

The Insignificant Person Is Important to God

by Neil Rhodes

God sees us as valuable and loved, even when we feel insignificant, and He offers us a way out of duplicity and into a life of conviction and faithfulness.

Duration: 56:23

Scripture: Judges 4:11, Judges 4:22, Matthew 6:33, Matthew 11:4-6, John 1:29

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "Godly Living"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the negative impact of worldly influences on families and individuals. He uses the story of J.L. from the Bible to illustrate how compromise and giving up can lead to destruction. However, he also highlights the power of the Holy Spirit to bring about quick and powerful change in people's lives. The preacher encourages listeners to respond to the Holy Spirit's leading and embrace the cause of God, just as J.L. did.

Transcript

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You are welcome to make additional cassettes of this message for free distribution to friends. However, for all other forms of reproduction or electronic transmission, existing copyright laws apply. Father, I thank you for your wonderful presence as you continue to minister to our hearts and to our lives on a regular basis.

Lord, you're so faithful to us. You're so good. God is good.

You're always good to us. And Lord, this afternoon is no different. You're good.

You're good and your mercy endures forever. Hallelujah. Thank you, Lord.

Thank you for your goodness to our hearts and to our lives. Lord, prove yourself faithful one more time to us this afternoon. Minister to each one of us your heart through your word, I pray in Jesus' name.

Amen. Wonderful to have Pastor David back with us. I don't know, Pastor David.

Pastor David was gone for like 45 days, but it seemed like a whole year, Brother David. It's good to have you back with us. I was so excited to see him today.

I gave him a big bear hug and I just prayed I wouldn't break his back or do something really dumb. But we get so excited to see our pastors when they come back. We love them so deeply.

This afternoon, I want to speak to you and the message that I've entitled this afternoon is the insignificant person is important to God. How many of you could say today that there have been so many times I feel so insignificant, I don't even think that, don't put your hands up, we'll save it for the altar call. But there are definite times that we feel so insignificant.

But I want to speak to you today about the person who feels insignificant. You are important to God and we'll see that in the scriptures this afternoon. In Deuteronomy, there is a wonderful promise.

God gave a promise this morning through the ministry of the word. Here's another promise for you in Deuteronomy. It's in chapter 4, verse 29, and it says, Now, Deuteronomy is, the title of Deuteronomy is like a second rendering or a second writing of, and actually it's a compilation of thoughts that came from Exodus and Leviticus and Numbers, and now Moses is reiterating some of the most powerful truths to the people of God.

And right in the very beginning of this awesome book, God knows, and God has spoken to Moses and has said to him, he knows that the heart of God's people are going to go through trying times, they're going to turn from God, they're going to sin, and then God's going to sell them into the hand of the enemy, they're going to go to great places all over the earth, and this is the context of this verse 29 of chapter 4 of Deuteronomy, that God is saying to his people, this is the love of God that he's saying to his people. He says, He says, regardless where you go, from thence, the word thence means the farthest place on the earth. God is saying, it doesn't matter how far you've gone, how deep you've gone, it doesn't matter how bad the situation has become in your life.

What God is saying is that everything, no matter how deep you've gone, to the very gutter itself, you've failed, you've stumbled, you've fallen, you've come short of everything that God intended for your life. But the promise of God is this, that from thence, in that place, if you recognize, like the prodigal son in the very pig pen itself, if from that place you seek the Lord, or you turn your heart to the Lord, he says, thy God, thou shalt find him. Powerful promise, it doesn't matter where you go, how far you've gone, that the soul that turns to the Lord, you'll find him.

See, that's God's heart to us. He wants you to know that I will go after you, I will find you wherever you are at, to the lowest part, that's where I'll find you. You turn to me, you will find me again, the insignificant person.

See, it's in those times when we're so low, so far, so deep, that we feel so insignificant, but you're still important to the heart of God. Let me tell you a story. It's a true story of a husband and a wife, and I want to spend some time on this husband and wife, just telling you their testimony about this woman.

She felt so insignificant, very insignificant, and yet God finds this person. The husband of this particular woman declared that he's the head of the household one day. He marches in and he declares, I'm the head of the household.

He makes a baronial decision, and he says, I've taken an offer, which means relocating. We're going to another part of the country, and you're all going with me. So this husband took his family, they relocated to another part of the country.

But see, the problem was, is that this man relocated, not because it was a better offer necessarily. It was because he was tired of the conflict or the pressure of being sold out to God meant. And he knew that if he could get his family away from these circumstances, that he could live a duplicitous life.

And so he does. He moves them away from where they are. They go to another part of the country, and really what he has done, he has partnered with the world, and he wants to partner with God.

