

Giants

#0142

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—February 9, 1979

If you were going along a path or sidewalk and you would see a ten-dollar bill lying down there, would you stop to think whether you really had any need for it, or would you pick it up? In case you didn't have any immediate need for it, would you think you might use it sometime in the future? I think most of us have such thoughts.

Tonight I'm going to share something with you worth much more than a ten-dollar bill, but it could be that there are some people here tonight that won't need it tonight. Why did God bring you here? To put it in your pocket to take it home to use it when you *will* need it because everybody that's here tonight is going to need the message you're going to hear. Some of you will need it tonight; some of you will need it some other time.

Our text is in the third chapter of Judges. You remember the apostle Paul writing in the New Testament in his epistle to the Romans says:

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope” Romans 15:4.

I'm so glad for all these interesting stories that God put in the Old Testament, Genesis and so on through, and here in the books of Joshua and Judges, we read the wonderful experiences of the conquest of Canaan and the succeeding events.

You'll remember (before we read here in just a moment) that the Lord took Israel out of Egypt under Moses and promised to take them through, but because of their unbelief, their entrance into Canaan was delayed. The journey that two years was plenty for, took them 40 years, 40 years.

Do you remember what it was that caused that early generation to faint and fail? Yes, but what was it that frightened them? The giants, the giants in the land of Canaan. Were there really giants there? Oh yes. In fact, the ten spies said, “Really, as we looked at them, we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers” [a paraphrase of Numbers 13:33], remnants of those giants that had peopled the earth long before.

I suppose some of them were twice as tall as the average man today, big fellows. And in the days before gun powder and rockets and all that, it meant something to have the advantage of size. The man that was big and powerful like that, with all his weight and his ability to get around armed with spears and swords and all that, was quite something to meet. And so, humanly speaking, we can understand how it was that the hosts of Israel fainted and got discouraged.

But there were two men that said, “We saw the giants, but we know we can do it.” Who were they? Caleb and Joshua. And the sequel of that is that 40 years later, after much of Canaan had been conquered, Caleb came to his old fellow-soldier Joshua, who was the commander of Israel, and he said, “Joshua, I have a request to make. Down there at Hebron, there’s a fortress where those giants live, the remnant of the giants.” And he said, “I wish you’d let me conquer that as my special project.” And Joshua, of course, let him do it, and that became the headquarters of Caleb and his section of the tribe after the conquest.

Well now, in our text tonight, we’re in the land of Canaan. Joshua has led the people north and south and east and west. And the children of Israel are settled in their different parts of the country that’s been given to them. But there’s a fly in the ointment. There’s something that keeps them from singing the song of universal rejoicing and universal peace. Let’s see what it is:

“Now these are the nations which the LORD left, to prove Israel by them, even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan” Judges 3:1.

He left those nations, some of them, in the land of Canaan to prove Israel.

“Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof; Namely, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baalhermon unto the entering in of Hamath” Judges 3:2–3.

Several nations were left, and they were to prove Israel, and what else does it say they were for? Give them an opportunity to do what? To learn war. Well, hadn’t they already learned war? Yes. The adults had. But there were some children coming along. And so, after the land had been largely conquered, God said to Joshua, “Now, we’ll leave a few for laboratory material for the next generation. We’ll give them an opportunity to learn some of the same lessons that this generation has learned in the conquest of Canaan.”

That’s a very interesting principle, dear friends, that God uses the problems, the trials, the opposition, and all these other things that we lament and wish weren’t around, He uses them, as I say, as laboratory material to teach precious lessons. After all, life is a school.

And my purpose in studying this with you tonight is this, dear friends. Every one of us, sooner or later, we come into a situation, into an institution, or into a home, or into a church, or into a Sabbath school, we come into a situation, and we are given certain responsibilities or opportunities. And as we take hold, we find that some people had had those responsibilities or opportunities before we did. And we begin to wonder why they didn’t do more with them. We begin to say, “Why did they leave so much unfinished? Why did they leave so much unfinished?”

And this verse gives us a key. Wouldn't it be too bad, dear friends, if the students in a school got the problems all solved so fully that there were no problems left for next year's students. Really not much danger, is there, because the textbook writers see to that. But God is giving us not imaginary problems but real problems, and every one of us is meeting problems from day to day. And I like to believe, and I rejoice in the fact that God has tailor-made those problems because He wants to teach me certain lessons.

