



## Stop Living at the Mercy of Your Past – Part 1

What determines your response to things around you? Your response can come from your past, and if it comes from your past, it can hold you down

**M**any people are present in churches, but few of those people are actually genuinely available for God. Many that present themselves in churches and assemblies are not really available for God and that is a major tragedy of this generation.

Jesus Christ said in Luke 6:43-46, ***“For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not***

***gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks. But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”***

Jesus Christ was speaking to the people and said they called Him Lord but did not do what He said. They were present but not available. Why is it that a lot of people are present in churches, assemblies, denominations and even mission work but are not available for God? Why is it that a lot of people gather in the name of the Lord but are not available for God? Why do we have so few available? It is because many of those who gather are ignorant of

the ways of God and so they continue to live at the mercy of something they should not live on.

We read the story of King Ahab, Jehoshaphat and Prophet Micaiah in 1 Kings 22. Prophet Micaiah was a prophet of the Lord. 1 Kings 22:1 reads, ***“Now three years passed without war between Syria and Israel.”*** Anytime you see “Israel” used in the context of the passage above, it is talking about the ten tribes that God took away from the household of David and gave to Jeroboam, while the two other tribes, called Judah, were given to Rehoboam of the house of David. So that verse means the ten tribes did not have war with the Syrians for three years. Verse 2 reads, ***“Then it came to pass, in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went down to visit the king***

***of Israel.”*** Jehoshaphat was the King of Judah, the two tribes from which Jesus Christ would come, that belonged to the descendants of David.

Verse 3 reads, ***“And the king of Israel said to his servants, “Do you know that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, but we hesitate to take it out of the hand of the king of Syria?”***

There was no war between Israel and Syria but the King of Israel, Ahab, remembered that a portion of land belonging to Israel, Ramoth-gilead, needed to be taken away from the Syrians. Ahab wanted war. Ramoth-gilead was in the hands of the Syrians who were governing them and they were okay. They did not complain. Ahab wanted war but did not know what was waiting for him in the war.

Somebody said some time ago that those people who call for war have not seen war before. The one who has really seen war would not call for war because they know that once the war starts, you do not know when it would end and you do not know the casualties it would claim.

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Verse 4 reads, ***“So he said to Jehoshaphat, “Will you go with me to fight at Ramoth Gilead?” Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.”*** Jehoshaphat did not consult with God before he joined with Ahab. Verse 5, ***“Also Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “Please inquire for the word of the Lord today.”*** Before you join war with another person, ask the creator of your destiny. Does He want you to join the battle? Jehoshaphat did not know that a decree was already written in heaven that Ahab must fall at Ramoth-gilead. You do not know the person whose end is coming tomorrow and you join your battle with their battle.

Jehoshaphat asked that they should enquire of the Lord. Verse 6 reads, ***“Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, “Shall I go against Ramoth Gilead to fight, or shall I refrain?” So they said, “Go up, for the Lord will deliver it into the hand of the king.”*** Jehoshaphat was not convinced. He heard four

hundred people saying the same thing but he was not too sure inside of himself. Some people say he had an intuition that something was not right. In verse 7, ***“And Jehoshaphat said, “Is there not still a prophet of the Lord here, that we may inquire of Him?”*** He could discern that all the four hundred prophets were not prophets of God. He knew the message they were giving was too circumstantial and fleshy for him.

Verse 8 reads, ***“So the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “There is still one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the Lord; but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil.” And Jehoshaphat said, “Let not the king say such things!”*** The King said so because that was what was

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in the heart of the king. Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. There was evil in his heart against Micaiah.

The Holy Spirit did not tell us what had previously happened between Ahab and Micaiah, but the experience must have been bad for Ahab. Otherwise, why would he say Micaiah would not prophesy good concerning him? It means he had sought him before and the man had prophesied some things that did not go down well with him. The reason Jehoshaphat replied the way he did was because Jehoshaphat had never met Micaiah. He also did not know what transpired between Ahab and Micaiah. Ahab based his hatred upon their past experience. When you follow the story through, you notice that all the four hundred prophets had lying spirits in them and they were giving Ahab the exact thing he wanted to hear.

Heaven did not tell us the previous issue between Ahab and Micaiah. On this occasion, after four hundred had said “Go,” Jehoshaphat felt in his heart that

something was not right and asked if there was any other one through whom they could hear from the Lord because these other ones were not from the Lord. Ahab said he hated Micaiah.

When Micaiah prophesied and they slapped him and put him in jail, feeding him with the water of affliction and bread of sorrow until they came back from the war, Micaiah said in verse 28 ***“But Micaiah said, “If you ever return in peace, the Lord has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Take heed, all you people!”*** If Ahab indeed did not believe what Micaiah said, that he was indeed a prophet of God, why did he change his royal robes and disguise? It was because he was living at the mercy of his past and his past destroyed him.

