

THE TIME IS NOW

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Judges 7: 1-9, 16-22

Every one of us has an innate propensity to succeed. It's not strange to have this inclination. Scripture supports this Prov 16:3. What you are feeling going into the New Year is substantiated by scripture. Gen 39:23 Although we have these desires, there are things that we think we need that we really don't need. The things that you think God will use to advance you in your success could be your demise. If there is promise and destiny in your life, it does not take a lot of stuff.

Give God your willingness and He will birth the destiny. When promise meets your faith, watch what God will do. Many spend lives trying to accumulate the things they need that they think will make them advance. What did Moses have in his hand? A staff. What you have is all you need. Most of us are walking with a staff in our hand and asking for more and God is asking, "What are you doing with what I've given you?"

You will do more in 2007 with less. The enemy thinks he is taking something from you, but you aren't losing. You're trying to figure out where all your friends have gone and why the resources are shrinking. God is not calling you to make your ends meet. He says, seek me in all your ways and I will lead you.

It feels as though 2006 was a period of stripping. It was not a loss, it was a gain. Everything in the kingdom is diametrically opposed. You didn't lose; it is just a setup for what God will do in 2007.

God called Gideon to do something that defied the natural. God called Gideon to step out of himself so that he could step into himself. He called him to abandon his old way of thinking. When God called Abraham, he called him to leave his comfort zone. Why? God called him to be the father of many nations, but the people around him only knew him as Abram and would treat him as such. The Lord is orchestrating something in 2007 to cause you to think differently than you used to think... to step out of the old new and step into the new you.

The old you will try to catch up to the new you to bring you back. All of the challenges that you are going through are there to set you up for the next level. 31,700 folk that Gideon thought he needed did not need to be there. There are some folk around you who are not going to be able to stay around you in 2007.

In chapter 6, Gideon blows a trumpet and calls all the fighting men together. 32,000 men showed up. Later he finds himself with 300. You think you need a lot to make it happen, but when God is ready to elevate you, it's not about the stuff it's about His timing.

Gideon went out to battle with 300 men who were equipped with horns, jars, and torches. What kind of conversation were they having in route to battle with that equipment? He went to battle not only with a minimal artillery, but also with 300 men who had already been defeated by the Midianites. Then, when he got the call to go, he was hiding in a winepress.

Being called in the place of defeat, God said, the time is now for the tables to be turned. The folk who once destroyed you can't stop you now. God is made strong in our weakness. It's you; it's now! Even as Gideon was hiding in the winepress, his time had come. You have spent all of 2006 hiding and in pain, but the time is now.

Gideon told the team to, "watch me." In faith, he took the lead. It's time for the battle cry. You don't have to wait to figure out how to do it. The time is now!

Gideon was stripped of everything he had so that he could move to his next level. Now that you've been stripped, you are ready to move to your next level. It is going to be very difficult for you fail in 2007.

Gideon had to be moved out of the natural so that he could stand in the spiritual. When you operate in the Spirit, you cannot fail. It's time to get closer to God. There is a process to prepare for your now time. Your prayer life has to intensify. You have to live on the Word and meditate on it day and night. Do it now!