

Wed 08 March 2023 MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

11:30 Service

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John 17v1-9

I would like us to look at the matter that touches us who are called by Him. That is the one who has been sent and the one who is being sent.

The HS revealed this – let us look at this matter of being called.

God's word tells us that all have been called to come out of darkness into the kingdom of light.

All have been called to come out of life of sin and some of those are called to specific task for God. Jesus did not only have twelve disciples – there were 70 others. Pay careful attention to the fact that Jesus specially worked with these 12. Out of these he chose 3 to work more with them. There are different places where the Lord has called you and me. We have heard "as I have called you, so I send you". Jesus refers to the 12. He did not say the others were not sent. All of us have been sent in different forms. Those specially anointed to preach the gospel – that's what I want to speak about.

Understand God has chosen you to a higher calling – but you are not better. We are all part of one body.

There are two points I want to mention – if these don't go well God's work does not go well.

All have been sent, all called out of sin. In your church you are to preach the kingdom of God.

Let's look at the sender, the messenger, the one anointed and the one sent out. Anointed means taken out of others to do a specific work. Chosen specifically. You must know the One who has called you. We sometimes don't know the One who calls us. There are different doctrines in different churches – we go by our own ways. We testify we have been called but can't say who it is who calls us.

When God calls one he wants to use look at Moses. Look at the time Moses spent with Lord when they got to know each other – it was as if time paused. Moses had a question about the burning bush. God's answer did not answer why the bush was burning but he spoke about Moses calling. Moses asked, "Who am I?" When he got he answer he then asked, "but God who are you?" Moses needed to know the One sending him so he could represent Him.

With us Africans – there are times we are anointed for different reasons but never called by God. Circumstance or need makes you jump into the position. The question arises: have we put a person there or has God called Him? Moses asked questions three times. He said he couldn't speak and asked what God wanted him to say to Pharaoh. Each one called can ask questions. If we don't we will make mistakes along the way.

Who has called us? This causes confusion along the way. In the work we do how can you see the one who has been called and he has been anointed? Has he truly heard who he has been called by? Some here don't know what they have been called for. Isa 61 Jesus received a message before He was born. He knew what He would do before He was born. He instructed the disciples specifically. What kind of calling is it if you don't know what you are called for? In Judges 6 Gideon wanted assurance that it was God's voice he was hearing. We need to get that assurance and know who has called us and know this One. Look at Jesus – He was the one to come to this earth. Isa 61 Spirit of

God has anointed Him and placed Him. In Luke 3 he knew God had sent Him. A whole host of angels was going with Him. Jesus knew His mission. Jesus was baptized and the voice confirmed Him as God's son. There is confirmation that Jesus was sent. John 4, 6, 7 mention Jesus knowing the Father had sent Him. He knows who had sent Him. It will not be easy to know we have been sent if we have not heard the voice of the One who sent us. Some have not heard that voice. God's word says men worship their stomachs because they don't know what they are sent for. We are troubled and we have problems that they gather in the name of Jesus but do not pass on the message. They take the money and leave. Know the One who calls you.

Another way you will know this One who calls and the one who is called is that you will understand the message and what it is. You will not go on your way without knowing that which you must pass on. His goal must be my goal. When I get to the congregation I must meet His goal not my own. They will know you are sent by God. They will know by the way you do things.

I want to mention the chosen. There must be ministers who really get the power. They have no power because they don't know the One who has sent them. They are just imitating. Samuel thought many of Jesse's children were the one but God did not look with the eyes but looked at the heart. Ask Father, you have given me this, why are you sending me? When God has called us there needs to be a light. Take note when you are called. What is the One who called you saying to you? You need a message. If we have not been called in the right way, perhaps you just like God's work. It's good to know who He has called you for and to whom He has sent you. If we don't, we'll speak our own things. Maybe we just want to be honoured, called a prophet or an apostle. But you haven't heard what you are sent for.

Eph 4 v12 mentions equipping the saints for the ministry for building up the body of Christ. When anointed by Christ what have you been given these gifts for. It's pleasant to be called a man of God. You just see this person is important. He's not using the gifts in the right way. The messenger needs to pass on the message. Look at the message. We need to be sent with a message.

Knowing the people. Jesus said He prayed that God would remain with the people. Fight for this that God is with us. Prosperity gets in the way. Pride comes over you. You walk alone. You say how busy you are. You are away from God.

