

A scenic view of a mountain valley. The foreground shows a stone wall made of large, rounded rocks. The middle ground features a valley with rocky slopes and a stone wall. The background shows a range of mountains under a blue sky with light clouds.

# *Finding A Divine Way Of Living*

*A Teaching Outline*

*compiled By Dr. Harold Bollinger*

## **A Divine Way of Living**

**Turn aside and listen.**

### **Exodus 3:1**

**Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.**

### **Exodus 3:3**

**And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.**

### **Exodus 3:5**

**And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.**

The things of God are worth a closer look. Turn aside from you busy life, and show God you are interested in his plan for your life. Are you standing on holy ground?

**Bill and Gloria Gather.**

We are standing on holy ground  
and I know that there  
are angels all around  
Let us praise Jesus now  
we are standing in His presence  
on holy ground

## **The anointed mantel was cast upon Elisha.**

### **1 Kings 19:19**

**So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.**

The cloak was the most important article of clothing a person could own. It was used as protection against the weather, as bedding, as a place to sit, and as luggage.

It could be given as a pledge for a debt or torn into pieces to show grief. Elijah put his cloak on Elisha's shoulders to show that he would become Elijah's successor.

## **Elisha ministered unto Elijah**

### **1 Kings 19:21**

**And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.**

By killing his oxen, Elisha made a strong commitment to follow Elijah. Without them, he could not return to his life as a wealthy farmer. This meal was more than a feast among farmers. It was an offering of thanks to the Lord who chose Elisha to be his prophet.

**God appears to his people for a purpose.**

**Acts 26:16**

**But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in which I will appear unto thee;**

When God spoke to Saul, it was for a purpose. God always has a purpose when he speaks. He told Saul that he would appear to him again later.

Divine visitations should not be thought of as a one-time happening. Like Paul, we should not forget the things the Lord has spoken to us.

**God has made us able ministers.**

**2 Cor. 3:6**

**Who also hath made us able ministers of the New Testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.**

"The old written covenant ends in death; but under the new covenant, the Spirit gives life" means that trying to be saved by keeping the Old Testament laws will end in death. Only by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ can a person receive eternal life through the Holy Spirit.

**We are made ministers by God's effectual working power.**

**Ephes. 3:7**

**Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.**

When Paul became a servant of the gospel, God gave him the ability to share the gospel of Christ effectively.

You are not an apostle, and you may not be an evangelist, but God will give you opportunities to tell others about Christ. And with the opportunities he will provide the ability, courage, and power.

### **God appoints preachers and apostles.**

#### **2 Tim. 1:11**

**Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.**

In spite of the suffering that might have caused Paul to despair, he affirmed his confidence in God's protection. This was not a claim to strong faith; rather, it was a trust in one so powerful that even a weak faith was sufficient. Paul based his confidence in Christ on his intimate relationship with him.

Paul's knew the one in whom he trusted with personal knowledge; he knew Christ so well that no earthly experience could break the bond of love by which Christ held him.

### **Isaiah sees visions of the heavenly realm.**

#### **Isaiah 5:6-7**

**And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. [7] For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.**

The lesson of the song of the vineyard shows that God's chosen nation was to bear fruit—to carry out his work, to uphold justice.

It did bear fruit, but the fruit was bad. Jesus said, "Just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions" (Matthew 7:20).

### **God is seeking those who are willing to reply.**

#### **Isaiah 6:8**

**Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.**

Seeing the Lord and listening to the praise of the angels, Isaiah realized that he was sinful before God, with no hope of measuring up to God's standard of holiness.

When Isaiah's lips were touched with a live burning coal, however, he was told that his sins were forgiven. It wasn't the coal that cleansed him, but God. In response, Isaiah submitted himself entirely to God's service.

No matter how difficult his task would be, he said, "Here I am. Send me."

The painful cleansing process was necessary before Isaiah could fulfill the task to which God was calling him. Before we accept God's call to speak for him to those around us, we must be cleansed as Isaiah was, confessing our sins and submitting to God's control.

Letting God purify us may be painful, but we must be purified so that we can truly represent God, who is pure and holy.

## **God put the word in the prophet's mouth.**

### **Jeremiah 1:9**

**Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.**

God promised to be with Jeremiah and take care of him, but not to keep trouble from coming. God did not insulate him from imprisonment, deportation, or insults.

God does not keep us from encountering life's storms, but he will see us through them. In fact, God walks through these storms with us and rescues us.

### **Illustration.**

A lady desiring to make grape jelly. She took the best grapes to distract the juice, put them on the burner, but nothing happened. The reason being, she failed to turn the burner on. There is no completion without the fire.

When you are facing the fires of life today, remember that God may be using you to complete a winning cause.

## **God will teach you what you should do.**

### **Exodus 4:15**

**And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.**

God finally agreed to let Aaron speak for Moses. Moses' feelings of inadequacy were so strong that he could not trust even God's ability to help him. Moses had to deal with his deep sense of inadequacy many times.

When we face difficult or frightening situations, we must be willing to let God help us.

**As they preached, the Lord worked with them.**

**Mark 16:20**

**And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.**

The world sees power as a way to gain control over others. But Jesus, with all authority and power in heaven and earth, chose to serve others. He held children in his arms, healed the sick, washed the disciples' feet, and died for the sins of the world.

Jesus' followers today receive this same power to serve. As believers, we are called to be servants of Christ. As Christ served, so we are to serve.

**The hand of God touched Daniel.**

**Daniel 10:10**

**And, behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.**

Daniel was frightened by this vision, but the messenger reassured him. Daniel lost his speech, but the messenger's touch restored it.

Daniel felt weak and helpless, but the messenger's words strengthened him.

God can bring us healing when we are hurt, peace when we are troubled, and strength when we are weak. Trust God to minister to you as he did to Daniel.

## **An invitation is given to open your heart's door to Jesus**

### **Rev. 3:20**

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

**To ask Jesus to come into your heart, please pray this Prayer:**

Dear Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. I ask you to forgive me of my sins and coming into my heart. I accept you as savior and will follow you as Lord. Amen.

#### **References:**

Holy Bible: King James Translation

Additional comments and charts are taken from: *Life Application Study Bible*. Illinois: Tyndale House 2007. Print

