

Sermon Outlines

God Can Use Even Me

Reading

Genesis 20:20-25;11-23

Introduction

- 1) In Matthew 10:1-4 the Lord sends out His disciples to preach and heal. Dr. Luke (Lk. 10:20) informs us that when they returned, the Lord instructs them on a very important lesson, focus on the priorities, your names are written in heaven.
- 2) In the scriptures, God focuses on that which is a priority to Him. For instance:
 - a) In Genesis 1:1, mention is made of Heaven and Earth, then God focuses on the earth.
 - b) In Genesis 3:1-11, He speaks about Adam and Eve but focuses on that which they did and its consequences.
 - c) Several thousand years passed over and God focused attention on one man, Noah, the Ark and the flood (Gen. 6:8- 8:13).
 - d) After another number of years, He focuses on one man, Abraham, and while He takes one verse to tell of the creation, God takes fifteen chapters to tell about Abraham (Gen. 11:26-25:8).
 - e) God focuses our attention on Rachel, Isaac's wife, her barrenness, and that the lives of two powers fought within her (Gen. 29:6-35:19). A very practical truth is seen in the fact that Rachel never had conflict within until she had life. We as saints of God never had a conflict with sin within before salvation. However, since salvation entered our lives there has been an awareness of an internal spiritual struggle.

The Numerics of God

With the focus on Isaac, God begins to give dates.

- a) Isaac was 40 years old when he took Rebekah as his wife (Gen. 25:20).
- b) 40 can symbolize a time of testing or a time of waiting until a significant event happens.
 - i. Jonah warned Nineveh for 40 days (Jon. 3:4).
 - ii. Moses lived 40 years as a prince of Egypt, then he chose the riches of Christ over the wealth of Egypt (Heb. 11:24-26).
 1. The beginning of Moses' life of faith was first evident when he smote the Egyptian. That marked the end of his idolatrous life and the beginning of a life of faith.
 - iii. He lived in the desert for the next 40 years. While in the school of God, He learnt what it was to be a shepherd.
 1. 40 years later, when the time was right, Moses was 80. Now he was commissioned by God to lead Israel out of Egypt, to shepherd the people of God (Ex. 7:7).
 2. Another 40 years to shepherd God's people and prepare them to inherit the Promised Land.
 3. Dwight L. Moody said: "Moses spent forty years thinking he was somebody; then he spent forty years on the backside of the desert realizing he was nobody; finally, he spent the last forty years of his life learning what God can do with a nobody!"
 - iv) True life and a fulfilled life is not measured by duration, position, possessions but in its surrender to God for His glory and the individuals eternal enrichment.

God can use a nobody, a forgotten Jewish shepherd/ Prince - an old man?

When D.L. Moody got saved, it was a shoemaker taking a meeting because the minister had not arrived. Only God knows how many were saved under the ministry of D.L. Moody. Then, Edward Kimball, a Sunday School teacher, led D.L. Moody to Christ.

Sermon Outlines

God Can Use Even Me

- a) A man called Harry Monroe invited Billy Sunday to a gospel meeting, and being under conviction, a woman called Mrs. Clark led Billy Sunday to the Saviour.
- b) Albert McMakin invited Billy Graham to go to hear Mordecai Ham and Billy Graham was converted.
 - i) Harry Monroe, Mrs. Clark, Edward Kimball, and Albert McMakin were all unknown, but they were the channels by which mighty evangelists were used by God for the conversion of thousands.
- c) Matthew was a despised tax collector, Peter a fisherman, John a fisherman, Amos a herdsman; they were all viewed as ordinary non influential individuals until God took them and used them.
- d) The little boy with the bread and fishes, we do not even know his name , but that which he had was used by God to feed over 5000.

You and I may think we're nobodies, unnoticed and unimportant, but that's exactly where we need to be for God to use us. It's never too late to serve Him. Maybe we're not quite ready yet for the ultimate work, but whatever we can do now, that is what we ought to concentrate on doing. He will show us what He can do with a nobody that's fully committed to Him.

- a) Blessed are the poor in spirit; for their's is the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:3).
- b) Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth (Matt. 5:5).
- c) Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled (Matt. 5:6).
- d) Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God (Matt. 5:8).
- e) Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God (Matt. 5:9).
- f) Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:10).

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

Rowan Jennings, Abbotsford, British Columbia