Jehoshaphat went to the battle dressed as a king but Ahab went in as a commoner and the dangerous thing was that when the Syrians were going to fight, they said their main objective was to bring down the king. The moment they killed the king, the battle was over. They were interested in the king because it had been settled in

heaven that Ahab should be destroyed.

They pursued Jehoshaphat in the battle and he cried out. When they looked at him, they realised he did not look like the one they were looking for. The Mercy of God covered him. The battle continued until they threw a javelin that entered into Ahab and he said, ***“Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am wounded.”*** He died because he would not listen to the one God sent to him, because of his past.

There was a story in Luke 15. This man had two sons and the younger one told his father to give him all that belonged to him and he left home. After a while, he finished spending all that he had and he was hungry in the nation he went to. We were not told where he went. He came back home to apologise to his dad. His dad welcomed him back and threw a homecoming party for him. While the party was going on, something happened with the elder brother.

We read about the elder brother in Luke 15:25-28, ***“Now his older son***

***was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.”*** His anger was so visible that somebody needed to go and tell the father, who would have been wondering where the son was, that the son was around the corner and angry with him.

The father would have been surprised that his elder son was angry with him on such a wonderful day and went to him. Look at the conversation from verse 29-30, ***“So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with***

***harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.”***

Do you see the basis of his anger? It was sibling rivalry, jealousy and envy. He was angry that his brother who had been lost was found. He was angry about the fulfilment of the good thing for which his father was always crying and watching for, for the lost son to come back home. The fact that his father was happy was making him sad. I know some of you do not think about that, when you decide to do some things against the people for whom Jesus Christ died. You do not think about the implication on God.

A lot of people only think about themselves. What was the elder son's complaint? That the father did not give him anything to merry with, that he had never disobeyed the father, that he had always been an obedient son but the other son was rebellious and now the father was welcoming him. Why would the father do that? That is the way some people talk to God too.

Have you met some people who, when they came to church, you were the first person they met, you

introduced them to Jesus Christ and they actually gave their lives to Jesus Christ in your ministry? Now their testimony is changed and their level has changed but you are still in your place because of your anger. Then you think it has to do with your father, your father is wrong and your brother is wrong. From his own perspective, the elder son was the only one right in that passage. As far as he was concerned, the father did not have a right over his own inheritance anymore. He could not do whatever he wanted with it.

Look at what the father told him from verse 31, ***“And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.”*** You are angry because you are ignorant. Verse 32, ***“It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.”*** But this man was angry because of the past. He had seen what this younger brother did to the father, it was true. He had seen what his father went through on a daily basis, it was true. But if God the Father would forgive this person who has gone astray and

come back, what is your own problem with that?

The father told him all that he had now belonged to the elder brother because the younger had taken his own portion. If you remember what the younger boy said when he was still in the foreign land, he said in verse 18-19, ***“I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”*** Do you see the mentality of the young man? His brother never even waited to hear the confession of this boy. He was not interested in his coming back.

That was the same way Jonah was not interested in the turning around of Nineveh. Jonah wanted them punished. He wanted them destroyed. That was why when God said he should go to Nineveh, he decided and took his own money and went to Tarshish. God was watching him, saying he would know who is boss. When he went to Tarshish, he was still sleeping when the trouble of God came. The

people who did not even know what was going on between Jonah and God, just travelling on their own, also had trouble enter their lives.

This elder brother was angry because of their past relationship. He could not see beyond the past. He was living at the mercy of his past. Do you know that he did not taste of all the fatted calves that were killed because of his anger? Though he was coming from the field after working very hard. It was not every day they threw parties like that. It was not every day they killed fatted calves but he missed it, not because his father did not want him to be part of it, but because he would not let go of his past. He was living at the mercy of his past.

In Acts 10 we read about Peter the apostle of Jesus Christ. One of the twelve and one of the foremost three apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ had gone, the Holy Spirit had come and they were now moving in the power of the Holy Spirit. Look at what happened from verse 9-16, ***“The next day, as they went on their journey and***

***drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean." And a voice spoke to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common." This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again."***

Peter did not budge because he was convinced about his tradition. He knew it was the Lord. He did not have any problem saying it was the Lord. He did not say it was satan. He said he would not eat. Directly he said he would not obey the Lord. Why? It was because he was living at the mercy of his tradition. His past upbringing, his past life had brought him to that point.

Everyone has a past beloved. Some have good pasts and some have bad ones. Some have ugly pasts. Some have pleasant pasts, but the living God says you should see the things He is doing now.

