

# Meeting a Need

by Duncan Campbell

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of obedience in meeting the needs of God and receiving the blessings of the Holy Spirit.*

**Duration:** 39:03

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:6, Matthew 26:20-22, Mark 14:12-16, Mark 14:18-20, John 13:21-22, John 13:26-27, John 13:34-35

**Topics:** "Obedience"

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## Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes the importance of obedience in experiencing blessings from God. He shares a story of a convention where many people initially volunteered for foreign missions, but only one person actually followed through. The speaker challenges the audience to honestly and sincerely respond to God's call, highlighting the need for action and service. He also discusses the concept of having reservations in one's consecration to God and encourages listeners to fully surrender to Him.

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## Transcript

in your prayers. That of course is in the will of God. I was saying to somebody today you can't do at 73 what you did at 53 but a dear sister mentioned to me today about another sister who is over 80 and God is blessing her ministry so that encouraged me.

Now will you turn with me for our reading to the gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark and we are going to read some verses from chapter 14. Saint Mark's gospel and chapter 14 and reading from verse 12.

And the first day of unleavened bread when they killed the Passover his disciples said unto him where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the Passover and he sendeth forth two of his disciples and saith unto them go ye into the city and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water follow him and wheresoever he shall go in say ye to the good man of the house the master says where is the guest chamber where I shall eat the Passover with my disciples and he will show you a large upper room furnished and prepare there make ready for us and his disciples went forth and came into the city and found as he had said unto them and they made ready the Passover and in the evening he cometh with the twelve and as they sat and did eat Jesus said verily I say unto you one of

you which sitteth with me shall betray me and they began to be sorrowful and to say unto him one by one is it I another said is it I and he answered and said unto them it is one of it is one of the twelve that dippeth

with me in the dish the son of man indeed goeth as it is written often but woe to that man by whom the son of man is betrayed good were it for that man if he had never been born amen and may God add his richest blessing amen will you turn with me now to the gospel according to saint Matthew and to chapter 21 and you will find the words of my text in verse six and the disciples went and did as Jesus had commanded them the disciples went and did as Jesus had commanded them I want you this evening to come with me to this new testament story a story with which most of you if not

all of you are familiar it is a story in the life of Christ that speaks of a need and how that need was met by the action and by the obedience of two disciples and an unnamed man how true it is that obedience has proved to be the key to untold blessing I believe dear people that quite a number not a few have entered into very real blessing during these days I believe that somehow I find it in my soul that God has been speaking and there are those in this meeting and some have gone from the camp who have obeyed God on some issue and their obedience has brought untold blessing to them and I believe that that blessing will flow in the community in which they find themselves but let me say this that obedience is ever a fundamental condition for blessing that can never be disregarded the Holy

Spirit is given oh let me say it again it's given not to those who talk about it not to those who pray about it but to those who obey well here we have it but oh let me further find out that there is no moral virtue in obedience unless there is a recognition of a higher authority in the one who calls for obedience no moral virtue unless I'm obeying God not a preacher not an association not a church but listening and obeying to the voice of God my dear friend tell me have you heard his voice and have you obeyed his voice because you recognize his authority and the voice that speaks from the throne of God oh it is said here that they did what the Lord commanded them of course it is true that obedience presupposes an unreserved yielding to the Lord Jesus Christ you remember oh I do your

attention to it before you remember when Paul fell on his face on the Damascus road and bowed before the authority of the one who spoke from heaven at that moment he recognized the voice that spoke of the lordship of Jesus and he bowed before the authority and before the authority of the one who spoke from heaven oh brother tell me have you been moved by that authority has the voice of God been so clear and real to you these days that you recognize the authority to note in it God is speaking God is speaking you remember that it is said of Abraham that he obeyed and received an inheritance isn't that wonderful and I would say the man who sincerely meets with God and obeys the voice of God the inheritance is there waiting for him and perhaps in this case the inheritance is the baptism of

the Holy Ghost what oh what an inheritance well we read of the early disciples that they obeyed the voice of God rather than the voice of man and they went out and turned the world upside down I heard or rather read some little time ago words spoken by Socrates he is addressing the men of Athens and in his address he said this men of Athens I hold you in the highest esteem but I will obey God rather than you now friends it takes courage oh it takes courage to take that stand not as I said to the pastors this afternoon the day may come and not soon when courage will be demanded to stand against the prevailing sin of our day you see here are men and through their obedience their life became what I say a walking incarnation my dear people that's just what should happen oh is your life a

walking incarnation of Jesus I'm constantly oh I'm constantly thinking of that the life also of Jesus manifest through my mortal flesh a new incarnation of Jesus and men women being made conscious of it and feeling the impact of it bringing the fear of God bringing conviction of sin and bringing the realization of the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ as Christ moves freely through every avenue of my personality and