He wants to have it both ways. So he's taken the family and they've moved. Unfortunately, the family being dragged along, they are dragged along with his mediocrity, his lukewarmness, his duplicity.

You see, the wife, the wife in this situation, she goes with her husband. She's a dutiful wife. She loves her husband.

She packs the things up, they move, they go to another part of the country, and when they land up in this place, she tries to make some semblance of a godly home for the family. Unfortunately, it ends up nagging. And she begins to say, well, if you didn't watch so much TV, why don't you spend some time with the kids? Why don't you pray and read? So instead of encouraging the family, she's struggling.

This woman is feeling insignificant right now. Her husband's moved. He's living two worlds.

This life is topsy-turvy. She's lonely, and basically she gives up. In time, she embraces this life of mediocrity.

The family devotions have ceased long ago. There's no prayer anymore in the house. Bible reading has stopped.

Ritual trips to worship are made, enough times just to appease the conscience. And yet, deep down in this woman's soul, she feels like nothing. She feels like, what is life? Is my life wrapped up? She's embraced this mediocre lifestyle.

He goes to the job. He's one thing on the job. He's one thing at church, in worship.

And she's living in between this. She tries to hold the family together, and things just begin to break down. And soon, this woman is embracing everything that her husband's embraced.

She just, she gives up. She gives up. She's tired of nagging about the TV always being on.

She's always, she's tired of arguing. She's tired of these things, the pressure. And she just, basically, as time goes on, she gives up.

How many are like that? How many have experienced that? How many have traveled with family and gone to different places, and suddenly the struggle is so hard, it's so difficult. And so we end up giving up. We appease the conscience with going to a service now and then, but the fire of God is gone.

There's no longer that pulsating burn and desire and depth, I want to serve God with all of my soul. What's happened to the fire? It's gone. There's no longer that deep-seated yearning, and it's okay, they sit, life

goes on.

And it's not that he doesn't provide. It's not that he doesn't get a good salary and give the money to the family and supply for their college and home and everything. It's not that he's a bad man.

It's not that he's a terrible husband. He's not an abuser. It's just that he prefers to live a life of compromise.

But what does it do to the family? Here is this family who is now feeling insignificant, defeated, inferior. I know couples today that are working through adultery in the relationship, and because of the hurt and the pain, and for some couples today that you might even be in the house, the pain is still so real. It's such a deep-seated hurt and pain, and the wife or the husband is just in such turmoil because of the difficulties, the difficulty that's coming to the home and the pain.

And I speak to these people, and what's the significance of life? I feel so insignificant. Does God even know me? Does he know my name? Does he know where we live? Does he know my phone number? Insignificance. You see, duplicity or neutrality.

Neutrality cannot satisfy. It doesn't matter how you code it, how you taint it. It doesn't matter how you present it.

But neutrality or duplicity, a double lifestyle, it doesn't satisfy. John the Revelator says it like this. He says, He says, You see, John the Revelator knew and understood about the lukewarm person or the person who has entered into this place of neutrality, neither hot nor cold.

It doesn't satisfy. He goes on to say, Your values are lost, thinking yourself rich, but in actual fact, you're poor. So it doesn't matter how much money you're making or how well you're doing on the job.

If it's a duplicitous lifestyle, it doesn't satisfy. He says, He says, There's no protection. How do you fight against sin when you don't have the impetus to rise up and seek the Lord? How do you fight against the enemy when he comes into the home and you see destruction all around about you? Where does the impetus come from? How do you stand up against the enemy when he comes in like a flood? God's given us promises.

He'll raise up the standard. But when you're living a double life, you don't believe it. Your discernment has failed, thinking you see, but actually you're blind.

You see, the duplicity of the double life, beloved, leaves people lonely. I've spoken to some of these folks, like I mentioned. Some people are so struggling because they're out of work and they feel insignificant.

Some of them are feeling so lonely and they don't know. Well, if you're living a double life, how do you fit in with people at work? How do you say, yep, I want to go to the bar with you and drink and carouse and talk about the things? How do you fit in when your conscience is smiting you on the one hand? But then you go home and you just don't want to read the Bible. You'd rather turn the television on.

You see, you end up being the most lonely person. Well, I don't want to go to that church anymore. That church, they're too fanatical for me.

But you see, it's the double life that's causing you to feel lonely. You don't fit in with the church. You don't fit in with the people at work.

It's just a case of going on and around. And there's this loneliness that creeps in. And this is what happened to this wife.

She becomes tremendously lonely and feeling insignificant. Duplicity leaves you powerless, like I've mentioned. You don't have the power to fight against the enemy.

It leaves you with hopelessness. You don't see the light at the end of the tunnel. But yet, the Bible says that from thence, you see the heart of God.

