

Path to Greatness



SERIES TWO
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(SERIES TWO)

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1 Samuel 16:14-19:

14 But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented *and* troubled him.

15 Saul's servants said to him, Behold, an evil spirit from God torments you.

16 Let our lord now command your servants here before you to find a man who plays skillfully on the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will be well.

17 Saul told his servants, Find me a man who plays well and bring him to me.

18 One of the young men said, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who plays skillfully, a valiant man, a man of war, prudent in speech *and* eloquent, an attractive person; and the Lord is with him.

19 So Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said,

Send me David your son, who is with the sheep.

(AMP)

King David had some skills, gifts and qualities that set him on the path to greatness. **1 Samuel 16:18** says **this about him: “Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him”**.

The first quality noticeable in David is that he was ingenious in playing musical instruments for the worship of God. David was a diligent worshipper. True and diligent worship of God sets you on the path of greatness. Secondly, he was a mighty, valiant man. Courage to take major decisions, bravery in the face of negative circumstances, boldness to confront obstacles that are on your way to greatness and heroic feats will all lead to greatness. David’s greatness began when he confronted and defeated Goliath the giant (**1 Samuel 17:1-58**).

While King Saul and his soldiers saw Goliath as a problem too big to hit, David saw Goliath as a problem too big to miss - one problem but two different perspectives.

David also was a man of war. Life is full of battles. Christianity is warfare. This is why we are called Christian soldiers and are also endowed with weapons and armour (**2 Corinthians 10:3-6: “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; and having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled”).**

Warfare has to do with strategic planning, strategic thinking, strategic sleeping and eating, strategic spending and strategic attitude. We are calibrated

for greatness, hence the Bible says that we are more than conquerors (**Romans 8:37: “Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us”.**)

King David was also prudent in matters. Prudence means to be discreet, careful, wise and circumspect in order to avoid undesired consequences. Greatness eludes many Christians because they say God is in control and refuse to do things decently and in order (**1 Corinthians 14:40: “Let all things be done decently and in order”.**) To achieve greatness, you have to be prudent in your finances and in taking decisions. In addition, he was a comely person. To be comely means to be a fine looking person, to have some charisma, to speak well in private and public, to have good carriage and to have an attractive personality. Such people attract favour easily. Greatness can be linked with favour from God and favour with men.

Even Jesus had to be endued with stature and favour (**Luke 2:52: “And**

Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man”).

When King Pharaoh asked that Joseph be brought hastily before him, Joseph thought it expedient to shave and change his clothes

Genesis 41:14: “Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh”. Many Christians are shabby and ignorantly think that is humility. Know how to package yourself properly in order to receive favour for greatness.

Finally David was great because God was with him. Let God be with you. If God be with you, nobody, no obstacle, no limitation can stop you from achieving greatness.

Psalm 103:1-5:

**1 BLESS (AFFECTIONATELY, gratefully
praise) the Lord, O my soul; and all that is
[deepest] within me, bless His holy name!**

**2 Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the
Lord, O my soul, and forget not [one of] all His
benefits —**

**3 Who forgives [every one of] all your iniquities,
who heals [each one of] all your diseases,**

**4 Who redeems your life from the pit *and*
corruption, who beautifies, dignifies, *and* crowns
you with loving-kindness and tender mercy;**

5 Who satisfies your mouth [your necessity and desire at your personal age and situation] with good so that your youth, renewed, is like the eagle's [strong, overcoming, soaring]

(AMP)

God the Almighty is the source of greatness. To achieve greatness, you should please God. However it is impossible to please God without faith (Hebrews 11:6: **“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”.**)

Faith is therefore the master key to greatness (Mark 11:22-24: **“And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe**

that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them”.) Faith is built up by the constant hearing of God’s word (**Romans 10:17: “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”.)**

Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, David, Jesus Christ and Paul all had unshakeable faith in God on their way to greatness. Faith in God is the eternal elixir which gives life, power and action to the impulse of thought. Faith in God is the only known antidote for failure. Faith in God contains the seeds of achievement and greatness. God has promised us greatness and His promises for us are yea and Amen. Have faith and plug into this promise. Don’t quit even if there are minor delays or you run into seasons of contradiction (**Habakkuk 2:2-4: “ And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon**

tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith”.)

The just shall become great by his faith.

Having faith in God helps you not to consider the weather or prevailing economy before you sow your seed or give to God (**Ecclesiastes 11:1-4: “Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth. If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be. He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap”.)**

Fruitless people are stingy people. Stinginess, especially with God can never

lead to greatness.

Patience is another ingredient of greatness. This means waiting on the Lord for His time to come to pass. Joseph waited for 13 years, Moses waited for 40 years while Jesus waited for 30 years. God has a reason for His timing. It might take long but it will surely happen if God has ordained it.

Hebrews 10:35-39: “Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul”.

The time of waiting is a time of preparation (**2 Chronicles 27:6: “So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his**

God”. Preparation precedes greatness. You don’t become a boxing champion overnight, neither do you become an anointed great man of God in one day. Greatness that comes suddenly or that is gotten by surprise will be lost suddenly by surprise. Watch out for those who manipulate their way into occupying an office, especially in the ministry of the gospel.

If you don’t wait for your time patiently, you might become great, but your crash from greatness will equally be great. Greatness comes to people who maintain a good attitude in the period of waiting. You must have an attitude that believes that with God all things are possible. In addition, you should honour God. Recognizing the source of greatness helps you to get connected to its source. All those who were divinely connected in the Bible ended up as great people. Recognizing the source of greatness helps you to tap into the covenant of grace, wisdom, empowerment, humility and anointing for greatness

(Genesis 41:16: “And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me:

God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace”.)

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Daniel, Jesus, Paul and all those who recognized God as the Source of greatness and gave Him the glory ended up being great. You can also do the same. God has made every provision in His plan for you to be great. Do not write yourself off. Choose not to remain small.