

## Overcoming Your Excuses For Greatness

**(NKJV) Jn 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.**

### I. Five excuses from Moses

- A. Who am I?
- B. What right (Authority) do I have to do this?
- C. Concern about what other people think
- D. Worried about his ability
- E. It's somebody else's job

### II. The Lesson of the burning bush

**(NKJV) Ex 3:1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, “I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.”**

#### A. Why doesn't the bush burn? God is with it!

- 1. We may face all types of situations, but as long as God is with us those situations will not overcome us

**(NKJV) 2 Co 4:8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.**

- 2. The supernatural is available to us when we are willing to fulfill God's purpose in life!

**(NKJV) Heb 12:29 For our God is a consuming fire.**

- a. Where does he dwell?
- 3.

### III. 1) WHO AM I?

**(NKJV) Ex 3:11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”**

#### A. Two questions:

- 1. That I should go before Pharaoh; go before government
- 2. that I should lead the people out; stand before the people

#### B. He thinks it is about him. He is merely the vessel that God is using.

- 1. A fallen leader
- 2. A Shepherd
- 3. An 80 year old man

- C. We refuse because we don't recognize it is not about us. It is about bringing glory to God.

**(NKJV) 1 Pe 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; him**

1. Moses had now been a shepherd for 40 years.

- D. Excuses by us

1. Who am I to serve?
2. Who am I to speak out?
3. Who am I to ask?

#### E. **GOD'S RESPONSE**

**(NKJV) Ex 3:12 So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."**

1. Two certainties

- a. the presence of God - he is with us

**(NKJV) Ro 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?**

- b. the providence of God – he will work things out for us

**(NKJV) Pr 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.**

**(NKJV) Ro 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.**

2. It really doesn't matter who you are, all that matters is who he is!
3. All we have to do, is go. God does the heavy lifting. Why? Because the battle is not ours it is the Lord's.

**(NKJV) 2 Co 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, 6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.**

4. After the miraculous has happened then we will know for certain it was God. Not before!

- a. What we must do, is be willing to go!

- b. In our trial God shows up!

#### IV. **2) WHAT RIGHT (AUTHORITY) DO I HAVE TO DO THIS?**

**(NKJV) Ex 3:13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"**

- A. Again two questions

1. By what authority? Who stands behind me? What gives me the right to do this?
  2. What shall I say?
- B. We also wonder if God wants us to do something. Was it God who spoke?
1. Do I have the authority to say this?
  2. Why should I speak out on this issue?
  3. Is God really with us?
- C. God's response  
**(NKJV) Ex 3:14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "**
1. He is the Almighty God who told him to speak out and who is with him!
- D. He tells him to speak his word! Speak what he tells him what to say. We are to do the same!  
**(NKJV) Ex 3:13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' " 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.' 16 Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt; 17 and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey." ' 18 Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'**
- 1.

#### V. 3) WHAT WILL PEOPLE THINK?

**(NKJV) Ex 4:1 Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.' "**

- A. he knows what to say but is worried about people.
- B. People can and will be hostile!
  1. They will persecute you!
  2. Talk about you!
  3. Even though you mean to help them, they will cuss you out!
- C. **God's Response – Just do as I say! I will deal with those against you!**  
**(NKJV) Ex 4:2 So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod." 3 And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it. 4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail" (and he reached**

out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand), 5 “that they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.”

6 Furthermore the LORD said to him, “Now put your hand in your bosom.” And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous, like snow. 7 And He said, “Put your hand in your bosom again.” So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his other flesh.

8 “Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign. 9 And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour it on the dry land. The water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry land.”

1. He will deal with the people. That is not your concern what they think. It is his!
2. He teaches Moses to do as he says!
  - a. He will do his part to convince them.
  - b. He will do things that honest people cannot deny as true.

#### VI. 4) CONCERN ABOUT HIS ABILITY

(NKJV) Ex 4:10 Then Moses said to the LORD, “O my Lord, *I am not eloquent*, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”

- A. Moses is thinking about his skills
  1. Our education
  2. our physical abilities
  3. our background
  4. our training
- B. Remember the bush? We are all nothing but bushes that are burning. Why?  
(NKJV) Je 23:29 “Is not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

(NKJV) Je 20:9 Then I said, “I will not make mention of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name.” But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not.

- C. The only skill we need is the knowledge of the Word of God. The knowledge of the truth of God.
  1. What did God say? Stand on that!  
(NKJV) Ps 119:99 I have more understanding than all my teachers,  
For Your testimonies are my meditation.

**(NKJV) Ps 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;**

**(NKJV) 1 Co 1:27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; 28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, 29 that no flesh should glory in His presence.**

**(NKJV) 2 Co 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.**

2. This is why a disciple of Guiding Light is so powerful.

**(NKJV) Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should *no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,***

a. It is the lack of this knowledge that impedes you!

D. We view things with a worldly perspective. We must learn to view things from a godly perspective!

E. God's response

**(NKJV) Ex 4:11 So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD? 12 Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."**

1. You have heard my word I will fill in for your deficiencies!

2. His word will equip him

3.

4.

#### **VII. 5) LET SOMEBODY ELSE DO IT**

**(NKJV) Ex 4:13 But he said, "O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send."**

A. We would rather somebody else stand up for justice!

1. But we must realize God will be angry if we don't love enough to do as he says!

B.

C.

D. **God's Response**

**(NKJV) Ex 4:14 So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and He said: “Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And look, he is also coming out to meet you. When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. 15 Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do. 16 So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God.**

1. He will send others to help you accomplish the mission
2. If we don't go God will have somebody else to do it and we will have lost our reward!

**(NKJV) Es 4:13 And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: “Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”**

VIII. God has called you to greatness overcome your excuses!

A. God does not expect you to be a Moses

1. nor a Daniel, David, Peter, Paul, John or Jehosaphat.
2. All God expects you to be is the best you, you can be!

**(NKJV) 1 Co 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.**

B. If you are a servant of God, then be a servant of God!