He says, even from that place, if you will turn and you seek me, you'll find me. The heart of God says, you will find me. For every single person in the house today that you might have lived a double life for too long now, God says, I'm speaking to you this afternoon.

Maybe you feel insignificant with God, but God is saying to you this afternoon, if you turn your heart to me, I'll be found of you. I know where you've been. I know what you've been doing.

I know what's been going on in your life. But I will be found of you if you turn to me with your whole heart. Now, turn with me to Judges chapter 4, because this husband and wife story actually is a biblical one.

And I want to share this. I didn't want to read the Scripture to you because it's such a common verse of Scripture, a portion of Scripture, that the moment I read it to you, you would go into your own thinking process on it. But I wanted to share with you, from studying the Word, what this is all about.

In Judges chapter 4, you see, it's about a wife by the name of Jael, and her husband is Heber. Now, Heber in verse 11, chapter 4, verse 11, Now Heber the Kenite, which was of the children of Hobab, the father-in-law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and they were living in the south of Israel at the time, and he pitched his tent unto the plain of Zanim, which is by Kadesh, which is in the north of the country. And so we see that they moved, so he makes this move, he goes to the north of the country, and he comes into a place where he makes peace with the people.

Look at this in verse 17. This is probably one of the saddest verses of Scripture of the person living a double lifestyle. Verse 17 says, Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor, who is a Canaanite, and the house of Heber the Kenite.

And so here we have the story of this man who does move, and the problem is that he makes peace, and he's living in a land. Now, there was this oppression in the land from Jabin, who was the king of Canaan at the time, and Sisera was his general with 900 chariots of iron, and there was this great oppression. But they make peace.

There's this peace, and the word peace is shalom. Beloved, it's so sad when you see children of God who make peace with the enemy and with the world, and in the end they start saying, shalom to the world. Peace with the world.

Let there be peace, and I'll walk with you, and peace with me. Just don't mess with my family life. I want to serve God, but I want peace.

I don't want it to be radical. And so they come and they live in this place where there is this compromise between the two of them. See, many households have made peace with things that destroy.

The Canaanites should be absolute for destruction, devoted to destruction. God says, I want you to utterly destroy them. But it's amazing how many households today still are saying shalom to things of the world, knowing that they're going to destroy them.

We sit in our homes, and we maybe turn on to different stations on the television. We know that it's not good for the family, but we say, shalom, peace. And yet we're sitting under this which will bring destruction to our lives.

So many people, tired of the struggle. This is what happened to Jael. Tired of the struggle.

Found it easier to compromise than to fight. Tired of the arguments in the household, and simply give up. Finally the embrace of the world comes.

Like so many, she embraces the world. And she invites... You see the very fact that the scripture says that Sisera... Look what it says in the same verse. Howbeit Sisera fled.

So here is the army of God. Barak and Deborah have made war with them, and they are fleeing. Sisera is fleeing.

His army has been defeated. Now this general has fled. He's on the foot.

He's running. But look what it says. He goes directly to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenad, for there was peace.

So it's obvious that this general knew this family. It's like, well I know a tent that I can go to. I know a home that I can visit.

I know a place that they will open the door to me. We get so accustomed when we're living a duplicitous lifestyle. We get so accustomed to certain things in the world.

We get so accustomed to the cussing. We get so accustomed to what we're viewing. That when the devil comes knocking on the door, we open it.

And he feels comfortable to come into our homes. See, this is what exactly is taking place here. There should be a resistance, but there's no resistance.

He comes knocking and she lets him come in. And Jael went out to meet Sisera. In fact, in verse 18 says, she goes out to meet him.

Turn in, my lord. She says, fear not. And when he had turned in into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

You see, the very fact that the Bible talks about her going out to meet him means that she became one with that compromise. Given up. And in the heart, she'd become one with that particular compromise.

Beloved, you don't have to. Young person today, let me speak to you. There will be enough compromises in this world.

You don't have to make peace with not one of them. Don't allow your heart to ever make peace with any kind of compromise. When the devil comes knocking, send Jesus to the door.

You don't have to open the door. When the devil comes knocking, send Jesus. Let him answer the door.

He'll know exactly what to do with the devil. If you're having a struggle, I believe, send the Lord to the door. God, you open this.

You deal with the situation. That's all you have to do, beloved. This is what the promise of God in Deuteronomy.

He says, in your struggle, you call to me. You'll be found of me. Let Jesus handle these things in our hearts and lives.

But she covers, she conceals. It's like covering sin. It's covering these things of the heart.

Hiding them. You can hide from people, but you cannot hide from God. He knows the struggle.

He knows what's going on. You can hide from anybody else. You can come in here smiling, raising your hands, but God looks at the intents of the heart.

