

Beauty for Ashes - Day 1

by Carter Conlon

Carter Conlon's sermon emphasizes that true victory comes from God when we sincerely cry out to Him and fully surrender our lives to His will.

Duration: 44:01

Scripture: Exodus 14:13, Judges 6:12, Judges 6:25, Zechariah 4:6

Topics: "Haiti"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes that God often chooses to work through one person to bring about deliverance and freedom. He encourages listeners to respond to God's call with a sincere heart and stand boldly in the power of God. The speaker uses the example of Gideon and the 300 people God chose to defeat their enemies as evidence of God's ability to work through a few individuals. He urges listeners to trust in God's strength rather than relying on human strategies and to declare the glory of God without shame or compromise.

Transcript

Glory to the name of Jesus. It's wonderful to be here tonight. To be visiting you all the way from New York City.

The Lord has given a word this evening into my heart. It's a word for you. For each person that is gathered here.

And it's called What does the first day of victory look like? We've cried out for victory. We believe God for victory. We've trusted for victory.

And when you do cry out to God. There is a moment that God answers. The answer doesn't always look the way we think it should.

But it is a moment of victory. And I tell you this evening. This is a moment of victory.

It's a moment of victory for you. Victory for your family. Victory for your nation.

The Lord has come to you. Jesus has heard your cry. And he's going to do something profound in your midst.

Now to understand. What this day of victory looks like. I want to go to an Old Testament story.

It was a story about the people of God. The Bible tells us that they didn't live right in the sight of God. And because of that God let an enemy overpower them.

But it was only for an appointed time. There's a time when evil loses its power. There's a time when God comes to his people.

The Bible tells us that it was so difficult there. People were making homes wherever they could. They were looking for security.

For some kind of comfort. The scripture says they were living in caves in many caves. They were trying to make a better day.

But their enemies were so numerous. And they were so powerful. That whenever it looked like they were advancing.

When some kind of prosperity was coming. Their enemies would come again. And their enemies would surround them.

It seemed like evil was on every side. The people would have looked out of their homes. And they would say, how are we ever going to win this? Our enemies are so powerful.

And we seem to have no ability. When we try to change. Our enemies take everything away from us.

The scripture tells us. That whenever they tried to get on their feet. These enemies would come.

And would steal their economy. Would take away their strength. And all their ability to move forward.

Despair must have been everywhere. It must have been so hard. It must have looked so hopeless.

And the people of God were extremely poor because of this. And they had nothing left they could do. But they began to cry out to God.

I want to tell you tonight. Jesus has heard your cry. Every mother.

Every child. Every young man. Every young woman.

Every leader. You've gone into a secret place. And you've had a cry in your heart.

And the cry has been, oh God. Oh God. You have to help me.

You have to help my family. You have to help my children. They cried out to the Lord.

When God hears a certain. A certain type of cry. The scripture tells us.

He can't turn away from that cry. Even his own children in Egypt. When they ran out of options.

And they began to cry. The Lord heard their cry. And he sent deliverance to them.

The scripture says that when they cried. God sent a prophet to them. And the prophet told them these words.

He said I once delivered you in the past. You once knew who I was. I set you free from the hand of captivity.

It was a long time ago. And I told you. When I brought you into the nation.

I said don't serve the gods of that nation. Don't serve the gods of the people of that nation. I don't know what those gods were.

But usually it has something to do with power. And provision. And advancement.

And security. It may even look good. But it doesn't come from the hand of God.

And the Lord told his people. Don't serve the gods of the people. Don't bow down to them.

There is only one God. There is no other God. God does not have different names.

He has one name. It's the name of the Father. The Son.

And the Holy Spirit. The name is Jesus. The Son of God.

Don't serve other gods. Don't bow down to them. But he said you didn't listen to my voice.

Whenever people refuse to listen. The end result is poverty. Oppression.

Trials. Hardship. Because of wrong choices.

Because of wrong worship. Until. That cry comes into the heart again.

God heard the cry. God sent the prophet. The Lord has heard the cry.

In the nation of Haiti. And you have had voices. That God has raised up.

To tell you. There is only one God. Don't bow down to other names.

Don't worship at other altars. Serve God. And serve him alone.

