

Ragged, Rotten, and Refined Bezalel and Oholiab

Exodus 31:1-10

Intro:

My brothers were super stud athletes .. Basketball, track. I was 85#, 4'11" as a Freshman

I. Who are These Guys Anyway?

- A. Chosen by God to build and oversee the ornate craftsmanship of the tabernacle (the tent of meeting)
- B. Bezalel was the grandson of Hur (of Ben and Hur fame) Hur - Uri - Bezalel
- C. Oholiab = Bezalel's right hand man

II. Why are They So Special?

- A. Appointed by name - v. 2; 6. Selected, not a committee, no voting, CHOSEN
- B. Bezalel = filled with God's spirit and wisdom, understanding, ability as an artist and a craftsman.

*** ... to put his gifting to work for the good of God's people

C. Both Given the ability to teach others

1. Teaching is a gift, empowered by the Spirit for our good and God's glory
2. Presumably NOT to teach them religious texts, but to teach others their craft and talents.

III. Spirit and Empowerment worked a little different in the OT than in the NT

- A. Joshua - Num 27:18
- B. Gideon
- C. Saul - 1 Samuel 10:10 (came), 1 Samuel 16:4 (out)
- D. David - Ps 51:11 - Don't take it
- E. Samson - Didn't know the Spirit had departed
- III. After Death, Burial, Resurrection, Ascension - changed things
- F. Acts 2 - Holy Spirit comes on ALL Believers, not just some at certain times.
- G. 1 Corinthians 12:7 - HS empowers each member of the body of Christ with Divine Power, wisdom, and strength to perform the purpose He has for you!
- III. Not For Preachers Only
- H. Your work may be your purpose - Dr, lawyer, janitor, teacher, stay at home mom
- I. We all can boldly go before God's Throne (Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 Peter 2:5-9)

We sell ourselves short when we get trapped in this messed up thinking that only the preacher or missionary, the guy on the stage, or on staff is the "real one"; the one with the true anointing.

Nurses, hospice workers, etc. are truly gifted by God in their craft. This is more than just talent.

Do you need to find your gifting? Find your place of passion to serve, one that trips your trigger ... something that you are uniquely, or maybe not uniquely gifted, for and start walking in it.

God isn't only interested in gifting and empowering and using "Expected Callings". Often He uses the Unexpected Calling to change the world!

He uses the "foolish" things of this world to confound the wise.