

Exodus 35-40 – 23 July 2020

“Answering The Call”

Introduction

*Moses has come down from Mt Sinai having received 2 things: The Law & The Tabernacle Pattern

*He found Israel in rebellion & idolatry, but now they've dealt with that.

*They've repented and God has re-confirmed His covenant with them.

*He's called them into collaboration & commitment w/ Him again. *There's ALWAYS a call from God!!

*God is always active in world; drawing people in!

*The question is always if we want to be involved!

*God has called Israel to construct the Tabernacle, but will they 'answer the call' & do what seems utterly absurd. (To build a very expensive, portable temple with no god in it)

Today, we'll see 3 aspects of “answering the call of God” in our lives.

1st Aspect of Answering The Call is to Willingly Give (Chap 35:1-29)

As we read chap 35, watch for how many times it says *willingly*

Read Chap 35:1-3

1. Interesting to watch Jews, since Christ's resurrection try to interpret these laws.
2. They have special elevators that are automatic
3. "kindle a fire" – so can you drive a car?
4. When we try doing things that aren't the Lord's will, it just leads to confusion.

Read Chap 35:4-29

1. The willing. The wise-hearted. Those whose heart stirred them up.
2. There are many bad motivations for serving Christ or giving to the work of the Lord.
 - a. Guilt – The Lord's work will have to stop without your generous offering.

- b. Guilt – Lord’s work just can’t function in this small building, we need more.
- c. Fear – Lord’s hand is against those who don’t give to Him.

3. The only good motivation is for love of Christ!

- a. Paul plead for Onesimus to Philemon on the basis of love – Read Plm 1:8-9

4. There’s so much manipulation to get people to give money and time to the Lord’s work when it should be from a willing heart.

- a. Flat offering plates are marketed.
- b. Paid ‘church growth program’ have a huge segment for ‘raising your offering levels’.

5. As God built Israel, God is building His church by the willing.

- a. It’s a transaction between the H.S. and an individual’s heart to become willing.
- b. Then there’s no need for manipulation.
- c. If it’s built by willing cooperation w/ H.S., then it won’t fade when manipulation ends.

2nd Aspect of Answering The Call is to willingly give From What The Lord Has Provided (Chap 35:30-35)

Read Chap 35:30-35

1. The people needed were already gifted with the skills to do the work.
2. The material needed was already gifted to the people to be given freely to the work of the Lord.
 - a. Lord prophesied to Ab they would come from Egypt “w/ great substance”. (Gen 15:14)
 - b. Lord told Moses this would happen in Exo 3:22, then it did in Exo 12:36
3. Also in Exo 35:23 – “Every man w/ whom it was found...” – They already had the goods
4. The resources and talent that is needed to build the church and live a victorious Christian life is being provided by the Lord already.
 - a. It’s up to us to use it effectively.
 - b. Takes faith to believe that building God’s kingdom is more valuable than building our own!

3rd Aspect of Answering The Call is to willingly give from what the Lord has provided Until The Need Is Fully Met (Chap 36:1-7)

Read Chap 36:1-7

1. They had more than they needed
2. The primary decision of “how much to give”
 - a. Wasn’t based on how much they had
 - b. Based on what the need was
3. Speaking of the Macedonian church, Paul said,
(Read II Cor 8:3-5)
 - a. They gave beyond their power, that’s faith!!
 - i. Took of their necessity, not their abundance
 - b. Vs 6 – They themselves were devoted.
4. What are we devoted to?
 - a. Are we devoted to spreading the Gospel?
 - b. Or just devoted as far as our pocket book can easily handle it?
5. If the work is truly of the Lord & the people listen to the H.S., then the mission WILL prosper!

Repeat of the inventory and dimensions for building the Tabernacle (Chap 36:8-40:15)

Exo 25-30 God gave all these details to Moses on Mt.

Now Moses gives these same instructions to Israel

Go thru & read it, you'll see Moses is faithful to give EXACTLY what God gave to him on the mount

Why repeat things in the Bible?

1. To show their importance & trustworthiness
 - a. Rev 8:13 - Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth!
 - b. Pharaoh's dream doubled (Gen 41:32)
2. To show them from another angle
 - a. 4 Gospel accounts (Matt, Mark, Luke, Jhn)
 - b. Provides different details—Blind man healed
3. To show that God's prophecy is trustworthy
 - a. God says He'll wipe out the Amalekites, Jebusites, Canaanites, repeatedly
 - i. But never says Gibeonites.

If we answer the call, the Lord will respond with His blessing (Chap 40:16-38)

Read Chap 40:16-38

1. The Lord places His glory with them.
2. Read II Chr 16:9
3. Moses – “If you don’t go with us, then just leave us to die here in the wilderness.”
4. People were leaving the Lord Jesus and He asked Peter if he would leave too.
 - a. Peter said – “Where should we go Lord, you have the words of life.”

Conclusion – END OF EXODUS

What are you living for?

1. Many people don't really know
2. Many people live day to day

The Lord is calling us to go deeper into the very meaning of life.

1. To bring the knowledge of eternal life to aimless humanity in the face of Jesus Christ!
2. Answer the call of God on your life

3 Aspects to answering the call

1. Be motivated by your own willingness
 - a. Not some manmade manipulation or guilt motivation.
2. Realize God has already given what we need to give to get started
 - a. Just takes faith to build God's kingdom & not our own.
3. Be driven by the desire to fully meet the need