Summer Series 2022

As Jeremiah reminds us, and because we know this wonderful truth, we celebrate grace and life.

"BEFORE I formed you within your mother's womb I KNEW you; and BEFORE you breathed your first breath out of the womb I SANCTIFIED you, and I ORDAINED, yes, APPOINTED you to be one of My messenger to the nations." (Jeremiah 1:5)

Glory be, we can also say this...

"Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book [they] all were written, the [days] fashioned for me, when at the time there were none of [them]..," (Psalm 139)

A divinely delivered, divinely decreed, divinely directed, divinely defined and divinely defended calling... all the right ingredients needed for enduring the highs and hardships of the mission, ministry and message of the sent servant of God.

Jesus is said, "He has hidden Me and made Me a polished shaft, an arrow, in His quiver He has hidden Me. And what an image that we see in this, that the Lord shaped Him.

Now, He's going to tell us in chapter 50 how He (that is, the Father) shaped Him, from day to day. He's gonna open that to us in Isaiah 50:4 Look in 50:4, "The Lord has given Me (this is Jesus, prophetically speaking) the tongue of the learned. So, the tongue of learned is saying that God gave Him this tongue. Meaning, He shaped His tongue. The Scriptures refer to our tongues like a bow. And we're either using our tongues to shoot lies are we shooting truth. So, the tongue of the learned. Then He says, "For what reason or Why did He do this?" That I should know HOW to speak a word in season to him who is weary. Notice, not just WHAT to say BUT HOW to say it. Now, that's extremely important for us. We've gotten ourselves in trouble with WHAT we said, because HOW we said it. Saying the right thing, the wrong way. We could have said, WHAT we said, but if we had said it differently, it would've been received differently. We've all been there before. And these are the

little things, about Jesus, we want to pick up on. There's a reason why He says it that way. A word, and that word was a seasonal word. Which meant that it was on time. It was a word that was with within season. Now, we've got to be ready in season and out of season, even ready for an in season word at and out of season time. See, God can take an out of season time, and plant in season word, in an out of season time. That's one of the things we we want to grab from this. For He does that. A word in season to him who is wearing, that I would know HOW to speak. The Bible says a lot about that word discretion. Discretion is the idea of knowing WHEN to say something, along with WHAT to say, but it also includes knowing HOW to say it. And when we combine those three things together, knowing WHAT, WHEN and HOW, man, we need God's help doing that.

"But when [it] pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by His grace, [to] reveal His Son [in] me, that I might preach Him among the heathen; the Lord Jesus, who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Galatians 1:15-16, 4-5)

So grateful... for His everlasting love, His redeeming life and His darkness shattering light — that He spoke and revealed [IN] me and not just to me. I would have perished in my sin and darkness without the gospel of His redeeming grace.

Thank You Father! Thank You for rescuing me... and for illuminating my life to see Your grace and for expelling the darkness that held me captive. You did what no other could do! "For it is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has made His light shine in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6)

Thank You for breathing life into my spirit and opening my eyes, as you did with Adam, when you breathed life into him. The very first thing we both saw in the new life You graciously gave to us, was You, Your face and the tender love for us in Your eyes. Hallelujah... thank You Lord, for Your everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3).

In 1 Samuel 13 we get a glimpse of the time God told King Saul that He was going remove him and raise Himself up a king to lead and command His sheep... "But now your kingdom (King Saul's) shall not continue: the Lord has sought for Himself a man after His own heart (speaking of David), and the Lord has commanded him to be captain over His people, because you (Saul) have not kept that which the Lord commanded you" (1 Samuel 13:14).

I love this passage... and for many reasons. But one reason in particular is the fact that Samuel spoke in the past tense, as if this had literally taken place at some point in the past. But after studying the context of the times given to us in the Scriptures --- at the time of this specific

encounter with king Saul --- David was not born. Nope, and he wouldn't be born for another 8 years, after God spoke to King Saul, even though God spoke in the past tense, saying, "He had sought a man..." and "He had commanded him to captain over His people."

You see, my friend, God speaks those thing which are not --- as though they were. Therefore, God spoke of David as though he was alive and physically ready to sit upon the throne and govern His people. ONLY my God can do that, because He only does extraordinary things. That's Him, praise God!

The mercy/kindness of David

Giver not a taker...

It's not what they can give, bring or do to or for us but what we can give.

God said He'd rather give or extend mercy than receive a sacrifice...

It has been said not getting what we do deserve and grace is getting what we don't deserve.

I want to say that mercy is releasing a useful or you can say beneficial goodness is spite of us. It's a quality of good that is intended to bless, build and bring someone up that deserve nothing of the kind. It's extending a quality of useful goodness that is missing in the one you bless.

It's helping in the right way, with the right stuff those who only know the wrong way and how to apply the wrong stuff.

On the run... but running to the right One.

Though David, wisely, kept his distance from King Saul, by hiding in the wilderness or in caves, he didn't separate or distance himself from the Lord. The future King of Israel consistently found a way to seek and inquire of the Lord, and, as promised, the Lord consistently answered him. Not because of where he was or what he was doing, the Lord answered David because His eye was upon Him with delight. His ears were open to his supplications because His heart was open to David. David was humble and much loved by the Lord. He accepted him so why wouldn't He answer his prayers.

King Saul, on the other hand, had trust issues and couldn't trust anyone, including the Lord, because he proved, over and over again, he, himself, was prideful and not trustworthy. David entrusted his life to his God and set out to protect what was under his leadership. But Saul was so

consumed with pride and self pity, jealously and envy, and anger and bitterness, he couldn't see past revenging himself, by taking the life of the son of Jesse. He hated even mentioning his name and set out to destroy anyone that tried to protect him.

Self-centered living not only destroys the person living in it --- but it puts everyone around them in danger.

Here's a thought to consider...

If we pout, or become vindictive, we can expect our performance to be at its lowest. We'll miss and mess up things every time we have a pity party. And we can anticipate putting the blame on everyone else for it. Pouting will cost us and others far more than the satisfaction we will enjoy for acting like a spoiled immature brat.

...pouters always produce poorer than normal, when their lip is poked out and their finger is placing the blame on everyone but themselves, they can't help it, it just comes with pouting.

So, let's get over it, get up and get on with it... because pouting is for pouters! Sadly there's no age limit for it, if there was, our homes, communities, churches, jobs, cities, schools, counties and countries would be much better off today.

Don't get stagnate, quit pitying yourself and stop blaming everyone else... and help someone look up, grow up and follow up on their commitment to be a part of those who help others make a difference in this world. Therefore, don't be a pouter, be a delightful difference maker today and tomorrow... in spite of what today or tomorrow may bring.

Think about it... it's hard to pout and praise at the same time. It takes real skills to do both... a skill set I don't need. And always remember, pity parties are from the devil. Don't host them and accept no invitations to them.

Help us Lord... teach us to say NO to ourselves and YES to You and Your beautiful ways. Blessings friends... retreat is not defeat, when it's the Lord you flee to seek!

#nestingwithjesus #1samuel #1samuel23 #1samuel24 #runtojesus #therighteousshalllivebyfaith #rescuedtobearescuer#seeingtheextraordinaryintheordinary #preachingtomyself #psalm139 #nkjv #psalms #psalm139 #knowntoGod #1samuel13and14 #psalm139 #jeremiah1and5 #isaiah44and7 #2corinthians5and14thru21

#ministry #missions #motives #kingdomminded

#businessminded #purposeandpeople
#preferencesandperformance #preferences
#performance #kingdommindedservants
#fruitonthemind#giftedforglory
#graspingforselfglory#summerseries
#summerseries2022 #guidedbyglory