And, beloved, you know what the greatest news of this afternoon is, from this morning, this afternoon? You know what the greatest news is? He's not condemning you. There's no condemnation. He's not mad at you.

He's saying, just turn to me. I'll fight the battle for you. The battle is not yours.

It belongs to the Lord. See, the insignificant person is important to God, even in the point of this compromise. Now, the work of the Holy Spirit is to bring conviction.

The Holy Spirit comes to minister to our hearts and lives. This is why the Word of God is preached, because the Holy Spirit wants to come and bring conviction in our heart. Now, conviction is a strange thing.

It's when the Holy Ghost begins to show you in your heart that there are areas that God is not comfortable with, and it's bringing destruction to your heart. It's an amazing thing. It's like God can turn the light on anything in your heart and life.

See, when the power of the Holy Ghost comes into the house, when the presence of the Lord here, and He begins to shine, an amazing thing happens. He begins to show you areas where you're not living right. You don't have to even talk about it.

You don't have to have me write out a list of sins and try to shotgun a whole bunch of sins, hoping that one of the pellets is going to hit you. See, I don't have to do that. The Holy Spirit is already doing that.

He's already showing you these areas, and the work of the Holy Spirit to bring that kind of a conviction in our heart is because right around the corner of conviction is a miracle. Right around the corner. See, God, the moment He begins to convict us, the very moment you sense the convicting work of the Holy Spirit, it's because in the heart and the mind of God, right behind the conviction, there's a miracle waiting.

He wants to do a mighty work in the heart, and so He's got to convict first. He's got to show you the area. See, I like to take in absolute common terms.

My feet are so solid on the ground. People come and tell me, you know, God spoke to me, like we heard this morning, to leave my husband or leave my wife. You see, those kind of things creep me out.

I sit there, and I can hardly digest them, because my feet are so on the ground. I live in the same city you live. I face the same devils you face.

I face the same oppressions you face. I've got to get up in the morning. I've got to walk around.

I've got to pray. I've got to read. I do exactly the same things that you've got to do, beloved.

And that's why my feet are solid on the ground. You see, I like to say it in simple terms. Conviction to me is simply this.

I can't. God can. That's simple conviction.

You see, condemnation from the devil is always obscure. When it's condemnation, when you feel it, condemnation is always obscure. You feel bad, but you don't know why.

But when it's the Holy Ghost, conviction is always clear, concise, and to the point. He just walks into that area of your life, and he puts the light on. And you see it.

And you understand at that point in time, I can't. I can't set myself free. I can't walk away from this.

When the cicera knocks, I open the door. God, I can't do it. My life has been living a duplicitous life for so long.

I can't. See, that's conviction. The very moment you come to terms within your heart where you say, God, I can't, that is the work of the Holy Spirit.

He's bringing you to a knowledge that you can do it in your own strength. You can set yourself free from anything, beloved. But I want to tell you something.

If the Holy Ghost puts the light on anything in your heart at any time, it means right behind that there is a miracle from God. There is a power that God has to set you free. And we see it with this woman.

I just love it. You see, this woman appears with her husband in Judges chapter 4. She appears and disappears. That's all you have of her.

There's just the one time she appears and disappears. She's the most insignificant woman. If it wasn't for this particular situation, you'd never know there was a JL that lived on the face of the earth.

That's how insignificant her life was. You know, her whole being was, there was nothing marvelous about this woman. She's a wife.

She's living in this household with a compromiser who's relocated because he doesn't like the pressure that's down in the south, so he comes to a place and he makes peace with both his enemies and tries to make peace with God. And there she's living, insignificant, a nobody, nothing. But yet insignificant people are important to God.

He knows the situation. He knows the struggle. And yet she's going to find herself in the annals of the word of God that's going to last forever and ever and ever.

Because in a moment of time, God convicted her heart and spoke into her life. And you see, the conviction of the Holy Spirit, when he speaks into the heart, it's amazing because the second thing that takes place when conviction comes, comes the cause of God. When you're blinded to the things of God because of compromise in the world, you have no significance.

Life is meaningless. It's work. It's going home.

Church is just another thing that you do in your already busy week. It's not a living relationship with God. You just don't see this.

Is there a cause? You see, David, he had a conviction in his heart that there was a cause, that God had a cause. And you see, it was David, when he goes out with these, his father sends him to the battleground. And for days on end, night and day, night and day, there's the army of Israel standing on one hill, and there's this big old giant on the other hill.

And every morning, they'd all wake up, they'd all get their uniform on, they'd put all their weaponry on, and they'd go stand on the edge of the hill, and Goliath would wake up, he'd have his breakfast, and he'd get his attendants to help put on his armor. He'd get up, he'd stand on the other side of the hill, and he'd tell, he'd say, now, if you fight me and beat me, then we'll be your servants and slaves. But if we beat you, then you're going to be our slaves.