The day of deliverance came. We ask ourselves tonight. What does this day look like? Who does God come to? Who is the next great voice? Who is the next great prophet? Where is the next great church? God does what he always does.

He comes to those that are weak. Those that have no strength. Those that have no plan.

They have nothing. But in their heart. There is deep within them.

A willingness to obey God. And he came to a young man. The young man's name was Gideon.

He was a young man who wanted to do better. He was doing what he knew to do. He was trying to make a living.

He was trying to make things better for his family. He was doing all he knew to do. He was working in secret.

Because he feared if he came into the open. His produce would be stolen from him. He was not a young man of great courage.

He had no political influence. He was not a soldier. He was not a great speaker.

And God came to him. My brother and my sister. Have an open heart tonight.

Because it might be you that God has come to. Gideon said in his heart. Because the messenger said the Lord is with you.

And you have strength. I'm telling you tonight the Lord is with you. And you have a resource of strength.

The strength that you have is enough to free your nation. You have enough strength to make this nation and praise to God in the earth. These are words from the word of God.

But yet you sit here tonight. And you say like Gideon said. If God is with us.

Then why has all this trouble come to us? Why are we so poor? Why do we have so many enemies? Why is there unrest in our streets? Why can't we find a way out? Where are all the miracles that people tell me about? I go to church. And people tell me about how God delivered his people. How he took them out of Egypt.

And if that's true. Then why is it not happening now? The miracle is. It was happening.

He just couldn't see it. It wasn't revealed to him yet. It wasn't yet given to his eyes to see.

And the Lord said to him. Here is your strength. You go save your people from the hands of the enemy.

I've called you. I've not called somebody else. I've called you.

Young woman sitting here. Single mother sitting here. Middle aged gentleman.

Older person. I've called you. This is all you need.

All you need is a heart to obey you. All you need is to understand. I've called you to make a difference.

And the kingdom of God. It's not because of man. It's not by power.

It's not by our human effort. It's by the spirit of almighty God. The strength that God is willing to send to you.

Gideon said like we all say. How will I save Haiti? How will my life make a difference? Don't you know who you're talking to? My family is poor. We are one of the least houses in the nation.

And I am the least in my father's house. I don't have any strength. I don't have any power.

I don't have any political influence. I don't have any money. I don't have an army.

But the Lord said. I will be with you. If you will rise up.

I will be with you. I will give you the power. I'll give you the strength.

I'll give you the giftings of the Holy Spirit. It will be my strength. That is given to you.

And he said to the Lord. Show me a sign. Help me God.

There are people here tonight. In your heart. You're saying Lord could it be me? Are you speaking to me? If you are.

Oh God. Give me a sign. That you are speaking to me.

I'll be willing to be what you call me to be. And he said to the messenger. He said let me bring you a present.

And he went out. The Bible says he took a young goat. That represented his future.

That was another thing he was hiding. It was his hope. It was all he had.

But he took it. And he put it in the hands of God. He brought his future.

If you and I are going to be used of God. In our generation. We have to give our future.

Not part of our future. But all of our future. Into the hands of God.

We have to be willing to say. Lord I give you my life. I give you my hope.

I give you my family. I give you my direction. I give you my plans.

I put my future. Into the hands of God. You'll never be used of God.

Until you and I. Are willing to put our future. But all of our future. I have put all of my future.

Into the hands of God. He has my life until the day I die. The only cry of my heart.

Jesus. Make a difference. In the earth.

Jesus. Bring glory to your name. Let the love of the Father be known.

Let the power of the Spirit be known. Let the fullness of God be known. Jesus.

Make a difference. In the earth. Oh God.

Do it through me. Do it through my weakness. Through my struggles.

Through my trials. Through my poverty. Through all of my flaws.

Through my failures. I give it all to you God. All I ask you to do.

Glorify your name. Glorify your name. Break bondages.

Open prison doors. Give sight to the blind. Give healing to the wounded.

Give hope to those in hell. Jesus. Glorify your name.

Glorify your name. That has to be the cry of your heart. That has to be your cry tonight.

Jesus. Glorify your name. I don't want anymore religion.

I don't want anymore empty promises. I want you to glorify your name. Glorify the name of God.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Also he brought to the Lord.

The Bible says he brought cakes that had no leaven in them. Which means there was no hypocrisy in it. His heart was not divided.

