

jul 15

ministry - more important than life

"but none of these things deter me. nor do i count my life of value to myself, so that i may joyfully finish my course and the ministry which i have received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." acts 20:24

it doesn't matter who we are or what we are doing, we all have a ministry from the Lord. certainly there are those more note worthy and have a greater reach, but that doesn't negate the importance of what each individual does in the realm of their influence. that's what the parable about the spending of talents in matthew 25 was all about.

each of us has a purpose and a desire for their life birthed in the heart of God. are you the best father or mother you can be? that is your ministry. are you always reaching out to help someone in need? that is your ministry. are you witnessing to someone in distress of the joy you have found in Christ? that is your ministry. do you pray fervently for the needs of others - including standing in the gap for their salvation? that is your ministry.

"delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart." psa 10:17 have you prayed for those desires to be God's and not yours? i don't know if the Lord has appointed you as a giver, as a doer, as a prayer or what. whatever it is, do it whole heartedly as unto Him. "whatever you do, do it all to

the glory of God." 1 cor 10:31

i'm sure there are many receiving my dailies who read it just because they know me and that in itself may peak enough interest to see what what i am up to. some probably read just to laugh and mock while others from sincerity, while others ignore them altogether. it matters not to me. exposure to the gospel and knowledge of the urgency of the hour - that is all that matters to me. whether my words are taken to heart or tagged as junk mail and never seen again - that is between them and the Lord.

as i have said before, we are smelly people. "God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. for we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. to the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. and who is sufficient for these things? " 2 cor 2:14-16 yes, who is sufficient for these things? only by grace!

we all are what God has made us to be. the question is: are using our talents for ourselves or are we using it for His glory? "what do you have that God hasn't given you? and if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift? 1 cor 4:7 nlt it's all grace! "that no flesh should glory in His presence." 1 cor 1:29 God has done it all so none can boast in His presence. no one can EARN anything.

now that we have transitioned to grace, i have

something i want to share which the Lord has been showing me recently.

for awhile now the word capstone has been surfacing - in my prayers and otherwise. i know it is brought forth with shouts of grace. "and he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of "grace, grace to it!" zech 4:7 in my prayers i have been praying to bring forth the finishing capstone, assuming it to be Jesus and something about His glorious return. truly, "it is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter." prov 25:2 we are His kings and priests. things which have been sealed up are now being opened.

then the other day i heard someone who knows the Lord submit a different understanding for my consideration. i now submit it to you. Jesus is not the capstone. Jesus is the cornerstone. we are His church, His body, His glorious wife. are we the capstone? it sounds almost unbelievable at first thought - usurping His glory. but He has said, "and the glory which You gave Me I have given them". john 17:22

so when i have been praying to bring forth the finishing capstone, i was not praying for my glory (our glory) but for His. He is glorified in us. He wants to lift us up. "that we may be partakers of His holiness." heb 12:10 that we may be "partakers of the divine nature" 2 pet 1:4 certainly not God but resembling Him in every other way.

we glory in this, always in humility, knowing it was grace alone that bestows it. we need not fret about

keeping ourselves alive in order to finish our ministry. God alone knows the appointed time of our service. He will decide when our death is not an interruption of our ministry, but the last act of our ministry.

what a mighty, glorious, beautiful God we serve.
MARANATHA!