

Right Place, Right Time

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Scripture References

1 Peter 5:6, 7, *MSG*

Genesis 39:21

Ecclesiastes 9:11

Psalms 37:23, *AMPC*

1 Samuel 13:14

1 Samuel 17:26

Exodus 2:4-9, *AMPC*

Ruth 1:16

John 4:6, 7, 9, 10, 18, 22, 27-30, *AMPC*

Acts 9:3, 4

Luke 10:38-42, *AMPC*

Summary

God has a master plan for our lives, and it is hopeful and encouraging. He is an expert at opening doors and creating opportunities for us. We can benefit from this if we ask Him to direct our steps, so that we can be at the right place at the right time to seize the opportunity as it presents itself. When God gets involved, He pours out His blessings on us and causes good things to happen that we didn't expect. Being at the right place at just the right time allows God's power to keep us safe and protect us from the enemy's plans to destroy us. Acknowledging God lets Him meet us right where we are, shift things in our favor, and elevate us. Yielding to Him causes all elements in our lives to perfectly click into place in ways we could never accomplish on our own.

A. Following God's lead positions us for elevation and success. This is His will for us.

1. So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. Live carefree before God; he is most careful with you (1 Peter 5:6, 7, *MSG*).
 - a. Promotion comes by being at the right place at the right time. It comes from God, and happens when His hand is on us.
 - b. Joseph was one example of how God promotes those He favors. The circumstances he found himself in could not stop God from elevating him, because Joseph found favor with God (Genesis 39:21).
 - c. God's favor always outshines any plot of the enemy. When this happens, we see His hand at work in our lives.
 - d. God's plan always prevails over the enemy's plan.
 - e. I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all (Ecclesiastes 9:11).
2. The steps of a [good] man are directed *and* established by the Lord when He delights in his way [and He busies Himself with his every step] (Psalms 37:23, *AMPC*).
 - a. We must let God direct and establish our steps, just like He did with the steps of Joseph, Moses, and David.
 - b. David was not perfect, but he was a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14).
 - c. As a boy, when David left his shepherding duties to fight against Goliath, God was positioning him for elevation and promotion.

- d. ...For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God? (1 Samuel 17:26).
- e. David answered God's call, confident that God would meet him right where he was. When David stepped onto the battlefield, God showed up with him.

B. Moses, the Samaritan woman, and Saul all were in the right place at the right time.

1. And his sister [Miriam] stood some distance away to learn what would be done to him. Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, and her maidens walked along the bank; she saw the ark among the rushes and sent her maid to fetch it. When she opened it, she saw the child; and behold, the baby cried. And she took pity on him and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children! Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call a nurse of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you? Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the girl went and called the child's mother. Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Take this child away and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages. So the woman took the child and nursed it (Exodus 2:4-9, *AMPC*).
 - a. As an infant, Moses could have been killed. However, he was in the right place at the right time because God got involved.
 - b. God's plan prevailed; He opened a door and caused Moses to experience deliverance.
 - c. Ruth is another example of someone who allowed God to direct her steps. She connected with Naomi, and accepted Naomi's God as her God.
 - d. And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God (Ruth 1:16).
 - e. When Ruth was in the field, she met Boaz. When we acknowledge God, He arranges for us to meet the people we need to meet. He wants to intervene in our everyday affairs.
2. And Jacob's well was there. So Jesus, tired as He was from His journey, sat down [to rest] by the well. It was then about the sixth hour (about noon). Presently, when a woman of Samaria came along to draw water, Jesus said to her, Give Me a drink...The Samaritan woman said to Him, How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan [and a] woman, for a drink?—For the Jews have nothing to do with the Samaritans—Jesus answered her, If you had only known *and* had recognized God's gift and Who this is that is saying to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him [instead] and He would have given you living water...For you have had five husbands, and the man you are now living with is not your husband. In this you have spoken truly...You [Samaritans] do not know what you are worshiping [you worship what you do not comprehend]. We do know what we are worshiping [we worship what we have knowledge of and understand], for [after all] salvation comes from [among] the Jews....Just then His disciples came and they wondered (were surprised, astonished) to find Him talking with a woman [a married woman]. However, not one of them asked Him, What are You inquiring about? *or* What do You want? *or*, Why do You speak with her? Then the woman left her water jar and went away to the town. And she began telling the people, Come, see a Man Who has told me everything that I ever did! Can this be [is not this] the Christ? [Must not this be the Messiah, the Anointed One?] So the people left the town and set out to go to Him (John 4: 6, 7, 9, 10, 18, 22, 27-30, *AMPC*).
 - a. The Samaritan woman's life was changed from her encounter with Jesus at the well; we need our *own* encounter with Jesus.

- b. Jesus deliberately went out of His way to go to Samaria so that He could remove burdens and destroy yokes.
- c. The woman was at the right place at the right time, and she experienced divine intervention. Jesus elevated her; He called her out of a dead relationship and made her an evangelist with an assignment from God. He empowered her to influence others.
- d. Saul had a similar life-changing experience when he met Jesus on the road to Damascus. Saul changed his plans when Jesus' light shone on him.
- e. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? (Acts 9:3, 4).
- f. The light transformed Saul from the inside out, and his life was never the same after that. He was at the right place at the right time.

C. Mary positioned herself in the right place at the right time to hear God's Word.

1. Now while they were on their way, it occurred that Jesus entered a certain village, and a woman named Martha received *and* welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and was listening to His teaching. But Martha [overly occupied and too busy] was distracted with much serving; and she came up to Him and said, Lord, is it nothing to You that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me [to lend a hand and do her part along with me]! But the Lord replied to her by saying, Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; There is need of only one *or but a few things*. Mary has chosen the good portion [that which is to her advantage], which shall not be taken away from her (Luke 10:38-42, *AMPC*).
 - a. Mary was in the right place; by comparison, Martha was in a different place with a different mindset and different intentions.
 - b. In Martha's mind, Mary was at the wrong place at the wrong time. Martha wanted Mary to be as distracted and busy as she was. However, Mary recognized what was really important—God's Word.
2. Expectation is the breeding ground for miracles.
 - a. One touch of God's favor can fast-forward our lives to where He wants us to be. He provides the "and suddenly" moments in our lives.
 - b. God can change people's hearts; He can cause those who don't like us to change their minds about us. He can create favorable situations that neither we, nor anyone else, could see coming.
 - c. God can cause opportunities to find us simply because we are the right person doing the right thing at the right time.

For more on how being where God wants us to be positions us to receive promotion and elevation, click on the link below for the CD, *Right Place, Right Time*.

<http://bit.ly/RightPlaceRightTimeCD>

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