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We continue stedfastly in prayer, and in the  
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

## Jehovah is never taken by surprise

A Message for Adults

Week of Sunday 28 May, 2017 A.D.  
(Anno Domini – In the year of our Lord)

Sunday 3 Sivan, 5777

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- Choice is made in eternity. Privilege is never an end to itself. Jehovah is never taken by surprise. History teaches His man or woman always is placed at the right time for the right event. I want to emphasize this eternal truth to you. You will be judged by your adherence or rejection of this truth. Children of God are raised up, not for themselves, but for what they can do to forward interests of the kingdom of God. No man is ever allowed privilege for his own sake. There is an obligation to be paid. We are what we are and where we are, not

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because God loves us better than He loves others; not because we can do more for humanity; not because we are special favorites of heaven. Not at all ! Jesus said, <sup>24</sup> If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Matthew 16: 24 ASV

- Esther had been kinfolk to a low grade official. Now she sat upon the throne. Immediately, Esther saw Haman had almost everything short of the throne. Everything except a bow from Mordecai. He was one bow short and that produced misery and restlessness in Haman

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that lent his political genius to eliminate an entire race. He forgot he was involving the God of heaven. Mordecai knew Jehovah works through human agencies and trusted the eternal plan. He realized why things like this are permitted and why they happen. Mordecai went to Esther and placed responsibility where it belonged. She hesitated, the move might cost her life, it was death to go before the king unbidden. But Mordecai made it an open and shut case. There could be no option and keep any sense of respect.

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- Jehovah had Noah ready for a crisis of evil that swamped this planet and made it mandatory to begin again. Jehovah had Moses ready when a people had to be pried from 400 years of slave labor and led to the Promised land. God had Paul ready when the gospel had to bridge two continents and begin its journey as a witness. God had His generals; Calvin, Fox, Wesley, Whitfield, Mrs. M.B. Woodworth Etter, and others ready when English deism, French infidelity, and German rationalism were the harvest.

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- Jehovah is never taken by surprise. Mordecai strengthened himself with this conviction; <sup>14</sup> who knoweth whether thou art not come to the kingdom for such a time as this? Esther 4: 14 ASV He believed Jehovah places His people at the right place for the right time. Mordecai made Esther believe; <sup>13</sup> think not with thyself thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. Esther 4: 13 ASV Do you believe?
- If you are gifted; if there is genius at your command, or position, or wealth, or favor, or advantage; it is for one purpose. You have been

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selected to perform some great service to Jehovah and His people. Your liberty to choose not to use it for selfish reason condemns you.

- Do you have money? Do you have personality? Do you have musical talent? Have you received an education? Do you have administrative ability? Do you have a car? Do you have time to read and travel? You have been blessed with tools for a job. Why soft pedal talent Jehovah blessed you with and wanted you to use to serve Him? Do you soft pedal your diplomas and degrees and capabilities applying for a job?

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Find out what service God expects from you, and get at it! Men and women who use their exaltation to serve themselves are traitors to God and humanity.

- The price is the same as it was yesterday and the day before. Don't hide that price tag from your preacher or humanity. The victory has to be won first in yourself. Esther said; fast and pray for me three days, and I will go in to the king, if I perish, I perish (Esther 4: 16). You can not stop the kingdom of heaven. You can lose your place in it. Stephen may be stoned, but the



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apostle Paul championed the cause. John Brown may hang, but Abraham Lincoln will follow. Deliverance will arise from another place. Jehovah blesses you with the liberty to have your chance in the kingdom of heaven! Believe it!

- If Jesus had saved Himself as the world wanted him to do, He could not have saved anyone else. The man who avoids Calvary can not save any one else. <sup>24</sup> If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whosoever would save

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his life shall lose it: and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it. <sup>26</sup> For what shall a man be profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? or what shall a man give in exchange for his life? <sup>27</sup> For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then shall he render unto every man according to his deeds. <sup>28</sup> Verily I say unto you, there are some of them that stand here, who shall in no wise taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom. Matthew 16: 24-28 ASV

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*You are invited to join us!*

*We continue stedfastly in the apostles' teaching  
and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and  
prayers every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.*

*We study doctrine and pray every Wednesday at  
6:30 p.m.*