

Ex. 25:1-8 The Materials of Consecration

In Moses day, some brought gold and silver and brass and costly stones for the construction of the Tabernacle. Some brought bright cloths of blue and scarlet and fine twined linen. Others brought valuable wood for the boards and pieces of furniture. Some brought badgers' skins and rams' skins dyed red.

These last two may have seemed insignificant compared to the gold and silver and precious stones and brightly coloured cloths. However, when the tabernacle was finished, all that could be seen was the badgers' skins. They served as a protective covering for the Tabernacle and all that was in it, from the scorching heat of the desert sun and from the sand storms that were associated with the journey through the wilderness.

Some wonder if what they do is significant, or whether or not what they do has any value as far as service for the Lord is concerned. One of the tendencies of our human nature is to compare ourselves with others. To compare ourselves among ourselves or to measure ourselves by ourselves is not wise (2nd Cor. 10:12).

When we recognize that what we do, we do as unto the Lord, and it is He who fits us and enables us for service, we will the more readily do what He has given us to do. It should be understood as well, that the Lord never requires us to that which He has not empowered or enabled us, or fitted us to do. Neither does He fit us to do nothing at all.

When Moses protested to the Lord about his own inadequacies and limitations, the Lord, asked, "*What is that in thine hand?*" To Moses it was just a rod (Ex. 4:1-2). Yet, when that rod was yielded to the Lord, it was used in showing the mighty power of God in the marvellous plagues that were brought upon the land of Egypt (Ex. chs. 7-12).

It was used in demonstrating God's power in the parting of the Red Sea effecting Israel's deliverance (Ex. 14:16-21). It was also used in providing water for Israel in the desert (Ex. 17:6). What was small and seemed insignificant to Moses, became the means of demonstrating God's might power and marvellous provision, when used by the Lord.

In 2nd Kings chapter 4, the prophet Elisha asked a poor widow, "*What hast thou in the house?*" (vs. 2). To the widow it was just a pot of oil, but with God's power, it became enough to pay her debt and live comfortably for a long while.

When faced with a hungry multitude of more than four thousand, the Lord Jesus asked His disciples, "*How many loaves have ye?*" (Matt. 15:34; Mk. 8:6). To the disciples, seven loaves and a few little fishes, were grossly inadequate in such circumstances, but in the Lord's hands, they were not only sufficient to feed the hungry multitude, but sufficient enough to have seven baskets of food over and above that which the multitude ate.

Dear child of God, do you sometimes feel insignificant and feel what you do is inadequate? You are precious in His sight (Isa. 43:4; Matt. 10:31) and whatever

you, whether big or small, is appreciated by Him and is not forgotten (Heb. 6:10; Matt. 25:40).

Every believer has a gift that has been graciously bestowed by the Lord Himself, through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 12:3; 1st Cor. 12:4; Eph. 4:8). When we are willing to yield our meagre resources and ourselves unto the Lord, He is able to use both what we have and what we are for His own purposes and glory and mighty things are accomplished.

*I am the Lord's! yet teach me all it meaneth,
All it involves of love and loyalty,
Of holy service, full and glad surrender,
And unreserved obedience unto thee.*