

Awakening to A Life of No Excuses!

Get Your Buts Out of the Way!

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It's time to wake up! Get Up! Show Up! And be present in your life!

Ephesians 5:14-16

Therefore He says, Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall shine (make day dawn) upon you and give you light. [Isa. 26:19; 60:1, 2.]

15 Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people),

16 Making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil.

In this new year, God is calling you and I to wake up out of our sleep. To rise above direct line of sight and see things the way God sees them!

Get Your But Out of the Way

1 Corinthians 16:13 - 14

Be alert and on your guard; stand firm in your faith (your conviction respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, keeping the trust and holy fervor born of faith and a part of it). Act like men and be courageous; grow in strength! Let everything you do be done in love (true love to God and man as inspired by God's love for us).

Hebrews 10:23

So let us seize and hold fast and retain without wavering the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgement of it, for He who promised is reliable (sure) and faithful to His word.

Think About the People Who Got Their Buts Out of the Way and did Great Things for God:

Joseph:

He had a dream. He was hated for his dream. He was sold in to slavery, sent to prison, and promoted to the palace.

Moses:

Exodus 3 & 4

God appeared to Moses in a burning bush. Moses thought no one would believe him. God said well, do all these signs, and I'll back you up. Moses says I'm not a good public speaker, you got to get someone else. God said, "I'll send your brother with you."

David:

David was young. He was anointed king and had to wait years before he received the promise. He slew Goliath, and then the current king started chasing him down to kill him. He didn't give up! He pushed through. He didn't kill his enemies when he had the chance. The let God take care of the king.

Jeremiah:

God wanted him to be a prophet to the nations. He said, "I'm too young. No one will listen to me."

Jeremiah 1:5

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

Jeremiah 1:19

And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith The Lord, to deliver thee.

Mary:

God wanted her to carry the Son of God. She said, but I am not even married. I'm engaged and you want me to do this?

Luke 1:37-38

For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment. Then Mary said, Behold, I am the handmaiden of The Lord; let it be done to me according to what you have said..."

Paul:

He went from persecuting christians to persuading people to be Christians. He was shipwrecked, snake bit, stoned, talked about, hated. Yet nothing moved him. He did complain about a thorn in the flesh a couple of times. And God's answer in

2 Corinthians 12:9

But He said to me, My grace (my favor and loving-kindness and mercy) is enough for you [sufficient against any danger and enables you to bear the trouble manfully]; for My strength and power are made perfect (fulfilled and completed) and show themselves most effective in (your) weakness. Therefore I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ (the Messiah) may rest (yes, may pitch a tent over and dwell) upon me!

// There are also people who didn't get their but out of the way, and they let the excuses take over: //

- The Children of Israel heading in to the promised land. Numbers 13

They thought they were grasshoppers. They said... "It's just like God said, BUT...."

- The Rich Young Ruler: Matthew 19

He couldn't give up his possessions. Instead of him having his stuff, his things had him. He went away sorrowfully because he had great possessions.

Excuses: to apologize for or justify one's behavior; to release from an obligation or duty; to seek an exemption.

Many times when it comes to the things of God, we tell ourselves, "oh, it's ok. God loves me! He will be ok if I _____ (fill in the blank)."

But God isn't looking for our excuses; He's looking for our obedience. He has equipped us and empowered us to live for Him and make Him look good in all things!

1 Samuel 15:22-23 AMP

Samuel said, Has the Lord as great a delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as idolatry and teraphim (household good luck images.) Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being King.