FROM SURRENDER TO ACTION
Finding Our Purpose in God

Scriptures: Psalm 40:6-8; Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 5:5-9; Acts 22:6-8, 10; Romans 12:1

SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2015

OBSERVATIONS

1. The purpose of surrender is that we might be YIELDED VESSELS.

2. Surrender is the first step to USEFULNESS, because without it our PERSUITS will be at odds with God's PLAN and PURPOSE.

3. Our surrender PATTERNS often are not UNIFORM.

4. Surrender must be INTENTIONAL.

5. SURRENDER is made possible by a MATURE love for the Lord that puts His WILL and PURPOSE ahead of our own PREFERENCES.

6. Being SURRENDERED is really about being AVAILABLE.

7. To some extent, surrender is a DAILY exercise.

8. Maximum USEFULNESS is achieved when:

   A. We SURRENDER fully.
   B. We LISTEN intently.
   C. We TRUST God's TIMING (often involves WAITING).
   D. We are open to DIRECTION.
   E. We are willing and ready to ACT.

9. A SURRENDERED VESSEL, equipped by the Lord and FULLY given to His PURPOSE will be used of God to accomplish things that men thought impossible.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 40:6-8; Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 5:5-9;
Acts 22:6-8, 10; Romans 12:1

Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require. Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book *it is* written of Me. I delight to do Your will, O My God, and Your law *is* within My heart."

He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will.*"

So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but *it was* He who said to Him: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You." As *He* also *says* in another *place:* "You *are* a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek";

Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,

though He was a Son, *yet* He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

"Now it happened, as I journeyed and came near Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'

So I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, Whom you are persecuting.' "So I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Arise and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all things which are appointed for you to do.'"

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.