

The Influence of One Man

by Zac Poonen

God needs a valuable vessel, a person who has been tested and proved through trials, to accomplish His purposes.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:7, Psalm 24:3, Proverbs 25:4, Isaiah 6:8, Ezekiel 22:30, 1 Corinthians 1:27, 2 Corinthians 7:1, 2 Timothy 2:20, James 4:8

Topics: "Sanctification", "Godly Service"

Description

Zac Poonen emphasizes the importance of being a valuable vessel to God, highlighting that God seeks individuals who have been tested and proven through trials for vital tasks. He explains that God does not use people like disposable matchsticks but values those who seek His will and glory wholeheartedly. Poonen stresses the need for believers to constantly cleanse themselves from anything unlike Christ to be useful vessels for God's work, as God depends greatly on those who are sanctified and seek His purposes.

Transcript

"I searched for ONE MAN among them who should build up the wall and stand before Me.....but I did not find even one man" (Ezek. 22:30).

God has many tasks to accomplish in this world, and all of them are not of equal importance. For the unimportant tasks, He may use anyone. But for the really important tasks, any man will not do. For such vital tasks, God has to have a man who has been tested and proved through many trials and testings. And if such a man is not immediately available, then God will wait until such a man IS available. God does not do His work with the best available person, as men do.

We use a matchstick to light a fire. But then we throw the matchstick away, because it is no longer of any value to us. There are some people whom God uses like that. He discards them, after He has used them, because they are not valuable to Him. We should never therefore desire to be merely used by God. We should seek to be valuable to Him.

"In a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, some to honour and some to dishonour. If a man cleanses himself, he will be a vessel for honour, sanctified, useful to the Master" (2Tim.2:20,21).

A man may use vessels of different materials in his work. But he will not value the earthen pots and the wooden crates as much as he values the gold and silver vessels. In the same way, although all who are born again may be equally children of God, every child of God is NOT equally useful to Him in His work. Although there is no partiality with God, yet every vessel is not a sanctified, useful vessel. God prizes only very few, because they alone seek His will and His glory wholeheartedly.

This is why we must cleanse ourselves constantly from "all filthiness of the flesh and spirit" (in other words, from everything that is unlike Christ within us), if we are to be valuable vessels to God (2 Cor.7:1)

Once a person becomes a valuable vessel, God will depend on him greatly for His work. If such a man fails God, God's work will be halted temporarily, until God can find another man whom He can use.

In the history of the world, of Israel and of the church, we see a number of examples of how God has very often been dependent on just ONE man in a particular situation to accomplish His purposes. But one man with God is always a majority.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/zac-poonen/the-influence-of-one-man/>

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