

GOD WITH US

His People. His Dwelling Place.

Traveling Light - Ps Mark Scholtz

Have you ever traveled on a trip with too much baggage? It can make moving around stressful and problematic. Not only that, our baggage affects the people around us. There is something so freeing about traveling light. The same is true for spiritual and emotional baggage. **It can cause us to miss kingdom destiny moments and affect the people we do life with.**

In 1 Samuel 9, we see Saul receiving a powerful prophetic word that he is to be the king of Israel. His response shows us the kind of baggage he was carrying:

Saul answered, "But am I not a Benjamite, from the smallest tribe of Israel, and is not my clan the least of all the clans of the tribe of Benjamin? Why do you say such a thing to me?" 1 Samuel 9:21

Saul, because of his tribe, felt unworthy and too insignificant to believe the prophetic word. When you look at Saul's story you see that his low self-esteem and insecurity affected his ability to be the king. Samuel even gave Saul specific signs that God was anointing him to be king, and all of them came true. Yet what happens when it is time for Saul to be crowned king?

But when they looked for him, he had disappeared! 22 So they asked the Lord, "Where is he?" And the Lord replied, "He is hiding among the baggage." 1 Samuel 10:21b-22

Saul had everything going for him, but **his insecurity caused him to hide from his destiny.** The baggage Saul hid in was symbolic of the emotional baggage he carried with him for the rest of his life. In contrast to Saul, we see David walking light, because he spent time alone with God, dealing with his 'baggage'. David had every reason to have baggage – his own father and brothers did not believe he would be king. Yet **David found his security and strength in God.**

Israel and the Philistines drew up in battle formation, army against army. 22 Then David left the baggage in the care of the baggage keeper and ran to the battle line. 1 Samuel 17:21-21

In a crucial moment in David's life when God called him to step up, he did not hide from his destiny, but instead left his baggage with the baggage keeper, and ran to the battle. David had learned to travel light.

When God calls us, we can find ourselves hiding behind our insecurities and baggage. These things prevent us from stepping out and doing God's will. **When we have dealt with our baggage we are prepared to do whatever He may ask,** whenever he asks it. God doesn't want us to be weighed down by the expectations of others or the fear of failure or the fear of man. Saul feared man more than God and it led him to defy God. David feared God more than man and it led him to slay the giant.

The Lord knows your baggage. He is the baggage keeper who wants to take your baggage so that you can travel light.

Reflection:

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you any area of your life where you are hiding behind insecurities or carrying baggage that has been dumped on you. Surrender it to Him as our baggage keeper and let Him give you relief and peace.
2. What is something you have felt God calling you to do that insecurity wants you to run from?