Now, the lessons themselves may be things that God is not responsible for. God wasn't responsible for the wickedness of the Philistines and the Sidonians and the Hivites. They had rebelled against Him; they were ready for destruction. But with all their rebellion, they had something that God could use. He presented them to the new generation of Israelites and said, "Here's your opportunity to learn what your fathers learned. They learned it with the people at Jericho and Gilgal and Bethel, and the other nations that were conquered under Joshua. Now, you're going to learn those same lessons, or at least you have the opportunity to learn them."

Another significant word is in the second line of that first verse. What is it? P-R-O-V-E. What's that? Prove. God presents problems to us to prove us, to see what we'll do with them. There are various things we can do. Suppose I move into a house, and I begin to think, "I wish that the people that lived in this house before I did had left it cleaner." But then, I wouldn't have so much opportunity to clean, would I?

Or "I wish that they hadn't let the paint peel off. I wish that they had this and that and the other." Those are all perfectly natural wishes, and in a sense, good. Wouldn't it be nice if everybody in the world had everything all kept up? Wouldn't it be wonderful? Certainly, we should encourage it.

But it's just like the Lord to let some of us move into a situation where somebody let things run down. He just doesn't have enough people to keep things up. Or, to state it the other way around, the training ground He uses to teach us some of these lessons is to put us in situations where we need to apply ourselves to building up the old waste places. Is there a prophecy about that? That's right.

Maybe in our institutional work, we are moved into responsibilities, in nursing, in the business office, on the farm, in the kitchen, and the temptation comes to us to think, "What was the matter with our predecessors anyway? Why have they left so many problems?" Well, indeed. We might answer with a smile, "So I'd have something to do." If all the problems had been solved, what would there be left for me to do?

But I'll tell you a little secret, friends. If time lingers (which I hope it doesn't that long), but if time lingers very long, you in turn, will turn over your responsibilities to somebody, and your successor will be wondering why you left so many problems for them to deal with. Yes, they will. Yes, they will.

These new ones that came along, they might have said, "Well, I wish our fathers had taken care of the Philistines." And didn't the Philistines make a lot of problems for the children of Israel? Oh, yes. For years and decades and centuries, in fact, they made problems. For two reasons: first, the first generation hadn't dealt

with them. But the second problem was the second generation didn't deal with them as they should. They made peace with them. Sometimes they ruled over them, sometimes the Philistines ruled over them. But they established a sort of an adjustment. They got used to living with them, and God never intended any such thing for they were idolaters and were leading the children of Israel into heathenism again and again.

You think of poor Samson. Poor Samson? Yes. The strongest man physically that the Bible tells us anything about. The Lord raised him up to deal with the Philistine problem, and what did he do? He dealt with it, but they dealt with him. And he ended up conquered by the wiles of Delilah, a slave to his appetites and passions, and finally with his eyes gouged out helping to grind grain there for the Philistines, going around and around and around like some big animal moving the mill. Oh friends, God gave him an opportunity to solve problems that previous generations had not solved, and he didn't do it. He didn't do it.

Now, what are you going to do with your problems? In your home? In your Sabbath school? In your church? In the elementary school? In your department? Wherever you live, on-campus or off-campus, dealing with little things or big things, you are following in the footsteps of your predecessors, and your successors are coming after. Are you going to solve the problems that have been left to you, or are you going to lose time blaming your predecessors for not accomplishing everything? Are you going to thank God for the opportunities?

I read something interesting here in *Volume 5*, page 406.

“Do the work that is nearest you. Do not overlook present golden opportunities and let your life prove a failure while you sit idly dreaming of ease and success in a work for which God has never fitted you... Men and women are wanted now who are as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men and women who will work without having their way smoothed and every obstacle removed” *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*, page 406.

I was interested in an experience that happened about the turn of the century over in Scandinavia. Our publishing house in the capital of Norway became involved in financial problems, and about the same time, our sanitarium at Skodsborg in Denmark became involved in financial problems.

You can read about this in *Volume 6* of the Testimonies. The prophet of God was inspired by the Holy Spirit to write to our people all over the world, earnest appeals to get in and help the brethren in Norway with the publishing house, and to help the brethren and sisters there in Skodsborg, Denmark, with the sanitarium. I want to read just a few sentences from it. It's very interesting:

“At Skodsborg, a suburb of Copenhagen, Denmark, our brethren have established a sanitarium” *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6*, page 463.

Then, she tells about how they moved forward hopefully and believing that the work needed to be done, and it says:

“... [They] have moved forward faster than the means in hand warranted, and now they are in difficulty and distress”
Ibid.