And so David comes into this situation. It's nullified. These people are paralyzed because of neutrality.

There's unbelief, there's doubt, there's nobody understanding that this is the cause of God. You see, when there comes conviction in the heart, when the Holy Ghost speaks, He's going to bring a miracle, folks. There's a miracle right behind.

Every time the Holy Ghost convicts, there's a miracle behind that conviction. It's coming. It's on the way.

But with that conviction is coming a cause. God wants you to know that the battle belongs to Him. And see, the cause of God is that He has made war on sin.

He's made war on compromise. See, God has come and said, I am a God who is, He's the God of war. He's a man of war, the Bible tells us.

And so we see David, he comes and he says, he looks at these brothers and he says, is there not a cause? This battle doesn't belong to us. This is God's battle. This man is standing against Almighty God.

See, the battle belongs to the Lord. Beloved, it doesn't matter. I hope I'm conveying this clearly to you.

The promise of God is from thence, from thence, wherever you've gone, wherever you've landed up, whatever life has dealt you, whatever choices you've made, and has left you at the bottom of the barrel, finished, at the bottom, neutral, duplicity in life, just right at the very bottom. But God says, it's there that if you call to me, that I'm going to, there's a cause. Because you are cold in heart doesn't change the cause of God.

Because you've walked away doesn't change the cause of heaven. Because we've walked away doesn't change the cause that God has in His heart towards sin, towards the enemy, towards bondage, towards everything the devil throws at you. God has fought the battle and He's won it.

There is a cause. You see, it's the heart that gets convicted. The heart that gets convicted comes back to understanding there is a cause.

That's why Pastor David and Gary and Pastor Carter and ourselves and now David O'Neill is going out. Are they going out because we just set up meetings all over the world? No, there's a cause. You see, they are moving and there's a mandate, there is a cause from heaven.

And when you walk in that cause, so this is what happens with J.L., she comes to the place. And it's an amazing thing. Look at this in chapter 5. I want to share this with you real quick.

In chapter 5, to understand the conviction and the cause, you've got to take a look at this one verse. In verse 27, this is the song of Deborah. This is a prose, it's a song that she's now singing.

And verse 27 says, singing about Sisera as he came into the tent. At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down. At her feet he bowed, he fell.

Where he bowed, there he fell down dead. So this is part of the song. Now, she uses this word bowed three times.

In the original language, this word literally means, in the Hebrew it's kara, and it means to bend the knee in worship, it means to bow in reverence. But it also means the doubling up or the pain of a woman in childbirth. The Hafel translation says it this way, it is to bring one low, to bring one down.

So, depending on the context, so this is one of those words that is best illustrated by the context. And so when you take this particular word and you put it in different contexts, and so if you take this word kara in the house of God this afternoon, and we found someone just bending over and worshiping the Lord, it's in the right context. That's bowing to worship the Lord.

But if you take this word in the context of, say for instance, compromise or sin, then it's the same word that's causing you to be brought low, it's causing you to be bowed over by the weight of sin. And see, that's what God is speaking. So when this man comes in, it's an illustration to this woman that the very peace that you've made with your compromise is causing you to bow in pain.

She sees it. She sees the conviction that this is what this is doing. See, if it wasn't wrong, why hide it? If it wasn't wrong, why put it under a covering? If it was okay to be in the open, why hide it? And because this person is dedicated to destruction, you've got to understand the timing of what's going on.

Here's a battle going over, just a couple of miles away, over the hill. She doesn't even know the battle and the way the war is going on. But here comes this person and she's in.

If it wasn't that bad, why hide it? If I come to your house and take a look at all of your CDs and DVDs, would you have to hide any of them? If they're not that bad, don't hide it. If you're not ashamed of R and all those kind of things that you've got on those titles, don't worry about it. But why does she hide it? Because there's something that she knows that the presence of this brings down.

And it's at that point that conviction comes in. You see, nobody, I read all the commentators, nobody can explain what happens next with this woman. Nobody can explain.

But I think that God is saying that when you come to the realization that this thing is bringing you down, it's not giving you joy, it's not really giving you peace, you've made peace with it, but it doesn't give you any

joy. It's not bringing satisfaction in the home, it's bringing you down. That's when God begins to convict you and bring into your soul that there is a cause.

There's something greater in life. There is significance in life. And for the person who rises up and says, God, I want everything you have, nobody can explain what takes place next with this woman.

But I can explain it. It's God. God.

You don't need to explain God. You don't have to try and explain how God works supernaturally, miraculously in the heart. You don't have to try and explain what the transformation that takes place in this woman's heart.

