

October 15: Men who derived dominance from God

Bible passage: Judges 11: 1-11

Memory Verse: “Because we need you”, the elders replied. If you lead us in the battle against the Ammonites, we will make you ruler over all the people of Gilead”. Judges 11: 8 (NLT)

Just as Jabez turned his negative circumstance around by crying to God, today we read about Jephthah, a man ridiculed by his own step-brothers and battling the disadvantage of being born by a prostitute.

We know prostitution is a choice, often with many devastating consequences with which many discerning people would wish to disassociate from. May be the decision of his step brothers were justified? but surely must he be punished for the choice made by another as his mother was the prostitute and not himself? This is not unusual for the decisions of our parents and close associate affect us. **Read Exodus 20:5. Whether this is still applicable today or not, is a debate for another day.**

Is this quandary insurmountable? Jephthah proves it is not. Irrespective of the dilemma you face, it is surmountable. You can come out of the negative circumstances you find yourself.

What did Jephthah do? He turned his attention to God who gives power to control every- thing, circumstance and people who have the potential to derail us. The elders of Gilead looked for him and he took them to Mizpah , in the presence of God Judges 11: 5-7, 11 Why did they look for him and submit to him? Because they needed him. God gave Jephthah the ability to become a mighty warrior and this became the power to control and dominate the same people who tried to rip his heritage off him.

He left his earthly father for a season but clung on to the God of his father, his heavenly father. Maybe Gilead his father wanted to help but was helpless with the pressures from his sons! God was not helpless! He never is. some battles are not worth fighting, indeed there are many you cannot win on your own...but the WAR for your life MUST BE WON! He ceased fighting the battle for position in his father house and fought the WAR to accomplish his life’s purpose.

He was destined to be a commander , fighting great wars at the national level.... That was his life’s purpose and he stayed true to that course. Jephthah was a great

warrior... God taught him to become one and this good gift from the Lord gave him Power to control and dominate!

Let the Lord teach you from today and through this He will deliver into your hands the power to dominate.... The God's Kind of dominance

Prayer:

My father and my God, bestow upon me good gifts from above that will make stand out in my generation. Work in my life such that I would be celebrated in the same place I had been rejected. Help me to Focus only a things of eternal value and avoid the distraction that will derail me.