Isaiah 43:18-19 reads, ***"Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert."*** This was the living God speaking to Israel. He told them this because He knew that if they were living at the mercy of their past they would not see what He was doing now. They would not come into the future that God had prepared for them.

God said in Jeremiah 29:11, ***"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. A hope. God does not want you to be in hopelessness. God does not want you to be irritated daily. God does not want you to be angry daily because that does not Glorify God. It actually harms you because***



when you live at the mercy of your past, your future is on hold.

How many of you love it when you call a customer service agent and they put you on hold? How do you feel? Some of them are very notorious. They would put on music that you do not like. The first thing you would hear is that your call is important to them and then they put you on an extended hold. How many of you occasionally feel, when you have been put on hold, that they are taking you for granted? Some of you have even cancelled your services with them because of that. What reason do you give? You say their customer service is poor. If you are living at the mercy of your past, then your customer service to yourself is poor because you have put your future on hold.

***To be continued in next month's edition***

Sermon by:  
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(MFM Region 2, Calgary)

### **Prayer Points**

1. My past, you will not destroy my future, in the name of Jesus.
2. My Father, I speak now in the name of Jesus Christ, that You connect me to Your glory.
3. That which is speaking from my past against my glorious future, hear the Word of the Lord, shut up and die, in the name of Jesus.
4. Powers that want me to waste my past experiences so that God will not be glorified in my future, you are a liar, die, in the name of Jesus.
5. Every voice of doubt speaking into the purpose of God for my life, shut up, die, in the name of Jesus.
6. Strange voices, speaking into the direction of my life, now, I shut you up, in the name of Jesus.
7. Any personality that is in my life now, chasing the goodness of God away, I kick you out, in the name of Jesus.
8. My Father, separate my destiny from every serpent, in the name of Jesus.

9. Enemy of my goodness, wherever you are, scatter, in the name of Jesus.
10. Enemy of my divine fruitfulness, scatter, in the name of Jesus.
11. By your Spirit, O Lord, accelerate my testimony, in the name of Jesus.
12. I declare to the heavens, I declare to the earth, I declare unto the ends of the earth, that God the Father of Jesus Christ is my God, in the name of Jesus.
13. As a child of God, my Father, give me double honour for my shame, in the name of Jesus Christ.
14. King of Glory, deliver me from my troubles, in the name of Jesus.
15. Powers appointed to turn my glory to shame, die, in the name of Jesus.
16. Instruments of darkness appointed from my father's house, instruments of darkness appointed from my mother's house, what are you doing in my life? Die, in the name of Jesus.
17. Everything that must disappear in my life and around my life, for the purpose of God to manifest, disappear, in the name of Jesus.
18. Satanic garment of poverty on my life, in my family and in my calling, catch fire, in the name of Jesus.
19. Every evil altar planning my demotion, die, in the name of Jesus.
20. Voices speaking against our joy in this ministry, die, in the name of Jesus.
21. Witchcraft powers operating in the heavens of Alberta, we pull you down, die, in the name of Jesus.
22. Witchcraft powers operating in the heavens of *[insert the name of your nation of birth]*, we pull you down, die, in the name of Jesus.
23. No divination, no enchantment and no spell will prosper in my family, in the name of Jesus.
24. O God arise, give me divine power to produce spiritual wealth, in the name of Jesus.
25. My Father, give me personal, family and ministerial Pentecost today, in the name of Jesus.