“Well, they’d better learn. They’d better learn. They went ahead too fast. Now, they’re involved in debt. Leave them there. They’ll learn the hard way.”

No. Listen:

“Because our brethren have made mistakes, shall we leave them alone to bear the consequences of their miscalculations? Is this the way in which Christ has dealt with us?” *Ibid.*

And then, notice the illustration she uses:

“When one burdened with a heavy load is at the foot of a difficult hill, surrounded with discouragements, and in need of strong, cheerful helpers, much time is often wasted in criticism, scolding, and fretting. But this does not move the load. The ones upon whom the pressure rests most heavily do not need or deserve the censure. This might more appropriately fall upon those who should have shared the burden earlier. But even then censure might be inappropriate, and it would certainly be useless. Our first thought should be, How can we help to lift the load?” *Ibid.*, pages 463–464.

What should our first thought be?

“How can we help to lift the load?” *Ibid.*

The question of who to blame is not the great question. The question is, “Here’s a load. How’s it going to be lifted? Here’s something that needs to be moved. How’s it going to be done?”

“Our first thought should be, How can we help to lift the load? Time is precious. There is too much at stake to run the risk of delay” *Ibid.*

Well, I’m thankful that our brethren all over the world rallied in answer to this appeal of the prophet. And our publishing house in Norway and our sanitarium in Denmark were saved to the work and went forward and have done a precious work through all these nearly 80 years since. Oh brethren, isn’t it wonderful that we can help one another? The Bible says:

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2.

Do you know if the only work we had to do?... Well, let me state it the other way around. If we were to lose the blessings that come from making up for the deficiencies of others, there are some things about the love of God and the character of God that we couldn't understand.

"Constantly God is laboring to make up our deficiencies"
Review and Herald, December 1, 1904.

I'm so glad He does that with me. What do you say?

Well then, if we're to be God-like (that's what godliness is, to be God-like), will we be interested in making up the deficiencies of others? Sure, we will. And if in God's providence we're put in charge of some work in the church, in the Sabbath school, in the home, in the institution, and we see some weaknesses that are (either actually are or we think they are) the result of failures on the part of others, then is the opportunity for us, with as little noise as possible and as little blame as possible and as little criticism as possible, to just get in and make it shine for God. What do you say?

Now, what did I tell you when we started this evening about that ten-dollar bill on the sidewalk? We pick it up whether we need it right now or not. Is that right? Sure. Stick this in your pocket. You'll need it sometime.

In the book *Prophets and Kings*, page 228, I read a wonderful comment on the transfer of leadership from Elijah to Elisha. You remember that Elisha followed the prophet Elijah for years, the younger man being with the older man, and they reestablished the schools of the prophets, and God blessed their ministry. But there came a time when the Lord was ready to take Elijah to heaven, translated him, just one of two men that have ever had that experience so far. Anybody here getting ready to have that experience? We trust so.

Well now, here are some precious lessons. Elisha stayed right with Elijah. And especially as he drew near that time of translation, he was given the opportunity to be deflected or diverted, but nothing could change his purpose. He said, "I want a double portion. I want a special blessing like Elijah's had" [a paraphrase of 2 Kings 2:9.]. And he got it. Thank the Lord.

Now, notice the comment:

"When the Lord in His providence sees fit to remove from His work those to whom He has given wisdom, He helps and strengthens their successors..." *Prophets and Kings*, page 228.

What's a successor? One who follows after.

"...if they will look to Him for aid and will walk in His ways. They may be even wiser than their predecessors; for they may

profit by their experience and learn wisdom from their mistakes" *Ibid.*

And may I suggest, dear friends, one of the greatest pieces of wisdom you and I can learn is not to talk about the mistakes of our predecessors. May I repeat that? One of the greatest pieces of wisdom that we can learn is not to talk about the mistakes of our predecessors. If we see some way we can learn from them, let's learn the lesson. What do you say? And as we do that, God will bless us. He'll bless us.

Here's another way in which God gives us opportunities. It isn't always the mistakes of others; it's the misfortunes of others that supply us with laboratory materials.

"God in His providence has afflicted individuals to test and prove others" *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1*, page 273.

That's something to chew on for a while, isn't it? Like a piece of vegaroast. You can just get your teeth into that and chew on it for a while.