I'm going with you Jesus. And I'm going all the way with you. And even if people laugh at me.

I will worship you. I will give you glory. I will walk with you.

Even if nobody else understands. And I will do it God's way. I will live God's way.

I'm going to have no secret thing in my life. Nothing of hypocrisy. Nothing that sings one way and lives another.

But my life. And my song. Will be true.

It will have the character of God in it. I'll give you my future. And I'll give you the sincerity.

Of my heart. And that's all Lord you want of me. And so God says now I'm going to show you the sign.

You asked me for a sign. And you brought to me what you had. You had a little bit of a future.

You had some integrity in your heart. He says now put it on the altar. Put all of it on the altar.

Put everything down right can touch it. And so Gideon took his future. And he brought it in the sincerity of his heart.

And he put it on the altar of God. And the scripture says the angel of the Lord. Put the end of a staff, a stick of wood he had in his hand.

And he touched it. He touched the flesh. He touched the cakes.

The Bible says a fire came out of the rock. And it consumed that flesh. And it consumed that unleavened cake.

The staff in his hand. Is a type of the cross of Jesus Christ. When you come to that altar.

And say Lord I give my life. For the betterment of my people. And for the glory of my God.

And for the future of my nation. I give my life. My future.

And I do it sincerely. The power of the cross. The power of the redemption.

The power of Jesus blood. The power of the Holy Spirit. Will touch you.

And that will be the only sign you need. The Bible says if any man be in Christ. He becomes a new creation.

The old things in his life. Are passed away. And all things become new.

Old attitudes. Old bondages. Old problems.

Old struggles. Old ways of thinking. Old attitudes.

Old thoughts. They die. And everything comes alive.

And God says I give you a new mind. I give you a new heart. I give you a new spirit.

I give you a new future. I give you new power. I give you new hope.

I give you new ability. I touch you. With the power of the cross.

The power of your redemption. The power of the Holy Ghost. You become a new creation.

In Jesus Christ. You are taken where you couldn't go. You are made into what you could never be.

You are given abilities you could never have. You are given it by the power of God. By the touch of God.

And it requires honesty. God gave Gideon a battle plan. He said I don't have to have a lot of people to save the nation.

It would be nice if this stadium was filled tonight. But it doesn't need to be filled. For God to have the victory.

He only needs one person. He only needs you. One man.

One woman. With a sincere heart. Who is willing to give it all.

For the glory of God. And for the people of his nation. And with one heart.

With one life. He gives a battle plan. He told Gideon.

I want you to stand in public. On a high hill. On a high mountain.

Before all of your enemies. And I'm going to put the fire of God. Inside an earthen vessel.

There was a vessel of clay. He said light a torch. And put that torch inside.

And when I tell you. You take that vessel. You break that vessel.

You give your plans. Your future. Your safety.

Your hope. You break it all. In the sight of every man.

And you stand up. You stand up in truth. You stand up with the power of God.

And you say these words. The sword of the Lord. And the sword of Gideon.

That means the power of God. The word of God. In a broken vessel.

In a man. In a woman. No longer filled with themselves.

But filled with the power of God. That's what victory looks like. And when God found 300 people.

That were willing to stand. When God found a leader. That was willing to stand.

If somebody's listening tonight. If somebody in government is listening. Somebody's on the radio listening.
I'm telling you tonight. You are called to stand. You might be the only one.
But I'm telling you tonight. For the sake of your country. Stand.
Stand in the power of God. Stand in the sincerity of God. Stand with the power of God.
Stand in public. Stand unashamed. Stand with the glory of God in your soul.
And speak the word of God. Speak it without shame. The glory of God.
The sword of God. In the hand. Of a surrendered man.
A surrendered woman. A surrendered president. A surrendered government.
We will not live in poverty anymore. We will not bend to our enemies. We will no longer give in.
To these powers of hell. That have stolen from us. They've stolen our hope.
Stolen our future. Stolen our children. Stolen our churches.
We will no longer. Stand under this power. We will stand in the glory of our God.
We will give God glory. We will do it in the public. We'll do it without shame.
And we will believe God. For deliverance. For victory.
For hope. For a future. To do something.
So powerful. So profound. That it will bring glory to the name.
Of almighty God. Throughout the whole world. Throughout the whole world.
Not just in Haiti. But the whole world will hear. Of what God has done.
In this nation. Tonight. We're talking.
About what God did. Many years ago. In a nation.
That had no hope. No future. No economy.
No order. But God came. And did a miracle.
And the whole world. Knows about it. People know about it.
They know the name. They know the name Gideon. They know about his 300 glad warriors.
They know the great victory. I feel in my heart tonight. There's a day coming.
Whether they will give God glory or not. The whole world. Will have to stand up.
And take notice. Of what God did. In Haiti.