me handing to them every key of every room in my life my dear people that is where we want to get to tonight oh I wonder if I'm speaking to any and you're still holding on to one key oh you've given much during these days in so many ways oh yes you've given but you know that there is a reservation in your life a reservation in effect you're saying I'm quite prepared to go

so far with the teachings and with the ministry and the impact of these days but oh brother is there a but in your life I will follow thee but my dear brother the honesty and the measure of your consecration and your relationship to God is decided by the but in your life I want you to think of that I already quoted Hanson Taylor he will have all or nothing at all and I do trust that he will get all this evening I believe dear people we're going to have a wonderful meeting a wonderful meeting I'm looking forward with glorious anticipation to the closing message I'm telling you that dear people from the lips of that dear man of God waiting with anticipation this is the confidence that we have in him that if we ask anything if we ask anything according to his will he heareth us and if we

know that he hear us we know that we have the petition oh brother sister what are you asking are you asking that God might visit us and that God might come and satisfy the hunger of hearts that are longing for God perhaps more than they ever longed in their lives my dear people this is the confidence and I ask that in this meeting you will lift your heart in prayer and in intercession and cry God satisfy as early with thy mercy that our souls may rejoice in thee oh I would love to see a wave of rejoicing in this meeting when my dear brother here was singing that chorus that has in it I'll not turn back my took to my mind a wonderful scene that I witnessed a crowd I couldn't tell you how many of them there must have been over a hundred and between three and four o'clock in the morning

they're walking along the beach no thought of going to sleep no thought of going home and they're lustily singing the only English chorus that they could sing no turning back led by that remarkable singer Mary Morrison no turning back oh the thrill of it rejoicing and singing in the realization that God had set them free and that they were hungering for more and my dear people not very long after that quite a number of them including the girl that I mentioned were baptized in the Holy Ghost I was in the room when God came and it came in such a wonderful way that our dear child of God cried oh God hold your hand my young body can't contain you that's an experience my young body can't contain you it would appear that God had swept into every avenue of her personality filled with Christ and

Christ alone oh that that may happen tonight my my soul will be moved to its death and I would rejoice in God my Savior now this is an interesting text and to begin with I have here this thought the need expressed the Lord has a need here is an expression of need that must be what I say the cause of wonder that the God who created the universe should find himself expressing a need was not the wealth of the world at his disposal was it not through that by the touch of his hand he flung worlds into space but here he is in his humiliation expressing a need and publicly expressing it and I believe dear people that need has gone ringing down the corridors of time God in need my dear people what is he needing will you face that question with me there is a very arresting word in the prophecy of

Isaiah I looked and there was none to help and I wondered that there was no one to help I'm quoting from the Gaelic I love that passage in Corinthians speaking of the gifts and in the midst of the record there is reference made to the gift of health and I believe dear people that there are those here who have that gift and while they may not be able to preach or to organize meetings oh they're possessed of a desire and a consuming love for Jesus just to help them and I want to ask again this evening do you really desire to be in the place where Jesus can come to you and help himself to you because he wants your help he wants

your help perhaps he wants your help in the place of prayer can he help himself to you he wants your help to witness to others of the saving and sanctifying grace of

Jesus I wonder pastor when you return to your congregation and to your community and Jesus comes to you and he says to you I want you to help me because I want you to proclaim the blessing that has come to your heart through sanctification and the baptism of the Holy Ghost if that has happened what would your reaction be to that would you say God help yourself to me I want to help you well here it is Jesus expressing a need will he be able to count on you to fulfill fulfill for it that need now I put this to you again what stand are you prepared to take when you face your congregation I told you already what it cost me and it's going to cost you brother it's going to cost you when God in his mercy filled me again and I gave my personal testimony in the pulpit on the following Sunday

morning on Monday I got the restaurant resignation of five of my leading elders oh they weren't going to have a fool in the pulpit but my dear people there comes a moment when we've got to be prepared to be fooled for Christ's sake and I ask oh I ask you dear brother what stand are you going to take when Jesus comes expressing a need brother I want you in other words brother I need you the gift of help that comes through the baptism of the Holy Ghost and dear people that is something that comes when we're rightly related to God I want to help I want to do something I want to take my stand for truth and for righteousness and further I believe that God tonight is expressing a need and asking who will stand in the gap for me this evening who will stand in the gap for me tomorrow and the

morrow after that stand in the gap and build up the hedges and I tell you dear people there is a cry and a need for such men today and my prayer is that men and women will leave the campgrounds either tonight or tomorrow fully persuaded that God is encouraging them to stand in the gap for it and to lift aloft the cross of Jesus hold it high and strong and sound the praise of him who saved us and swell the battle song oh my dear friend will you be such a person will you be such a man as I already said a walking incarnation of spiritual energy somebody asked Henry Ward Beecher what was the secret of his ministry and his reply was I have good reflectors in the pew my I tell you that to me has a message a good reflector not just a good spectator oh the Lord deliver us from here spectator

you'll find them running after great preachers oh they go to London and they search for the great preachers of the city men like Dr.

