## WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?

Pastor Joseph Hovsepian

Exodus 4:1-5; 17

Becoming religious in general and even joining the Christian religion does not bother Satan. Satan does not fear someone becoming "CHRISTIAN", what he does not want to see is someone getting involved in spreading the GOOD NEWS and leading people to CHRIST.

If Christians practice a religion, but remain idle and not obey the great commission – then Satan will prevent Christ's message from spreading.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Many believers know what Christ expects from us, that is: Leading people to Him and help them find freedom from slavery to sin, and yet they don't think they are qualified or have what it takes to do what they are called to do.

Some will say: Well, I would like to be more spiritually productive but I need some kind of talent, gift or special call to do it but, I don't have any special gifts.

Moses was about 80 years old, running his business, living a very comfortable life and practicing his religion when God spoke to him. God actually called Moses by name "Moses! Moses!" and Moses said: "Here I am," ....

God asked him to help the Israelites come out of bondage. (Exodus 3:4; 10)

But Moses was comfortable where he was, so he came up with many reasons, or rather excuses why he did not have what it would take to lead his people out of bondage ....

Moses argued "What if they do not believe me or listen to me ...." (vs. 8).

- Moses feared rejection and failure ....
- Maybe he remembered failures in the past ....

Then God asked him a simple question:

"What is that in your hand?" (vs.2) Just a piece of wood, "A Staff" Moses said.

Moses had that staff for long time. He probably thought: "This is a useless thing in my hands, what can I do with this?"

But God asked Moses to "*Throw it on the ground*" (vs. 3) so God would show Moses His power to use this staff to free the people from slavery.

Moses may have thought that this staff was of no value at all, and yet God would use that stick for His glory.

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For example:

- Opening the Red Sea (Exodus 14:16)
  - "Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground." .....
- Bringing Water from a Rock (Exodus 17:6-5)

God will use what you have in your hands if you trust Him with what you have. We poses what is needed to do what God wants us to do through us ....

We often hear God's call to do something in His service and yet we feel we need special abilities to do it, even though we do possess whatever we need to do God's work.

You must use what God has given you not what you wished you had ....

Remember a stick was nothing; but in God's hand it became Power ....