Here comes Barak. I am telling you, if she keeps this man hidden in the tent alive and Barak comes over the hill and finds, she's going to die with that Sisera. Because that thing is going to destroy her.

It was dedicated to destruction. She would have died with it. But see, God doesn't delight in the death of the wicked.

He doesn't delight in the death of Baxter. He doesn't like the death that's going on in people's lives away from Him. So He starts speaking.

Barak is coming over the hill. You've got to see the timing of this whole thing. I got so thrilled in my room.

I was reading this. I was speaking in tongues going up and down. Man, I was flipping the page.

God, give me more, give me more. Show me what's going on here. It was so exciting in my heart to see because it's the work of the supernatural power of God that when a soul says, Lord, I am sick and tired of being sick and tired of living a compromised life.

This thing is killing me. I've got to hide it every time somebody comes to my house, knocks on my door. I've got to hide this thing.

I'm sick of it. God begins to speak and it's in that moment of time. You see, there's a faith that's called faith's courage.

All the doubts and everything of the heart could come into being at this point. This woman could be doubting. You see, here it is.

God's speaking to her heart. He's convicted her. This is not right.

There is a cause. David said there's a cause. Is there not a cause? God wants to fight against all of our enemies.

He wants to fight against all of our giants. God wants to bring down everything that oppresses. Is that not the cause of heaven itself? When the angels of heaven said, was there not a cause? Did not God get them out of heaven? Is that not still the same cause of God to take out of our homes everything that brings to destruction? Is there not a cause? And this is what's in the heart.

So this woman, as she goes to sleep, it's an amazing story as she goes up. What transpires when she feeds him the milk and walks outside? She could be thinking, well, I've got to kill this thing. I'm so sick and tired of this thing being hidden in my house, in my heart, in my life.

Maybe if I, I hope he doesn't wake. And you can see her just, I can see the whole story. She's wiggling that tent peg, getting it out of the ground.

And she's lifting that thing up. Well, I hope that the swaying of the rope doesn't wake this guy up. What happens if she wakes up? She's probably thinking, what happens if I walk in there and I'm about to do it and he wakes up and sees me? See, these are all the things.

But I want to tell you that when you get on heaven's side, that there is a courage that comes with faith, that there is a supernatural working of the Holy Ghost, that it doesn't matter. Faith is now in charge. Fear has been dismissed.

It doesn't matter. I don't even think she's thinking if the guy wakes up. I think she is so charged by the Holy Ghost that God is saying, I'm giving you a moment right now by the power of the Holy Ghost that you can put an end to this thing just one time.

And then she takes that tent peg out and she takes that mallet and the rest is way too gruesome for the women in the house this afternoon to even begin to tell you what happens, but he dies. Hallelujah. Glory to God.

I tell you, when the Holy Ghost speaks, you see this to me, the Holy Ghost when he speaks and he puts the cause of God back into the soul. If you don't have a cause to live, you'll always, always be feeling inferior. You'll be always thinking insignificant.

You'll always be thinking, is there any hope for me? But the very second you respond to the convicting work of the Holy Spirit, you can know the next thing that's going to happen is he's going to put back the fire, the cause of God into the soul and with that is going to come the courage of faith. It happens so quickly. It's not like ten steps.

It doesn't have to be 15 weeks to come out of this situation. It happens all in the same day. She goes out to meet Cicero one hour and in an hour later the guy is dead and the next meeting she's having is Barak and his name means lightning.

Oh, I tell you, the work of God is lightning fast. She met with this guy one moment, the next moment she's going out and now she's identifying with the people of God. A change takes place.

You see, God in the work of the Holy Spirit is quick, it's powerful. We don't have to have major programs to ten steps this and get you through this problem. You just have to respond to the power of the answer of the Holy Ghost.

He knows. He knows how to speak to you. He knows what he's doing in your heart and life.

He can set you free just in a moment of time. Every bit of lethargy and passivity can be instantly gone and the cause of heaven pulsating one more time in your heart. Hallelujah.

It is so awesome. You see, beloved, I'm going to close with this. The Bible is about hearing, not about speaking.

Have you ever noticed that? The whole Bible is about hearing. God speaks, not you. We can speak to him back, but he likes to speak to us.

He's spoken. He's given us this word. See, God speaks.

He wants you to listen. And if you've got a hearing ear, that's why the Bible tells us, so then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Sit down.

Let him speak to you. This is why you're in the house today is you want to hear a word from God. You don't want to hear from us.

Our words fall to the ground. Our accents are strange, and they're funny, and they fall to the ground. But the accent of heaven lasts a lifetime.

See, the word of God comes in and changes our heart. And so the Bible is about hearing. And when you hear the word of God, wherefore the Holy Ghost said today if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation the day of temptation in the wilderness.

