

Embrace Your Moment

By Pastor Marvin R. Barham

I received a letter from our missionary friends, the Truby's, in Amsterdam. In their newsletter they spoke of a young girl whose uncle was a YWAM student 20 years past and was murdered while on a mission to Africa. Her father, the brother of the uncle, turned from God as a result of the murder of his brother. The young girl now wants to be a YWAM student so that she may face her family's giants and show God's grace to her father's wounded soul.

Wow! Talk about a young girl who was unlikely to even know and love God with any positive perspective, yet instead, has embraced an opportunity for generational purpose. How would most of us respond to such opposition in our lives? Do we see trials and struggles – not just our own but even those of others – as a means to embrace opportunity for the glory of God? Are we quick to first ask, “Knowing what I know of the heart of my gracious Father, what is the will of God in this moment?”

Throughout Scripture we find examples of those who were faced with a choice to either miss or embrace the will of God in a moment.

Job 7:17-18 speaks of God and the moments He grants us. *“17What is man, that thou shouldest magnify him? and that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him? 18And that thou shouldest visit him every morning, and try him every **moment**?”* And in **2 Corinthians 4:17** the Scripture tells us *“For our light affliction, which is but for a **moment**, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;”*

Abraham harkened unto the voice of God when He spoke to him and said take your family and depart. But when the moment of promise came and God told him that he and his wife would have a child, he did not believe.

In a moment Moses faces God in the burning bush but questions God's ability to choose the man for His purpose. Once convinced that God knew what He was doing, Moses embraces each moment against Pharaoh. But in **Numbers 20** God told Moses to speak to the rock and water would come forth. However, when the moment came Moses, in anger to the people, struck the rock twice with his rod, thus disobeying God and negating his inheritance to the Promised Land.

In **Luke 4:5** Jesus is faced with a moment of which His response would define the future of His Kingdom purpose as a success or failure. *“And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a **moment of time**.”*

We find in **Matthew 26:38-40** Jesus scolds the disciples because they could not discern the moment they were in (**38***Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39**And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. 40**And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, **could ye not watch with me one hour?***)

In **Matthew 16:2-4** Jesus speaks to the Pharisees concerning their inability to discern and embrace the moment they were in and the days to come. (**2***He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. 3**And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the*

*sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but **can ye not discern the signs of the times?**)*

Throughout the ministry of Jesus we find where lepers, the blind, those with dead, diseased, or demonically oppressed loved ones cried out to the Messiah, touched the hem of His garment, or begged for a crumb of mercy. They recognized who He was, His compassion, His glory and embraced the moment. For many of them it was the only moment of hope for them. If they missed their one moment of opportunity for healing and deliverance there might not be another. In the Old Testament we also find where many of the disciples embraced moments of opportunity – Peter and John heal the lame, Paul raises the dead, Paul speaks the truth while being convicted to his death, Paul and Silas sing praises in prison leading captives to Christ, and Stephen preaches while being stoned.

Colossians 4:5-6 sums it up, “**5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.**”

Again, my friend Tracy Truby spoke of receiving a phone call from another mother whose child also attends a public school in Amsterdam. The mother wanted to know if her son could come home with the Truby’s son, because she did not want him to have to go on the after school field trip which was to attend a gay wedding. People, our culture is not far from this. We must engage now. Godly people need no longer sit back and wait on things to change or someone else to make a difference in the earth. The only difference that will be made is either wickedness increases and the righteousness of God be compromised among God’s people, or God’s people embrace every moment to raise the standard of righteousness. Too often we want God to adjust to what all we have going on in our lives if He wants us to do anything for Him. Instead, we need to seek to know what all God has going on so as to never miss a moment of opportunity He has granted us in His Kingdom.

What is the pattern we find in the Word of God? God judges every moment. What is the principle? Every moment counts. What is the precept? Embrace every moment for the glory of God. What is the revelation? Now is the time. You were born for such a time as this. Now is the hour of your salvation. Do not wait or say someday. Embrace your moment for the will of God now.

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2 Corinthians 4:17 *17*For our light _____, which is but for a _____, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

Abraham had his moments: _____

Moses had his moments: _____

Luke 4:5 *5*And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a _____ of _____. Jesus faced a moment of which His _____ would define the future of His Kingdom purpose as success or failure.

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Colossians 4:5-6 *5*Walk in _____ toward them that are without, redeeming the _____. Let your speech be always with _____, seasoned with _____, that ye may know how ye ought to _____ every man.

The Pattern: _____

The Principle: _____

The Precept: _____

The Revelation: _____