

THE VALUE OF LEARNING THE ROPES!

Exploring the Meaning and Value of Biblical Experiential Education in our Christian journey.

In Scripture, we find that there is a difference between the service rendered people who learnt the ropes and those who did not.

Comparing those two characters clearly underscores the important to learn the ropes of the scripture before getting into Ministry.

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As I prepared this message, I came across a synopsis by a Bible Scholar that says:

“The rope has been around for a long time. The rope can be of some use. You can tie something up with a rope, swing a rope or hang it on a tree to be used as a swing. But in the hands of a skilled person, the rope is a mighty weapon. Its power can be wielded in such a way to bring a full-growth bull to the ground with a flick of the wrist, it can be used to entertain for hours with endless tricks, it can be lifeline for animal stuck in a hole.

Like the rope, the Bible has been around for a long time. It is a universal tool and can be useful in the

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hands of anyone who dares to open it and read it. But in the hands of those who have taken the time to study, memorize, contemplate and apply its truths, to their lives, it becomes a powerful instrument of God.

It is valuable, therefore, to learn the ropes of the Scripture.”

DID NOT LEARN THE ROPES:

- MOSES BEFORE JETHRO'S HOUSE
- SAUL
- MARTHA
- SIMON THE SORCERER

EXAMPLES: LEARNT THE ROPES:

- MOSES AFTER JETHRO'S HOUSE
- JOSHUA
- DAVID
- JOSEPH
- SAMUEL
- ELISHA

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BEFORE JETHRO'S HOUSE – MOSES HAD NOT LEARNT THE ROPES.

In Exodus 2: ¹¹Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. ¹²So he looked this way and that, and when he saw there was no one around, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³He went out the next day, and behold, two Hebrews were fighting with each other; and he said to the offender, "Why are you striking your companion?" ¹⁴But he said, "Who made you a prince or a judge over us? Are you intending to kill me as you

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killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid and said, “Surely the matter has become known.” **15** When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian.

Moses was inexperienced and had not yet been called by the Lord. Yes he had a burden for his people and of course acted impulsively but he had not yet been called by the Lord – *this led to fear, deceit to hid the dead, and flee to Midian.*

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FROM JETHRO'S HOUSE – MOSES LEARNT THE ROPES

For forty years, Moses lived with Jethro the priest and learnt the ropes. Thereafter, God began to use him as powerfully for God's work.

Exodus 3: ¹Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." ⁴When the LORD saw that he had gone over to

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look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

⁶Then God said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” ...⁷“I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt.⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land,¹⁰ **So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.**”

Brethren, the Lord used Moses mightily to bring them out of Egypt, part the red sea, lead them in the wilderness for forty (40) years.

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SAUL DID NOT LEARN THE ROPES

His inexperience led to his impatience, fear and disobedience to God's commands and that cost him the throne.

In 1 Samuel 13, **8Saul** waited seven days, according to the appointed time set by Samuel, but Samuel did not come to Gilgal,¹²therefore he forced himself and offered the burnt offering." **13**Samuel said to Saul, "You have acted foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, for now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.

1 Samuel 15, we see Saul missing steps because he did

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SAUL DID NOT LEARN THE ROPES

In **1 Samuel 15**, we see Saul missing step gain. **10** Then the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, **11** “I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not carried out My commands.” **20** Then Saul said to Samuel, “I did obey the voice of the LORD, and went on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and have brought back Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. **21** “But the people took *some* of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the choicest of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal.” We, sometimes, think actions we take would please God but that is not what He needs from us. But if it is not done according to the rules, God will not accept it.

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Summary: God requires that we learn the ropes and prepare to be used by Him. **Bible says:**

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman who need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. Ecclesiastes 12:13

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who^[a] have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Hebrews 6:12

We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Lets go and learn the ropes. GOD BLESS YOU!

2018 PRAYER POINTS

1. Prayer over the message of today. Ask God for His grace to commit time to learning the Word of God
2. Pray that KCM will continue to fulfil its mandate as God's house of prayer for all nations (Isaiah 56:7)
3. Prayer for Leadership of Nations ...
 - a. The Lord give leaders the grace to lead well
 - b. Leaders to be humble in leadership and fear God
 - c. Nations undergoing change of leadership to have the wisdom to select right
4. Thank God for eradicating Troubles/Wars in nations and making it possible for people to freely serve Him.
5. God to please cleanse our land of diseases (2 Chro 7:13-18).
6. Pray for Minsters, Ministries, Missionaries and Missions and commission to win souls
7. For Marriages, God fearing Children & families to stay together
8. Pray for Members of the fellowship – grace to learn the ropes
- 9 Needs in fellowship & and any special request we have not covered
10. Ask for favour and grace of God this week and pray for next Sunday