The message. Those called come but others ask what is going on in their lives. Isa 61v 1 Spirit of God is on me and has sent me. This clearly states what Jesus should do and say. The ministry of the Lord is complete. If we do not preach the word as we have been sent, what do you preach to people? We need time to hear this - what and where the Lord sends us to. John 21v20 They saw His wounds and saw and understood the message they had. This risen Lord is the message to pass on. We need to know this message, or we will feed the sheep with things we are not sent for. People run after miracles and don't preach the truth.

Those who have been sent. The apostle Paul was struck down by great light. He asked who is it? The Lord said, "Me whom you are persecuting". In ACTS 26v17,18 there are the same words as in Isa 61. What do we preach? What do people get? Will we just say things to win them over? We do our own things. Use God's word to confirm what someone says. People play around and say Amen and Hallelujah and the preacher does what they want him to do.

When someone is sent the message needs to be clear. Young preachers – sometimes you just want to tell them to be quiet. You speak in tongues – no one understands – go in a room and be alone rather. The one who is the messenger needs to know what the sender is giving him. Get the message, confirm it that it's what the sender means. Then you see results because it really was that

message. 2 Tim 4 says preach the word, be ready in season and out of season. Amen means may it be so, it should not be used all over the place. We are called to preach the kingship of the One who calls us. He wants us to see the One who has sent Him. We have a problem – we want to be seen. Amos 3v3 mentions when two walk together and are one. When you have a message check with God that it is His message.

I speak to those anointed. We have been sent. Jesus saves – that is the message. Don't always be the one who wants to be in the pulpit.

I was happy last week. I heard a commotion at the taxi rank. A young girl with a loudspeaker was going up and down preaching the gospel – only Jesus can save.

Something troubles me. Where you work do they know you are saved. Maybe you feel you can't help people when they are asking questions about the Lord. May everyone know that you have been saved by the Lord Jesus. Those who drink can easily find alcohol. You as a child of God do they know you are a child of God – something different a messenger with a true message. Can people find the message of Christ in you that they are looking for?

Battles – some of them are caused by us. They don't come from God's word. It upsets people if we don't live what we preach. A question often arises – when you are with your family and you come to the matter of being saved a matter upsets the stomach you speak of salvation and they ask where do you go to church. They say oh is that person also saved? The way they live upsets the stomach.

Things that hinder the message: if we don't believe in the message and hold up the message. Don't avoid the message. Preach the word you need to preach. Pride fills churches with messages they want to hear. Stand on the word, bring that message, whether people stay or go. When God called Moses he said Pharaoh won't listen to you. Must I change the question when he will not hear it? No! Remain on the word. God sent Joshua – don't let this message leave your lips – keep it as it is. Jesus sent His disciples Matt 10v17,18 telling them beware of men, they will deliver you to important people. This message from the sender will get opposition. Jesus said His own did not accept Him. Confirm a message, believe it and pass it on. Battles will arrive but you have passed it on. Some do not preach anymore because of their congregations who have called them to a committee. Preach what you have been sent to say.

The tools the messenger has: Remain in Jerusalem so that you will receive power. In our work step by step we need to go with the Holy spirit.

Remain in prayer. Something upsets me – we have a prayer meeting 6-7am Monday to Friday. Someone spoke to him but not directly – preachers like to sleep in. Wake up. Go to work early.

Stay in prayer. ACTS 6v4 Stay in prayer.

Have patience. People can be stiff-necked. People will not always accept the message.

At work show you are saved. We want to talk then live, but we should live and then talk. If you introduce yourself to a new neighbour, don't ram it down his throat that you are a believer. Start by showing your life. Then he will say, "I can see it in your life".

Have a heart like Jesus. People expect us to live like Him. Some throw food away – Jesus never did that. Jesus had a feeling for people.

Having compassion on others – it's a service. He saw a place where people wait wanting work. He bought food and went to them. He did not know them. He greeted them. Young men/ladies let's

meet here. He gave to all, and they were satisfied. Then he prayed after he had explained what got Him there to them. He wanted to help them. Later they remembered him. Have a heart like Jesus.

Keep something aside to be able to give to those in need. They go to the Muslims because they give. What do we do? We throw things away.

As we have been sent at the end of our lives 1 Pet 5 v 2-4 we need to give account. Know the One who has sent us and why and the message we must preach. Then we will have the Spirit in us and we will give because we want to because of Jesus.