And he did it with just a few people. He started to send a ripple of fear. Through the powers of hell.
The Bible says when these few. When they stood in the public. And they declared the glory of God.
They did it without shame. They did it with integrity. They did it by casting your future.
Into the hands of God. That God sent a shockwave. A shockwave of fear.
Through the powers of hell. That had dominated his people. That dominated this nation.
You have the power tonight. To send a shockwave. Through every devil.
Every power of evil. Everything. That Satan.
Has tried to do in your nation. You have the power. To send a shockwave through hell.
If you believe it. Shout into the heavens. If you believe it.
Give glory to God. If you believe it. Shout.
Shout. Shout. Shout into the heavens.
God. Is going to give you the victory. Don't sit and defeat any longer.
This is what victory looks like. This is what the day of victory looks like. This is what the glory of God looks like.
This is what your future looks like. Shout. Give glory to God.
Hallelujah to the love of God. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.
Glory to God. Glory to God. What does the first day of victory look like? What does the first day of victory look like? This is what it looks like.
God comes to one man. Maybe that's you. Maybe it's all of you.
But God comes to one man. When Israel needed deliverance. From the nation of Egypt.
God came to one man. And he was 80 years old. He said I've heard the cry of many people.
And I'm going to deliver them. I want you to go. And tell them the day of freedom has come.
It's hard to believe sometimes. Because we think it should be an army. We think there should be something great happening.
We think there should be some kind of fire come down. But God says that's not the way I do it. I come to one man.
I come to one young lady. I come to one older person. And I call you.
This is what the first day looks like. We're in the first day of four days of meeting. And this is what the first day looks like.

The first day. God calls you. Now your choice is.

You either say yes. Or you say no. But there's nothing in the middle.

There are no maybes. There are no conditions. You say yes.

And you say I bring you my future. And I bring it to you with a sincere heart. This is day one.

Of a deliverance. That set free a nation. For those listening on the radio.

This is day one. Of a great deliverance. For the nation of Haiti.

I'm not trying to make you happy tonight. I've been sent to you with a word from God. I know this word is true.

I've seen God do miracles all over the world. And your time has come. It's time for freedom.

It's time for freedom. It's time to see our enemies. Totally, completely destroyed.

Praise be to God. It has come. Not tomorrow.

Not the week after. Today. Today.

Deliverance has come. This is the first day. This is what the Lord told Gideon.

He said, your families are in poverty. Because you have lived in mixture. You are the people of God.

And you have worshipped God. But you have another altar. This altar is in your father's house.

His father was a worshipper of God. But he had another altar in his backyard. And he was bowing down at two altars.

You can't bow down at two altars. There's only one altar. Only one God.

Only one power. You have to put the other altars away. He said, I want you to go home.

Take that altar. Tear it down. Tear down everything built around it.

I don't care if you burn it. Or chop it down. But destroy it.

Destroy that altar. Destroy every other altar. People of Haiti.

Listen to my voice. On television. On radio.

Destroy those altars. Throw them in the trash. Burn them.

Destroy them. Tear them down. You cannot worship at these altars.

And ever know the victory of God. There are no two ways to worship. Only one way to worship.

Only one future. One God. One power.

One hope. For the sake of Haiti. For the sake of your family.

Have courage. And destroy these altars. Take them down.

Don't be afraid. He was afraid. It was his father's house.

This secondary altar. He had probably been there for years. He didn't know what to do.

But he knew this much. If victory was going to come. If his people were going to be free.

If the devil was going to be defeated. That second altar. It had to come down.

It had to be destroyed. It had to lose its influence. And so that's the first day.

The first day of victory. Is you have to get rid of. Everything.

Everything. Remember the people. Had come under this oppression.