So when God is speaking, now she didn't hear here in chapter 4 verses 9. She didn't hear the prophetic word from Deborah when Deborah said, for the Lord shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. Jael didn't hear what she was saying. She didn't hear that, but she heard it from God.

She didn't hear it from Deborah. She heard it from God. She heard in her heart that God says, I want to do this work in you.

I want to give a work, a divine work in your heart. And so she goes by divine impulse and divine command, and this thing is ended in just one day. So when God speaks, he stands by his word.

And he will give the impulse. Now Jael, look at this in verse 22. It says here in chapter 5 or chapter 4 verse 22.

It says, and behold, Barak pursued Sisera. Jael came out to meet him and said unto him, Come, I will show you. I will show you.

Be the man whom thou seekest. Now, it's so interesting when you come to the close of this. She has this woman goes out to meet Barak and says, I'm going to show you.

Again, in the original language, it doesn't mean I'm just going to show you Times Square. If you come with me this afternoon, if you're a visitor, I'll take you down to Times Square. We'll show you the sites and you'll be able to see it.

See, that's not that word. When she says, she uses this word, I will show you, that word means it designates the saving understanding and the believing and the acceptance of God's word. So this tells me that this woman heard from God.

In that moment of time when she responded to the convicting work of the Holy Spirit and God put into her heart the cause of heaven, it came because God spoke to her. If you seek me from thence, I will be found of you. So here is this woman who seeks God and God speaks to her.

She wouldn't use this particular, they wouldn't use this Hebrew word in this particular verse if it didn't mean the very word from heaven. So what she was saying, literally what she said to Barak, she says, I want to show you, I want to reveal to you the change that took place by God's word. When God's word was delivered, it empowered me to walk away from that which held me in captivity.

See, and so she's saying, I want to show you the reason that this person is dead. This person isn't dead because I had the might or the power or the strength to put him to death. It wasn't because I did this by my own strength.

No, she's giving glory to God when she says, I will show you. There was a word, it was the same as when Jesus, when John the Baptist was in prison and John said to Jesus, you know, are you the one that should come or do we seek for another? This is the word of Jesus that he said to the disciples to go back to John. Jesus answered and said to them, go and show John again those things which you do here and see.

Now, were they to line up all the people who got healed so that they could go by the prison window and say, okay, this person was deaf and now they're here and this person was blind and now they see and this person had the palsy and now walks and this person had leprosy and now is healed. Is that what he's saying? No, it's the same Greek word as the Hebrew. And this is the paraphrase.

This is what Jesus is saying. This is my own paraphrase. Go to John and declare one more time God's eternal message.

That eternal message that is heard in the heart, perceived by the spirit, which causes the blind to see, the deaf to hear and the dead to be raised. It's the same word. It's the same Greek word as it is in the Hebrew.

That when you hear God's word and it is spoken, this is what JL said, I want to show you that when God's word came to my heart and I embraced it one more time, when God spoke into me, I embraced it and this is the result of me embracing God's eternal message. This is the result of me embracing God's word when he spoke it to my heart. Look at this.

This very oppressor is now dead. The very thing that held me captive is now over. The very thing that has kept us in bondage for the last 20 years has now come to a close.

All those iron chariots is because the word of God was embraced. This is what this woman is saying. Now this afternoon, let me ask you a couple of questions.

Have you relocated? I don't mean physically, but have you relocated spiritually? You remember the days that you were on fire with God and you were sold out for him, but you're tired of the conflict that it always brings. It seems like, God, I'm always struggling. Have you relocated? God knows you have, if you have, but this is his word to you.

I've got a word from heaven for you. I want to put back into your bosom this afternoon the very cause of heaven. I want to put within you the very thing why Jesus Christ came.

That those that are held captive, those that are far from God, those who want to live for God and see those things and hold them captive can be walked from this thing in a moment of time. I want to give you a word this afternoon that if you've heard it by the Holy Spirit, see, this is what Jesus was saying to go tell John. This is what this woman is saying.

I caught something from heaven today. It challenged where I lived. I embraced it, and God gave the victory.

All in one day. All in one time. Not prolonged.

God, and go back to the promise. If from thence where you are, you seek the Lord your God, and if you seek Him with all your heart, the Bible says, He will. He will.

He'll be found of you. He'll be found of you. You'll find again God in His power, His love, His grace, His mercy, His tenderness.

You'll suddenly find the reason for living. You'll walk out of this house today saying, I don't feel insignificant. I feel very significant.

One person with God is a majority. It doesn't matter, you can have a thousand coming against you, but I want to tell you, one person with God, you're in the majority. Because He says, I'll never leave you nor forsake you.