"God in His providence has afflicted individuals to test and prove others. Widows and invalids are in the church to prove a blessing to the church" *Ibid.*

That's interesting. Most people looking at it would think it was so the church would prove a blessing to them. And it has that aspect. But here, guided by the angel of revelation, the prophet looks behind the scenes and discerns the providence of God. Why would God allow somebody to get sick? Or have an accident? Or be bereaved? Oh, there are many reasons. They're not all that I'm reading here, but some of them are. What is a possible explanation, a possible benefit? Oh, they are to test and prove other people.

What is a test for? To find out something. Why are we proved? To discover what we will do with opportunities. You remember that Jesus told that story of the Good Samaritan. It was a real story, too—I mean a real experience. The priest and the Levite Jesus talked about were in the audience that He was talking to. And there was that man, beaten and left robbed and wounded by the wayside. And the priest came along, and he didn't even stop. He was on his way in the service of God. He missed the opportunity to do service to a wounded and helpless brother who may have been dying.

The Levite came along, and what did he do? He stopped. He looked. You know, we're told that he even wished he hadn't come that way. That's right. His heart was affected more than the priest, but it never got to his feet and hands. It just affected his thoughts. He went along, too.

And then came that Samaritan. Like the priest, he'd come there not knowing what he was to meet. Like the Levite, he stopped and looked. But unlike both of them, he *did* something. He was challenged by the need, and he met the need. And

to each of us is spoken the word that Christ spoke to the man to whom he was telling this story, "...Go, and do thou likewise" (Luke 10:37).

It's a wonderful thing, friends, to be watching day by day for the providence of God. And may I tell you something? If you haven't thought about it, just watch it next week. Many of the opportunities you have are due either to the failures of others or to circumstances that nobody could either foretell or forestall, problems of all kinds. They're happening all around us. The world is full of them.

Think of the problems in the Middle East. Think of the problems in Northern Ireland. Think of the problems in Vietnam and Cambodia. But there's perhaps nothing that you can do about those problems. They're far away. But there are problems where you live, where you work, where you attend worship. There are problems, friends, some of them due to the failures of others, some of them due to things that nobody could prevent.

But whatever the reason, God has let you come in contact with those problems to test you and prove you, to see whether you will blame and criticize, or whether you will simply lament and wring your hands in anguish. Or whether you will like Caleb, say, "Give me that mountain. I'll take care of those giants," or like the Good Samaritan, say (he didn't have to say; there was nobody to talk to, the man was probably unconscious) but he said to himself, "By God's grace, I'll help this man." And he did it. Oh friends, I'm glad that you and I can meet the problems of life as they come.

Now, it's true that the world is getting so full of laboratory material of this kind that no *one* of us can solve all the problems we hear about. We can't even solve all the problems we see. We need the Spirit of God to help us to know which one to undertake.

I was thinking about it. A mother might have a crying baby, and she might think that her immediate job was to look after that crying baby. But without a moment's warning, some emergency could happen. The telephone could ring, and she'd be off to meet that great emergency. Any problem that we're facing must be weighed in the light of what else is demanding our attention. But if we are willing to be used by the Lord, He will help us to find the place where we can meet the need in the very best way. And he has promised:

"...Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world"
Matthew 28:20.

I love to think of the example of Jesus. How considerate He was. How thoughtful of the needs of others. How willing to be interrupted. I think of Him that day when He had tried to get away from the press and the rush of it all. He'd taken the disciples and gone out in the country where they could be alone. But they weren't alone very long. The multitude noticed where they'd gone and came with ships and some on foot trying to get there. They wanted healing and they wanted teaching. And the dear Savior, in His *infinite* love and mercy, took them in and ministered to them all day, and then at the close of the day fed them with that multiplied bread from the little boy's basket.

How willing, I say, Jesus was to be interrupted. How he took hold of the opportunities, the needs, and how He tried to encourage His disciples in that. You remember that that day He said to them at the close of the day, “Where are we going to find the bread to feed these people?”

The disciples, though, all they could think of was alibis. They had good ones. They said, “In the first place, we don’t have enough money, and in the second place, there’s no food around here. We’d better send them on home.”

“But Jesus said... Give ye them to eat” Matthew 14:16.

Oh, what a loving, loving Savior we have. And if you and I will be willing as that little boy was that Andrew found, if you and I will be willing to bring what we have to Jesus and let Him use it, we may be surprised at how He takes our little barley loaves and multiplies them in the act of giving. As we impart, our talents will increase. As we use what He has given us, He will give us more.