Mason Lloyd-Jones and John Stott of all souls Langham place these are the outstanding preachers in the city today and men flock to listen to them and I would just speak of them as sermon takers and spectators but go to the prayer meeting go to the prayer meeting and you won't find them there good reflectors in the pew they're there every Sunday oh they're at the prayer meeting every week my dear people I wonder how many of us believe that you judge the strength and the spirituality of a congregation by what you see in the prayer meeting you don't judge the spirituality of any congregation by what you see in church on a communion Sunday that's not the criteria I believe that the measure of your impact in your community the measure of your spirituality is not what is seen in your church on

Sunday but what is seen in your prayer meeting on Wednesday that's the measure of your spirituality that's the measure of the impact that as a congregation you're making in that particular community good oh good reflectors in the pew but getting through my message how was the need met well I would say that it was met first of all by the foreknowledge of God by the foreknowledge of God I believe oh I believe in the sovereignty of God I'm glad to believe that my background is Calvinistic you've got to recognize this that

according to the portion we read he knew that there was an ass there that could be used he knew the day and he knew the place and he knew the time and that speaks to me my dear people of the sovereignty of God the foreknowledge of God Jesus said to the two you go and you'll

meet a man with a pitcher of water and you follow him I'm sure that Boston was right when he said but every born-again believer has God's work for him born with it and of course the writer was right when he said every man's life is a plan of God oh how solemn are the words of God to his equal son of man I have set thee as a watchman and thou oh thou shalt speak to warn the wicked there you have the fulfillment of God's purpose and God's condition and at the same time man's responsibility first of all the foreknowledge of God and I can't get away from that and then man's responsibility and response you will notice that by the obedience of the disciples led them to action and there was a move the Lord hath leaped oh that was the talisman something that produced extraordinary results I'm not

suggesting that need must ever be the motivating power but in this case it was his need was paramount just enough yes but enough that was serviceable and I can well believe that there are those listening to me who are asking the question can I be of service my dear friend this should determine the action if there's a need Christ is coming to you this evening and saying can I help myself to you will you help me to meet this need that is heavy upon me and I believe it was heavy upon him and that takes me brother to my last thought what was involved in their obedience first I would say a recognition of the fact that what was to meet the need must be loosed must be loosed yes a good ass well fed and I believe could bray well oh you could hear it but notwithstanding a good ass well fed and

could bray well could shout that animal was bound was treasured and I'm speaking to some here tonight oh they can bray well well fed a good testimony that can be listened to must conscious at this very moment that you're not loose there's something oh there's something binding you I heard someone say not so very long ago the greatest hindrance to revival is not loose living but secret sinning you believe that not loose living oh no but secret sinning I was at a conference not so very long ago and a dear brother came to me and said he was badly involved in debt badly involved but that was not known among the convention speakers and that dear man came to me and said brother I'm scared stiff lest I be found out scared stiff lest I be found out listen a prominent minister scared stiff lest I

be found out yes again I say not loose living but secret sinning God made his coming to you this evening and putting his hand on something in your life something in your life something unclean you would be ashamed and troubled if your wife knew about it you will carry on in the dark oh my dear people we do want to face this and we want God to deal with the hidden sin the hidden sin whatever it is oh it may be this that or the other thing but God has put his hand upon it and I'm going to ask you what are you going to do about it he that cometh his sin shall not prosper but he that confesses and forsakes shall find mercy my dear brother sister that is God's word to you this night but he has need loosen oh loosen and let him go and I see because of the obedience and the action oh action is

demand God may say to you tonight I want you to go to that brother and confess your sin I want you to go sister I want you to go to that sister and acknowledge your criticism of her I want you to do that obedience yes followed by action they obeyed and went now just a word a word to the young people now quite a number have come to me during this camp week and they told me that God had been speaking to them about full-time service yes and I'm glad to hear that may I read to you something that Maxwell of Prairie brings before such young people here it is one may live for a career which is but self-expression or for the savior which is self-renunciation still addressing the young people he said Christ cannot share the

control of a person's life with a mere career in plain language do you

really love Jesus enough to want to waste your life for him are you willing to forget all about a future for yourself do you want to walk with me intensely enough to turn you from the beckoning world I leave that with you young people I want you to face it one is grieved I heard of a convention held in Bethany of the Bethany Fellowship read this in their magazine when an appeal was made for volunteers for the foreign mission 50 students offering themselves in three years three had passed through a bible college in four years time and only one is on the field the two others who arrived on the field packed up came back to America within two years oh my dear people there's a cry today for honesty sincerity and reality in facing the call of God and here it is now I close by asking this

question what is it that is going to yield the greatest joy in the retrospect of life when I'm just about to face the master what is it I would say dear people that at every step of the road I obeyed God at every step of the road I obeyed God and they went amen

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