Amen? Let's stand together. I've got a verse of scripture for you this afternoon as you come to this altar. I've got a verse for you that I'll read to you at this altar.

Now, Lord Jesus, this has been, again, just a simple message of a very insignificant person, but not with you. None of our lives are insignificant when we attach ourselves to you. Nobody is insignificant when we walk with the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

Life takes on purpose. There is a cause. There is a meaning to life when we walk with Jesus Christ.

And Lord, we can't do this. This has to be a supernatural work like you gave to JL. Now, Lord, this afternoon I thank you that you have spoken and that you will give to every person that seeks you the miracle that they've been longing for.

In Jesus' name. Amen. This altar call this afternoon is, I want to move house one more time.

I want to come and relocate with Jesus. I don't know what else to say. I looked at several altar calls, and you know what the Holy Ghost has said to me? I'll already have spoken.

Just let them come. If God has spoken to you, if the Holy Spirit has spoken to you, just make your way to either side of the aisle. You want to have the pulsating of the presence of God leading you one more time.

This altar call is open for you this afternoon. For those in the annex, you can make your way across right now. Our ushers will just help you come to this altar, show you how to get here.

The Holy Ghost is going to give you the power to walk away from that which has held you captive. I believe it today. Faith is going to give you a courage that you never knew before.

In Jesus' name. All to Thee, my blessed Savior I surrender all God has just put on my heart that there's some of you this afternoon that He's actually, you're not in a place of compromise, but He's called you, but you haven't responded. God has put within your heart the cause of heaven, and you know what it is, but you have been fearful.

It's that place where you know what is right, what you have to do, but you're at that point of going back into the tent, but it's like you're at that point, God, did you really speak to me? I want to just tell you this afternoon, yes, God did speak to you. That's why this message is for you this afternoon, and He's calling you. He's saying, I'm putting my hand upon your life.

You'll never be insignificant with me. God has an absolute purpose and direction for you. You come this afternoon.

Let's sing it one more time, and then we'll pray. All to Jesus I surrender Humbly and lowly I bow Worldly pleasures all forsaken Save me, Jesus, save me now I surrender all I surrender all All to Thee, my blessed Savior I surrender all Let me read this scripture to you, also from the book of Deuteronomy. Listen to these words that the Lord gave me for you this afternoon.

Whether you responded or not, listen to this word. Deuteronomy chapter 30, verses 1 through 3, it says, And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whether the Lord thy God hath driven thee, and thou shalt return to the Lord thy God, and shalt obey His voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart and with all thy soul. In verse 3, listen to what it says.

That then, the Lord thy God, and when he uses the word Lord, in this point here, it's all capital L-O-R-D, it means man of war, it means God of heaven, it means avenger of all that come against the people of God. That's what it means, it means man of war, it means the captain of the host of the armies of heaven. Then he says, then the host of the armies of heaven, that's the Lord thy God, will turn, will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whether the Lord thy God hath scattered thee.

He says this is the awesome promise of God. He says, I'm coming immediately to fight your battles for you. I'm going to turn your captivity around.

In a moment of time, that which was holding you captive, he says, I'm going to turn that thing around, and I'm going to have compassion on you. It's the love, it's the mercy, it's the grace of God that says, I know you went there, my child, I didn't want you to go there, you went there, but I'm still fighting for you. And I'm going to turn your captivity, and I'm going to have compassion and love and mercy, I'm going to hold you in my arms, I'm going to walk with you, I'm going to love you.

This is God. You're going to be walking out, sister. You're going to walk out, and you're going to feel the love of God.

He says, it's not only going to deliver you, he says, I'm going to give compassion to you. You're going to feel and know the presence and the love of God, the mercy of God. You're going to leave with just a knowledge of God's love holding you, keeping you.

Amen? Hallelujah. You ready to give the battle to the Lord? It's not your battle, folks, it's God's. That's the cause of heaven.

Give it to him, he'll do the work. He'll fight the enemy for you, and he'll turn it and set you free. Let's pray.

Lord Jesus, I thank you today. I have compromised. I don't like it.

When the devil knocked, I opened, but no more. Today, I open my door to one and only one, Jesus Christ, King of kings, Lord of lords. This day, I join heaven's cause.

I let you fight against all of my enemies. Lord Jesus, I lay at the cross all those things that subdued my heart, my mind, my passion, my fire, the zeal, all that has zapped me. I laid at the cross, and this afternoon, I let you fight the enemy.

Turn my captivity into dancing and joy and compassion and mercy and forgiveness. Lord Jesus, I am not insignificant. I am very significant, because one with God is a majority.

I'm on the victory side. Hallelujah. Glory to God.

Hallelujah. Glory to Jesus. This is the conclusion of the message.

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