

TRUE GREATNESS IS THE LEAST YOU CAN DO 12/7/15

*You are reborn to be great... that is the least of your possibilities. Someone (Jesus), has already died to give you the best possible chance to succeed and his disciples have spent 2000 years building upon this truth. The battle for the church is not to keep you in fellowship at all costs, rather to encourage you to honour the will of God. **LUK 7:28** For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a **greater** prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is **least** in the kingdom of God is **greater** than he. All those born of God are already greater than the greatest of all humans... this is our starting point as born again Christians.*

***Naaman the leper...** this is not a story about healing alone, but a reference of honest prophecy and a humble heart leading to salvation... the simple steps to get great results. **2KING 5:9** So Naaman (a great military leader) came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. **10** And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean. **11** But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. **12** Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. **13** And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee **do some great thing**, wouldest thou not have done it? how much **rather** then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? **14** Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, **according to the saying of the man of God** (he did what God considered great): and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. The greatest thing we can do is to imitate God's directions and remain humble in our servitude. Naaman was seeking something he thought was far greater than humble obedience. His version of greatness, was not God's.*

***Likewise, the final judgment for God's faithful people, is not based on visually great deeds, but on spiritually great deeds...** the second part of the parable of the sheep and goats explains... **MAT 25:41** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand (these were the ones who were great in their own eyes, rather than God's; just like Naaman's original thinking), Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels (so much for their personal opinions): **42** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: **43** I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. **44** Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? **45** Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, **Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.** **46** And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. Those who weren't supportive nor understood the greatness of personal servitude; were rejected!!*

***What doesn't the New Testament say about being truly great?** After Jesus, there were no references to casting mountains into the sea or similar. No references to feeding thousands. No churches were complimented for the numbers of baptisms, nor healings they achieved. In fact the counting of miracles and other visually 'great' deeds, even though still vital and essential, are barely mentioned. The emphasis for those filled with the working power of God, focused on personal servitude as being the greatest offering.*

***MAT 23:11** But he that is **greatest** among you shall be your **servant**. **12** And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased (those who have another view will fail to please God); and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. Those who are blessed, comforted, faithfully confident and truly happy, all have one thing in common... they serve one another. Spiritual greatness is found in simple obedience... revival will follow.*

***One of many simple ways to serve each other is by use of the voice gifts. 1COR 14:5** I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for **greater** is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive **edifying**. This maximises your miraculous service.*

***If you want to serve, then you need to build friendships: be friendly... there is no age of entitlement in the spirit. PRO 18:24** A man that hath friends **must** shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. It is our duty to seek help when needed, we are not to sit back waiting for assistance.*

***The greatest joy of the apostles wasn't the results of numerous miracles and staggering revival...** but in humble obedience to God's ways. **3JOH 4** I have no **greater** joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. How did Jesus define great deeds? **MAT 22:38** This is the first and **great** commandment. **39** And the second (2nd greatest) is like unto it, Thou shalt **love** (serve) thy neighbour as thyself. Serve God by serving each other.*