Because they had worshipped. The gods of the nation. When the Lord had told them.

You shall not worship these gods. There is only one God. Many years later.

He came. He heard the cry. And he said if you're going to be free.

The first thing. The first day. The very first thing.

There will be no more mixture. Haiti. There can be no more mixture here.

You cannot have Christ. And some other god. At the same time.

You render your own deliverance. Powerless. When there is mixture.

So give him your future. Give him the sincerity of your heart. And when you come back tomorrow night.

When you bring your family here. When you bring your friends here. Be able to say this in your heart.

I have torn down. Every altar. Every other form of worship.

I've torn it down. And tonight. I am a servant.

Of the Lord Jesus Christ. And him alone. Will I serve.

There will be no other god. In my life. If this is you tonight.

If you are willing to make this commitment. I'm going to ask you. To make your way here to meet with us.

I assume there are gates here Pastor Claude. There are. I'm going to ask you to make your way.

And come here right where the soccer net is. And come and meet with us. And we're going to pray for the fire of God.

Bring him sincerity. Bring him your future. Bring him your hope.

The determination. To make a difference. In your nation.

And come and stand here. And we're going to ask the power of God to touch you. We're going to believe for great victory.

We're going to worship. As we do. Leave your seat.

Please leave your seat. And come here. All denominations.

All Christians. And even non-believers. God will receive you.

He'll forgive your sin. And he will touch your life. But come now.

Slip out of your seat. Young people. Old people.

If you want to make a difference. For the future of your nation. This is the plan of God.

There's no other plan. You are the plan of God. Please come.

Make your way here right now. Let's worship. No.

Yes. Praise God. This.

Could everybody who's down on the field please just listen to me right now. Could you stop praying for people right now. This is what the first day of deliverance looked like.

There was about 300 people. And they were people who were not filled with mixture. They were people who wanted to make a difference.

And they were willing to risk everything. And they were willing to do it publicly. This is all God needed.

This is all God has ever needed. This is not an evangelistic service today. This is a call for young men and women.

The Lord told me in prayer today. That there would be a lot of young people at this hall. And I see a lot of young faces.

And you are God's plan. You are God's plan. You are God's plan.

For the future of your country. There's no other plan. And you trust God now.

If you are willing. To give him your future. If you are willing to be sincere.

You put all corruption out of your life. You trust him for the power. To live a holy life.

You have to trust him. Because you can't do it in your own strength. He'll give you the power.

And for everyone who's listening tonight. You trust him. And he'll give you the power.

This is how God always works. Paul the apostle. In 1 Corinthians chapter 1. Said that God takes the weak.

And he takes those that are not wise in themselves. They have no authority. They have no power.

No political influence. And he takes these people. And he uses them.

To confound. Everything that is not of God. He gives them power.

That's what I'm going to pray for you. That God give you power. Would you lift your hands? Please, raise your hands.

Now you start crying out to God. Ask him for power. Ask him to touch the sacrifice.

Don't be ashamed. You have to be willing to do this. You cry out from the depths of your heart.

He doesn't come to the half-hearted. He comes to those who say all of me. All of me.

My reputation. My future. It doesn't matter.

I'm going to live for God. And I'm going to live publicly for God. I'm going to live rightly for God.

Father, I ask you. In Jesus' name. Let your power.

Touch this sacrifice. It was all that Gideon had. And it would have gone nowhere.

Without your power. Holy Spirit of God. Touch these young ones.

Touch them with the power of Christ. Raise them. Give them strength.

Give them faith. Cause them to believe. Take them out of poverty.

Into the riches of Christ. Give them strength. Give them power.

Give them the ability. God Almighty. Deliver this nation.

And do it through these young people. Let evangelists. Pastors.

Apostles. Prophets. Teachers.

Godly men and women. Be born this night. Into the kingdom of God.

Take away unbelief. I refuse unbelief. We refuse.

To come under the heel. Of our enemies. Any longer.

We're going to stand. In the power of our God. And we're going to believe God.

For a future. Of victory. And glory.

And power. In the nation of Haiti. In this country.

We believe it. We stand on it. In Jesus' mighty name.

Now give God glory. Give him a shout of glory tonight. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Glory to God. Lift your hands.

Lift your voices. Lift your hearts. Glory to the Lamb of God.

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