

Sunday 08 March 2020- "God's will-My Inadequacy"- : Psalm 51(852); Exodus 3:1-15, Isaiah 6:1-8

Introduction:

- There are times when we hesitate to do God's will because of feelings of inadequacy. We feel our own inability or insufficiency may seem like a negative thing, when in fact it may be quite the opposite. Moses felt so inadequate to lead the children of Israel ,because he looked at his own abilities rather than God's mighty character, but later found God to be His adequacy.

God not only reminded Moses of His covenant promise to Abraham, but used the name I AM to teach him about his unchanging, loving nature.

Trust the Lord to help you overcome any inadequacy and submit to the Will of God. **"Not that we are adequate to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God."** (2 Cor. 3:5,6)

Let us examine some of the excuses that Moses offered to God to see how to avoid similar mistakes.

2. LOW SELF-IMAGE - Moses said, "**Who am I to appear before Pharaoh?(Exodus 3:11)** Too many people suffer from a low view of who God has made them to be. They do not like something about their appearance, their ability or their aptitude. We so easily forget that the Lord does not make any mistakes with His creation. God is able to work in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure if we will just focus our attention on Christ's command, "**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, your soul, your strength and your mind and your neighbor, AS YOURSELF.**" (Luke 10:27) Thank Him for making you the way you are knowing that His love makes you perfectly capable of doing whatever He asks of you.

3. LOW VIEW OF GOD - Moses said, "**If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, The God of your ancestors has sent me to you, they won't believe me. They will ask, 'Which god are you talking about? What is his name? Then what should I tell them?'**"(Exodus 3:13) Many of us have too small of a view of God. There is a children's song that goes like this:"**We have a biggy, biggy Jesus... He's bigger than all our problems.**" God said, "**Tell them, I AM has sent me to you.**"(Exodus 3:14) .He is whatever we need. If we need courage, He will be our courage. If we need

articulative speech, He will speak through us. If we need love, if will supply us with a love for an unlovely people.

Praise God that He is greater than all of your problems, excuses or limited understanding. J. B. Phillips has written a classic book entitled, "**Your God is too Small.**" He describes how many people are guilty of viewing God as smaller, weaker and less capable than He really is. Get to know all of God's marvelous attributes and praise Him that all power and authority in heaven and earth are in our Lord.

4. **CHANGES** - Moses was afraid that the Israelities would think that God say one thing today and another tomorrow. **Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever." (Heb. 13:8)** God, unlike the gods in Egypt has eternal power, truthfulness and reliability. Even though we live in a world that is constantly changing in its values, morals and what is popular, we can count on God to be immutable in all ways. We can praise God for His stability, security and unchanging promises.

5. **INEFFECTIVENESS** - Moses was afraid of failing. He said, "**Look, Lord, they won't believe me! They won't do what I tell them. They'll just say, 'The Lord never appeared to you.'**" In essence,

Moses was afraid of failing. We don't want to be seen as losers. We love to win. We prize success as a virtue that is highly esteemed in every aspect of our lives. We are afraid that someone might not recognize our achievements or fail to recognize our accomplishment and call us a dismal failure.

Perhaps, many of us need to remember what Lincoln said at the worst part of the Civil War, "**With God I cannot fail. Without God I cannot succeed.**"

6. PRESSURES - Moses was afraid of the pressure he would get from his peers. Many people are afraid of what others will say about them behind their backs. Let us remember that God will fight the battles for us. We need to let the criticisms bounce off our shield of faith recognizing that the Spirit of God will be our advocate - defending us and interceding for us in our times of weakness. Trust the Lord to give you godly companions who you can collaborate with in the battle. God will always raise up faithful, reliable and enable people who will share the burdens of leadership, if you ask him for them. Do not think you have to carry the mantle of leadership all by yourself.

7. UNWILLINGNESS - Moses did not have enough of a burden for the ministry of deliverance. He was

unwilling to deny his own rights and surrender everything to the Lord. Too many of us are too comfortable in our own lifestyles unwilling to give us the ease, conveniences and predictability of our schedules to relinquish control to the Lord. Jesus said, **"If any man will come after Me. Let him deny himself, take up His cross daily and follow me. (Luke 9:23)** Only when we see that Jesus was willing to do everything for our sake will we be willing to do His will.

8. The great I AM teaches us about GOD'S COMPLETENESS - Moses had to learn that whenever we are feeling inadequate, God is totally sufficient, complete and adequate for all our needs. He completes whatever we are lacking in may it be courage, wisdom or ability, He is our great I AM. Paul wrote, **"Not that we are adequate to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God who also made us adequate as servants of the new covenant. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." (2 Cor. 3:5,6)**

Quote: Hudson Taylor, the famous founder of the China Inland mission said, **"God's will done in God's way will not lack God's support."** Moses doubted if He had the skills and resources to teach,

lead and govern the people of Israel, but the great I AM assured him of availability of total resources. As New Testament believers we count on the promise, **"My God will supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:19)**

We can be assured that whatever material, mental, emotional, financial, relational, academic, or physical need we might have, He is able to supply it.

Conclusion:

There is a notion in our contemporary culture that recognizing our inability or insufficiency is somehow contrary to the principles of success. Self-confidence and high-powered, aggressive personalities seem to be what takes the day. The truth is, most of us simply do not live there. Oh, we might put on a mask in order to appear confident and assertive, but if the truth be known, many times we feel just the opposite or inadequate. Isaiah 6:8 **Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"**

What is it that changed Isaiah? What caused him to become a devoted and dedicated man of God?

God did. The Almighty God purified Isaiah and prepared him to do his work on this earth. God has always used broken people.

Moses murdered a man. Abraham was a liar.

Jacob was a cheater. Rahab was prostitute. David committed adultery. Peter was bipolar. Mark was a coward. Thomas lacked faith. Paul persecuted Christians. God has always used broken people.

Isaiah was not a talented man – he was a broken man that God prepared for service. He saw God .He saw himself

Then with God's eyes he saw the people all around him and saw their need.

It was then that a burning in his heart and a passion that set fire to his mind. **And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)**

God doesn't choose the prepared, He prepares the chosen. If we by any chance still doubt the will of God for against our inadequacy remember this verse:

The LORD said to him, **'Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.'** Exodus 4:11-12

