

Measured Stewardship

Wisdom from Obadiah Unpacked

Stanza 1

*I walked the courts where shadows filled the throne,
Where truth was hushed and idols loudly shone.
Yet deep within, my heart was not their own,
For I revered the God whose light is known.*

Obadiah lived in the court of King Ahab, surrounded by idolatry and spiritual darkness. Yet Scripture makes a defining statement about him: he “feared the Lord greatly” (1 Kings 18:3). Though immersed in a corrupt environment, his allegiance remained with God. This reflects a core principle of measured stewardship—**remaining inwardly aligned with God even when outward conditions are hostile.**

“Do not be conformed to this world...” — Romans 12:2

Stanza 2

*Though fear stood near with whispers in my ear,
I chose the path that honors God, not fear.
A hundred lives I hid, held close and dear,
With bread and water given year by year.*

Obadiah’s stewardship was not theoretical—it required action under threat. When Jezebel sought to kill the prophets, Obadiah hid one hundred of them and sustained them (1 Kings 18:4). His fear was real, but it did not rule him. This is measured stewardship: **courage guided by reverence for God, not absence of fear.**

“The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.” — Proverbs 29:25

Stanza 3

*No trumpet sounded out the work I bore,
No crowd would gather, none would know the score.
Yet heaven saw each act behind the door,
And counted faith where man might count no more.*

Obadiah’s actions were hidden from public view. There was no recognition, no applause. Yet Scripture reveals that God sees what is done in secret. Measured stewardship often unfolds in obscurity, where faithfulness is tested without affirmation.

“Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” — Matthew 6:4

Stanza 4

*What I was given—place and daily bread,
I dared not waste on comfort or on dread.
But turned each gift to serve the Lord instead,
And followed where His quiet Spirit led.*

Obadiah stewarded his position in Ahab's household—not for personal gain, but for God's purposes. His access, resources, and authority became tools for preservation of God's people. This reflects the biblical call to faithful stewardship of all entrusted resources.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another..." — 1 Peter 4:10

Stanza 5

*I was not called to stand on Carmel's height,
Nor challenge kings in bold and public sight.
But still I stood, though hidden from the light,
And kept His servants sheltered through the night.*

Obadiah's role differed from that of **Elijah**, who confronted Ahab publicly on Mount Carmel. Yet both were faithful in their assignments. Measured stewardship recognizes that **God assigns different roles, but requires the same faithfulness.**

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit..." — 1 Corinthians 12:4

Stanza 6

*So take what's yours, though small it may appear,
And steward well what God has placed you near.
For faithfulness is seen and held most dear,
When hearts choose Him above all earthly fear.*

The closing call reflects a universal principle: stewardship is not about the size of the assignment, but the faithfulness within it. Whether seen or unseen, great or small, God honors those who remain faithful with what they have been given.

"Well done, good and faithful servant..." — Matthew 25:21

Closing Thought

Obadiah's life reminds us that measured stewardship is often quiet, often costly, and often unseen—but never unnoticed by God.