There’s one thing about water in a pipe, friends. There’s only one way in all the world to get any more water in that pipe. Do you know what it is? You have to let some out. So, if we desire to have more blessings, we’re to share with others what we have: in the home, in the church, in the institution, in the community, wherever the need arises.

Now friends, I want to be very practical. You know, what I’ve studied with you tonight will not work unless you and I are under the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit of God. He will help us to be at the right place at the right time with the right word. The same God that took Philip from Samaria and sent him down on the road to Gaza to find that one man riding in the chariot will help you and me to be where we belong to meet the need, wherever God sees that we can best fit in at that particular time.

So, let us be willing to be interrupted. Let us be willing to take on the problems that we come in contact with. Let us be willing to do what perhaps is most difficult, to take on jobs that others have had ahead of us and have left us some Philistines to deal with, left us some giants that they didn’t slaughter or slay. And God can help us as He did Caleb to meet the challenge in the Spirit of Jesus. What do you say?

All right. Now, we’ll have a little witnessing time. Let’s see what God impresses you to say of your faith and courage in Jesus tonight.

[Man from congregation] The saying has been around for a long time that if the shoe fits, put it on. I’m very hard to fit. I’ve worn a 13 triple-A, but I think that I found a shoe, and I want to put it on and take advantage of it.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you, brother. That was an eloquent response—thirteen triple-A.

[Woman from congregation] You just said a few words that really touched my heart that we could be, I might not say it exactly how you just said it, but you said that we'd be at the right place when the Lord wanted us to be in the right place.

[Elder Frazee] That's right.

[Woman continuing] And I found today this true. I am here because God wants me here, and from here, I know God's going to lead us, my husband and I, wherever He wants us to go, and praise the Lord.

[Elder Frazee] God bless you, sister.

[Woman from congregation] Elder Frazee, this is a hard saying tonight. I had a terrific problem this afternoon, probably one of the hardest I've ever had to deal with, and it still isn't over, but Larry prayed and said, "Lord, help us to lay aside these things." And then, you spoke tonight and told us to take these problems and deal with them, so I can't let it go, and I can't deal with it, either. But I'm thankful that I serve a God who has said, "My grace is sufficient for thee." I thank you for this message. I thank the Lord for this message. I know that He can take care of the problem.

[Elder Frazee] God bless you.

Desire of Ages, 667:

"... In every difficulty we are to see a call to prayer" *Desire of Ages*, page 667.

Say it with me:

"... In every difficulty we are to see a call to prayer" *Ibid*.

So, if I have one difficulty in the day, I have one call to prayer. But if five come up, then I have five calls to prayer. God's really trying to get to me, isn't He? I must not forget what the call is, and I must not forget what the difficulties are for.

[Man from congregation] I was called upon this week to face a situation which I didn't feel capable of myself, and there didn't seem to be much background that was going to help me, as far as things compiled and answers to what I was asked to look into, but after tonight's meeting I'm looking forward to the experience the Lord has in mind in calling me to this problem and this need, and I'm hoping with His help to gain a rich experience.

[Elder Frazee] Good, brother. Just think, down in the time of David, way after the time of Caleb and Joshua, there were still a few giants around, and young David went out and took care of one of them, didn't he? And the Lord's going to let you take care of a giant or two.

[Man continuing] Amen.

[Woman from congregation] When I have an opportunity to praise the Lord in front of many people, I always want to take advantage of it because once I read that every testimony that we have in front of a group will be recorded in heaven. And you know, personally, I'm stingy. I want to get as many as I can. But that's not the reason I'm up here for. I want to praise the Lord and thank Him for something that Elder Frazee said which struck me this way.

You know, I'm only a baby in this faith, but I really praise the Lord for these good old warriors that teach us so many things because, you know, these lessons that we can learn now through somebody else we won't have to go through if we want to take them and learn them, and I thank the Lord that we have people like Elder Frazee who teach us many lessons that we do not have to walk through if we take ahold of them.

[Elder Frazee] I'm still going to school, sister, so I welcome you as a fellow student.

[Man from congregation] I greatly appreciate the thought we're not to dwell on the mistakes and the failures of our predecessors. I know I have done this at times but what good was done? Now, if I learn some of the mistakes of my brethren and profit by them, that's all right, but not to make that my sermon material or my subject of conversation or even the subject of my dream matter. By the grace of God, I want to be positive and dwell on the good traits of my brethren but quietly learn from their mistakes.

[Elder Frazee] I want this man to say a little bit. I've got something for him to do pretty soon. All right, brother.

