

LESSONS FROM ELDAD AND MEDAD THE OUTSIDERS

10-11-20

Numbers 11:24 And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle.

Numbers 11:25 And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.

Numbers 11:26 But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp.

Numbers 11:27 And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp.

Numbers 11:28 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.

Numbers 11:29 And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!

Here we have an odd phenomena we have two men who were not among the appointed and elected 70 who God supernaturally anointed. Here we have a special spiritual point that can be made about these 2 men. I thought it good to park here for a while. There is a lesson we can learn from this account that has deep spiritual applications for us today. The message we can learn from this account is this.

- I. You can be anointed without being elected.***
- II. You can be chosen of God without being chosen of men.***
- III. You can be used of God and no man can stop you.***

THE TWO OUTSIDERS ANOINTED OF GOD NOT MEN:

- I. You can be anointed without being elected.***

Here we see God telling Moses to elect 70 elders and bring them into the tabernacle.

Numbers 11:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee.

Elect 70 elders who you know to be elders of the people. These men were men of renown, men who were elected to stand before the Lord as leaders of the people.

These were men who God was going to give as helpers for Moses. He felt the burden was too much to bear for himself and complained to the Lord.

Numbers 11:11 And Moses said unto the LORD, Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me?

Numbers 11:12 Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child, unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers?

Numbers 11:14 I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.

Numbers 11:15 And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness.

Note Moses said, he could not bear the burden alone. So the Lord hears Moses complaint and asks him to choose 70 men who He would endow with His same spirit to help bear the burden of leadership in the camp. So Moses goes out and finds 70 men he thinks are worthy candidates.

But note, there are two men outsiders, who were not elected who God chooses to anoint with the same spirit.

So the Lord takes of the spirit of leadership and the spirit of anointing, and God shares that spirit with these 70 men. The evidence that the spirit was given to them was that they prophesied.

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Numbers 11:26 But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp.

So we see two men, who were not elected among the 70. Yet they also prophesied, so it seems that the same spirit came upon them, though they were not elected amongst the 70.

What is the application? The application is simple.

1. *You don't need an office appointed by man to be anointed to serve God.*

Here we have men who were not elected to be one of the 70, yet they did the same work.

We have so many people that think they need to be elected to an office to serve the Lord. You don't need a title or earthly election to an office in the church to do a work for the Lord.

Years ago I had a fellow who stopped coming to church. I went to see him and asked why he stopped coming to church. He said, it was because he felt like he was being treated like a second rate member of the church because he was not able to serve as a deacon in the church. You see, the man was divorced and the Bible says, the Bishop and a Deacon needs to be the husband of one wife.

Then I said to him, "the word deacon means, servant.. " What does a deacon do? A deacon, serves. A deacon visits people, a deacon helps maintain the physical facilities of the church. A deacon is faithful to attend services. The word deacon means SERVANT. Who is going to prevent you from being a servant? Why do you need the office to do the work?

2. *You don't need a title to work for God.*

Why is it that people think they need a title to serve God? All you need is to roll up your sleeves and get busy and serve.

I have seen this happen so often. People think they need this or that to do something.

It reminds me of when I was young, when I told my dad I needed a car to get a job, he said, you don't get buy a car to get a job, you get a job to buy a car.

Proverbs 24:27 Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.

I had a young couple that once said they needed a house to have children, they got their house and then never had children.

So many people think that by getting a ministry they will serve the Lord. If someone is not serving the Lord already, getting a ministry title will not change anything.

It is like the fellow who wanted to go into the ministry of helping churches with their building projects. I once called the man to help our church but he was too

busy to talk to me. Later when he retired, he called asking if he could present his ministry to raise support for some building ministry. I didn't see how raising support was going to give him any greater heart for the ministry than what lacked when he was working a job and did not have time to help our church. Just getting a title, and being recognized by a mission board was not going to give you any greater anointing.

3. *If you don't have a title and do the work, you will get a greater reward than having a title and not doing the work.*

These two men received the anointing because God saw that they had greater character than the 70 that were elected, but went unnoticed by others.

You can mark it down, you may be unnoticed by others but if you have a heart to serve God you will be noticed of God.

Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

II. *YOU CAN BE CHOSEN OF GOD WITHOUT BEING CHOSEN OF MEN.*

The Lord said, choose out 70 men, so Moses did that, but he did not choose Eldad and Medad. But God choose them and anointed them.

I have a feeling what these men did for the Lord they did in the background. No one was aware of what they did. But God knew it.

Notice, that it says,

Numbers 11:26 But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp.

It says, they were of them that were written.

God is keeping records. He is writing a book about all that we do and everyone will receive a reward based on their works.

Notice, there were 70 men who were elected to this office, the original Sanhedrin I would presume. We do not know the names of any of the seventy, but we know about these two men, Medad and Eldad.

In that day in heaven, we will be surprised at the ones that will receive the greater rewards and recognition.

