon them, and they prophesied, that is why, they joined with the rest in praising God. Instead of seizing David, they themselves were seized. And thus, God secured David; for either they were put into such a joy by the Spirit of prophecy that they could not think of anything else, and so forgot their duty and never minded David, or they were by it put, for the present, into so good a frame that they could not entertain the thought of doing so bad thing. God put an honour upon the sons of the prophets and the communion of saints, and showed how he can, when he pleases, strike an awe upon the worst of men, by the tokens of his presence in the assemblies of the faithful, and force them to acknowledge that God is with them of a truth, ***“But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.” (1Corinthians 14:24-25)***

To what had happened in that meeting at Naioth, God magnified his power over the spirits of men. God who made the heart and tongue can manage both to serve his own purposes. Balaam prophesied the happiness of Israel, whom he would have cursed; and might be these messengers that Saul sent prophesied the advancement of David to the throne of Israel. Saul himself was likewise seized with the Spirit of prophecy before he came to the place. Saul was turned into a prophet, even Saul had no sooner come within Naioth but he already started to prophesies, as his messengers did. He stripped off his royal robe, because they were either too fine or too heavy for this service, and fell into a trance as it should seem, or into rapture, which continued all that day and night.

The saints at Damascus were delivered from the rage of the New-Testament Saul by a change done on his spirit. To what happened to Saul the King of Israel, was something amazing, and only for one day. But what had happened to Saul of Tarsus was sanctifying and forever.

In pertain to that meeting at Naioth the following saying was made about Saul, ***“Is Saul among the prophets?”*** Saul was rejected of God, and although he was actuated and set in motion and triggered by an evil spirit, yet in that meeting he was controlled by the Holy Spirit and he was among the prophets. In the same way, many have great gifts and yet no grace. They prophesy in

Christ's name and yet are disowned by him, "22 *Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?* 23 *And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*" (Matthew 7:22-23)

Returning back to Saul and his messengers he sent. They all prophesy under the control of the Holy Spirit, but as we know they were not true follower of God. They prophesied but they are evil doers, because they were seeking to destroy the true children of God. They are false prophets, evil doers, and their lives not changed. The following are possible causes why Jesus rejects such ministers or prophets:-

- 1- ***They use the ministry as source of living:*** The messengers that Saul sent to arrest David they were on duty, and that was their source of living.
- 2- ***They use the ministry as a source of joy and comfort:*** The soldiers when they were inside the meeting of the prophets they forget their evil purpose and the evil person who sent them to harm. Many when they are in church meetings they are angels but outside the meeting they are different people, their minds pregnant with evil thoughts; they are murderer of the truth. Now a day church meetings are full of musical instruments and many they feel good when they hear the music and might forget for a while who they are, but once they leave the meeting they will be back to what they are.
- 3- ***They might be having self righteousness or they are not aware that what they are doing is evil:*** The messengers of Saul might not come to their mind that what they are doing is a bad thing. Many who do not read the bible or who do not look intently into the Law that gives freedom, they will not be aware that what they are doing is sin.
- 4- ***They are motivated by envy, jealousy, boasting, and showing off:*** Out of jealousy Saul wanted to finish David's life. Many they serve God out of jealousy and competition, boasting or showing off. Paul said about such ministers and ministries the following: "15 *Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: 16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: 17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. 18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.*" (Philippians 1:15-18) They preach the gospel but they are rejected by God unless they will repent.
- 5- ***They are restless and bend to do evil:*** Saul was impatient, in thirst and was restless after David's blood. Many false prophets they are restless and hungry to achieve wrong things. They go down to do mean things in the ministry of God to achieve their purpose.

In addition to the above discussion, Jesus gave further guidelines to fulfill God's calling requirements in your life, and as the following:-

- 1- ***"13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."*** (Matthew 7:13-14): You need to be keen in your life to endure suffering for Christ. False prophet they live their lives for pleasure and leisure and are unwilling to suffer.
- 2- ***"15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good***

fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:15-20): False prophets are recognized by their fruit that come out of their life style and ministry and not with what they say. Jesus said, ***by their fruits ye shall know them.***

- 3- ***"21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."*** (Matthew 7:21) You ought to persevere in living to achieve the will of God. False prophets are not willing to abide with God's will.

My Dear and Beloved: Go through the message and consider each and every point and see if you are a true prophet of Jesus who lives your life with clean motive and pure heart to achieve the will of God. If not then you need to repent and apply the Scripture in your life as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give eternal life. Lord thank you for your clear word to me. I commit myself to apply the principles that I learn from this message in my life and ministry to be a true prophet of yours to live and to declare your will in my life and in the life of the people under my care. Lord sustain me, uphold me with your grace and provide me my needs to achieve your will. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

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The Bread Of Life

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