[Man from congregation] Well, Elder Frazee, I'm going to have to acknowledge that I have been complaining for two weeks about my predecessors.

[Elder Frazee] Well, I didn't know it, brother, but God knew it.

[Man continuing] You know, we have in the press some little things called plates, and if any of you would like to know what plates are, you are welcome to come up, and I'll be glad to show you what they are.

About three weeks ago, we sent out a letter to all of our good friends all over the world, and we put a little three-letter word on it. It says, "Address correction requested." Any of you ever heard of that? Well, we didn't realize that there were about 13 to 1400 people, you know, in this great movement that had moved, and so we sent this letter out and, you know, they came back.

And as we were looking up these names (here's where the predecessors came in), we found out that, you know, sometimes (this is a little plate)—we found out that somebody along the way as they were writing the name up on top of the plate went to sleep between the bottom of the plate and the top of the plate, and they would put the wrong zip code up here and had the right one down here.

And you know, I thought some bad things, and I know and hope that the Lord—I know He will forgive me, and I'm expressing that now. I'm glad to have the strength to keep working at it.

[Elder Frazee] Listen. Don't leave any mistakes for your successor [laughter].

[Woman from congregation] I remember two and a half years ago when we moved to Wildwood, some of the thoughts and expressions that went through my mind about the first house that we lived in. I'm sure it's gone through many of yours. And the Lord has given me eight chances now at Wildwood, all of them in the past year, to find out what it's like to move and what *you've* left behind.

And I'm so thankful to all of you who've been so patient with us, as we seem to always move in a hurry and leave a terrible mess for the rest of you to clean up, and I'm so thankful, too, for the blessings the Lord has given us in fellowship along the way. Our life has been so enriched with the people that we've met and lived with at Wildwood. I'm just thankful that He keeps teaching us.

And I've also learned that sometimes He has to move us out of the way in the positions we're in so that those who are around us can grow, and that's a hard lesson to learn, but sometimes it's a real blessing to see that you've been hindering others.

[Elder Frazee] God bless you, sister.

[Woman from congregation] Well, I thank the Lord for testimony time, and I just couldn't keep silent. I was just thinking as Elder Frazee was talking and afterward of an experience that I've been going through the last few months.

I guess I've been a person that nothing has too much daunted. Things didn't bother me too much. And I've always been a person that has never really gotten discouraged, but the last few months, because of my health and other pressures, I guess my faith has faltered a bit, and I just thank the Lord for the experiences of the last two or three weeks. I've seen the Lord guiding developments.

I'm connected with an outpost in northern Minnesota, and the Lord has really shown His hand the last few weeks, and things are happening, and they're bringing me to Wildwood to get some tests. And I just thank the Lord for His guidance, and I want to share a text with you that has always been a favorite text of mine, Philippians 4:4:

“Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice”
Philippians 4:4.

It's my thing tonight. I'm rejoicing in the Lord.

[Elder Frazee] Thank you, sister, thank you. All right. You know what we're going to be looking at all through eternity in the Savior's hands? Scars, scars. You know what those scars tell us? What the deity did to pick up the failures of humanity

and bring glory out of shame, and victory out of defeat, and light out of darkness and success out of failure. That's the message of the cross. And Jesus is inviting us to share with Him in that ministry.

Now, Brother Boykin and I are going to sing you a little song. This is unrehearsed, but I have something I want to sing.

“When my life work is ended and I cross the swelling tide,
When this mortal puts on immortality;
I shall know my Redeemer when I reach the other side,
And His smile will be the first to welcome me.

I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
As redeemed by His side I shall stand;
I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
By the print of the nails in His hand.

Thro' the gates to the city in a robe of spotless white,
He will lead me where no tears shall ever fall;
In the glad song of ages I shall mingle with delight,
But I long to meet my Savior first of all.

I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
As redeemed by His side I shall stand;
I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
By the print of the nails in His hand.”
“My Savior First of All” by Fanny Crosby.

How many would like to send Him the word tonight that we're with Him to change failures into success and defeats into victory? God bless you.

Let's stand.

[Brother Boykin] Our kind heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the presence of Jesus here to give us cheer, to give us courage for the future. We all face giants, difficulties, problems. They are increasing. The Devil has it this way, and the Lord is permitting it to develop our characters. And as the intensity increases, may we cling the harder to Jesus as He clung to His Father.

Dismiss us with Thy blessing now, in the name of Jesus, amen.

[Elder Frazee] Happy Sabbath to you.

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