I Corinthians 3:8 every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

III. You can be used of God and no man can stop you.

Numbers 11:27 And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp.

Numbers 11:28 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.

Numbers 11:29 And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!

A young man ran to Moses and reported this incident.

Then Joshua also protested, and told Moses to forbid Eldad and Medad from prophesying.

Note what Moses says,

Numbers 11:29 And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!

How can any man stop you from serving God? How can anyone hold you back from being spiritual?

The Spirit of God in John chapter 3 is likened to the wind:

John 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Can you stop the wind? So it would be if you tried to stop a person from being filled with the Spirit of God.

In the 1960's the supreme court ruled against having prayer in the public schools. Yet no man or government can really forbid prayer or students from praying. If students want to pray no one can stop them. It would be like stopping the wind.

Joshua said to Moses, forbid Eldad and Medad from prophesying, and Moses said would to God all the people were prophets. Would to God everyone was filled with the Spirit of God.

This was a shadow of the greater covenant. In the Bible it says:

On the day of Pentecost Peter quoted Joel when he said,

Acts 2:16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
Acts 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

The New Covenant promises that God would pour out His spirit upon all flesh. We are all given access to the Spirit of God under the new covenant.

Today there are people trying to forbid people from being filled with the spirit and it cannot be done. Do you know that it was not just people like Madalyn Murray O'Hair that fought against prayer in public school? It was also so called Christians, Jews, and Mormons that opposed the reading of the King James Bible style prayers, and the Lord's prayer and other elements of prayer that were too biblical and did not reflect their ideas of prayer. Most of the attack on Christianity has been an attack on the King James Bible. It was also in the 60's that there was a flood of new translations on the market.

Can you forbid a person from being filled with the spirit of God?
Can you forbid spirituality? It would be easier to contain the wind.

What we need is a Pentecost experience of revival which no man can stop. This is the essence of revival. When God brings revival in the land it is like a rain storm, it is like the wind, it cannot be contained or held back or forbidden.

It is God who controls the weather, not man. The audacity of men to think they can control the weather patterns. This nonsense of man controlling climate change is so ridiculous, it is like the emperor's new clothes. We have the Democrats saying things like we need to believe the science. Science is not something you need to believe in, it is something that you can observe, and see. If you cannot test it, prove it, and observe it, it is not science.

It cannot be proved that mankind can control hurricanes, droughts, and tornadoes by their carbon footprint. God is the one that controls these things and not man.

When Israel was told they were going to go into the promised land, the Lord said that this land was dependent on Him for rain, here is what He said:

Deuteronomy 11:10 For the land, whither thou goest in to possess it, is not as the land of Egypt, from whence ye came out, where thou sowedst thy seed, and wateredst it with thy foot, as a garden of herbs:

Deuteronomy 11:11 But the land, whither ye go to possess it, is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven:

Deuteronomy 11:12 A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year.

Deuteronomy 11:13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,

Deuteronomy 11:14 That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

The Bible talks about the first rain and the latter rain. The first rain was that rain that prepared the land for tilling, and the latter rain was the rain that caused the crops to grow.

These were spiritual pictures of our dependence on God for His spirit and His blessings.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

James 5:8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

What we as God's people are looking forward to today is that latter rain. That rain that only God can give and bring. If God brings it, no man can forbid it. What America needs is that latter rain of revival. Our nation is spiritually parched and dry. We desperately need what Eldad and Medad received when God rained upon them His Spirit!

Note the meaning of their names.

Eldad means EL= God.. and dad.

The Hebrew word dad = Hebrew word to boil over with love.

1730 dowd, dode; or (short.) dod, dode; from an unused root mean. prop. to boil, i.e. (fig.) to love; by impl. a love-token, lover, friend; spec. an uncle:-(well-) beloved, father's brother, love, uncle.

In other words Eldad was God's beloved.

Medad means to be one who is loved, a similar meaning.

In other words Eldad was God's beloved.

Medad was the one that was loved.

If we are God's church and God's people we are his Eldad and Medad. Christ loved His church and gave Himself for the church. What we need is for God to rain upon us His Holy Spirit.. This is His latter rain. This is the blessing we need.

I see a spiritual thirst in our day, there is a bareness spiritually, there is a need for revival. Would to God we become His Eldad's and Medad's, His believed people.

If and when that rain falls on us, no man can stop it.

It's like the wind.

It's like the rain..

Who can stop it?

No man can bring it, no man can stop it.

Conclusion:

The children of Israel were totally dependent on God for the blessings of their crops. They needed the early and latter rains to cause the crops to grow. So too, the church of Jesus Christ is totally dependent of the Lord for its sustenance and blessing. One man sows another waters but it is God that gives the increase.

We can all be His Eldads and Medads, servants who loved God, were serving God, and dependent on God, and in turn if He chooses, He will pour out His spirit on us, and give us His blessings.