OUR YEAR OF BECOMING A DIVINE SPECTACLE						
- 1 Corinthians 4:9, John 3:8, Exodus 15:11; Job 9:10						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			MANNA WATER SERVICE 6:30 pm [YouTube]	MEN OF VALOR PRAYER MEETING 7 pm [zoom]		POWER MUST CHANGE HANDS 7 am [YouTube]
6 TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS 8:20-8:50 am [Zoom] WORSHIP SERVICE 9am[YouTube] HOLY COMMUNION 11:45 am HOUSE FELLOWSHIP 6 pm [Zoom]	7 EARLY MORNING FIRE 5:30-6:00 am [Prayer Line] BIBLE STUDY & HOLY SPIRIT HOUR 6:30pm [YouTube]	8 PRAYING PARENTS 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm [Zoom]	9 REVIVAL SERVICE 6:30 pm [YouTube]	10 MEN OF VALOR PRAYER MEETING 7 pm [zoom]	11 GLORIOUS WOMEN'S MEETING .10 am [Zoom] MARITAL BLISS FOR SINGLES 4 pm [Zoom] YOUTH & TEENAGERS VIRTUAL HANGOUT 6 pm [Zoom]	12 GLORIOUS WOMEN'S MEETING .10 am [Zoom] MARITAL BLISS FOR SINGLES 4 pm [Zoom] YOUTH & TEENAGERS VIRTUAL HANGOUT 6 pm [Zoom]
13 TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS 8:20-8:50 am [Zoom] EAGLE HOUR SERVICE 9 am [YouTube] HOUSE FELLOWSHIP 6 pm [Zoom]	14 EARLY MORNING FIRE 5:30-6:00 am [Prayer Line] BIBLE STUDY & HOLY SPIRIT HOUR 6:30pm [YouTube]	15	MANNA WATER SERVICE 6:30 pm [YouTube]	16 MEN OF VALOR PRAYER MEETING 7 pm [zoom]	17 GOD THAT DOETH WONDERS PRAYER VIGIL 11 pm [YouTube]	18 GOD THAT DOETH WONDERS PRAYER VIGIL 11 pm [YouTube]
20 TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS 8:20-8:50 am [Zoom] WORSHIP SERVICE 9 am [YouTube] HOUSE FELLOWSHIP 6 pm [Zoom]	21 EARLY MORNING FIRE 5:30-6:00 am [Prayer Line] BIBLE STUDY & HOLY SPIRIT HOUR 6:30pm [YouTube]	22	REVIVAL SERVICE 6:30 pm [YouTube]	23 MEN OF VALOR PRAYER MEETING 7 pm [zoom]	24 WEEKEND DELIVERANCE - 6 pm GREAT PHYSICIAN NIGHT 11 pm [Stay At-Home Family Session]	25 WEEKEND DELIVERANCE - 6 pm GREAT PHYSICIAN NIGHT 11 pm [Stay At-Home Family Session]
27 TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS 8:20-8:50 am [Zoom] FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE 9 am [YouTube] HOUSE FELLOWSHIP 6 pm [Zoom]	28 EARLY MORNING FIRE 5:30-6:00 am [Prayer Line] BIBLE STUDY & HOLY SPIRIT HOUR 6:30pm [YouTube]	29	REVIVAL SERVICE 6:30 pm [YouTube]	30 MEN OF VALOR PRAYER MEETING 7 pm [zoom]	31 WEEKEND DELIVERANCE - 6 pm GREAT PHYSICIAN NIGHT 11 pm [Stay At-Home Family Session]	32 WEEKEND DELIVERANCE - 6 pm GREAT PHYSICIAN NIGHT 11 pm [Stay At-Home Family Session]

2022  
MARCH



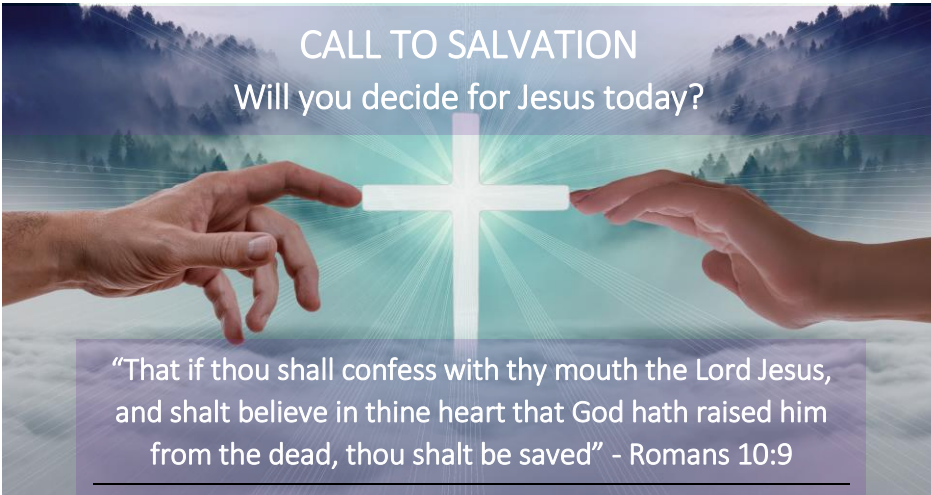
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### Weekly Programs

**Worship Service:** Sundays 9 a.m.

**Bible Study:** Mondays 6:30 p.m.

**Revival Hour:** Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

**Prayer Vigil:** Fridays 11 p.m.

**Early Morning Fire:** Mondays 5:30 a.m. - 6 a.m. **Tel:** +1 587 405 1252 **Code:** 5407376#

**Revival Hour:** Mondays 9 p.m. (WAT) – MFM Ministries HQ YouTube Channel

### Monthly Programs

**Power Must Change Hands** – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Every Month - 7 a.m.

**The God that Doeth Wonders** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend of Every Month

**South Calgary Branch** *(Not currently meeting at this location):*

Forest Height Community Hall, 4909 Forego Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2A 2C4

**Airdrie Outreach Center** *(Not currently meeting at this location):*

Genesis Place, The Echo Room, 800 East Lake Blvd NE, Airdrie, T4A 2K9

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