

"WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND?"

Exodus 4:2

INTRODUCTION:

1. God asked this question to Moses.
 - (1) He asked this question to get Moses to see that God had unlimited power to strengthen a little man for a mighty job.
 - (2) It was God's will that Israel be delivered and that Moses be the deliverer -- Ex. 3: 9 - 10
 - (3) Moses, feeling his inability for the task, said, "*They will not believe me*" --Ex. 4:1
 - (4) This prompted the Lord's question --"*What is that in thine hand?*"
2. Moses' answer -- "*A rod*" -- Ex. 4:2
 - (1) God changed the rod into a serpent -- Ex. 4: 3 - 4
 - (2) This was to be proof that the people would believe -- Ex. 4:5
 - (3) The God who had power to change the rod to a serpent could also accomplish His purpose through Moses.
 - (4) A Christian has tremendous power if he has faith -- Phil. 3:13; Heb. 11:6
3. God invested Moses' rod with power to enable him to do signs -- Ex. 4:17
 - (1) It was a credential to prove that Moses represented God.
 - (2) God has always given His servants credentials to prove their relationship to God.
 1. Moses had the rod -- Ex. 4:17
 2. The apostles and prophets had miraculous powers -- Mk. 16: 17 - 20; Heb. 2:4; II Cor. 12:12
 3. Today we have the confirmed scriptures, the voice of God, to prove what we say -- II Tim. 2: 16 - 17

I. GOD CAN TAKE THE THINGS OF LITTLE VALUE IN OUR HANDS AND MAKE THEM POWERFUL AND PRICELESS.

1. This was true of the little insignificant rod of Moses.
2. Shamgar slew 600 Philistines with an ox goad and delivered Israel -- Judges 4:31
 - (1) An ox goad was made out of oak or other strong wood -- it was a straight branch, one end with a pointed spike, the other with a flat, chisel-shaped iron.
3. David killed Goliath with a sling and a stone -- I Sam. 17: 49
 - (1) David depended on the Lord -- I Sam. 17:46
4. The Lord took a lad's lunch of five loaves and two fishes and fed 5,000 men, besides women and children -- John 6: 9 - 12

- (1) Little things given to God can be multiplied to become great.
5. The poor widow's "two mites", when given into the treasury of the Lord, became one of the greatest examples of teaching liberality -- Mk. 12: 41 - 44
6. Dorcas -- "a needle" -- Acts 9: 36 - 39
 - (1) With it she did many good works.

II. WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND FRIEND?

1. The Bible

- (1) Study it -- II Tim. 2:15
- (2) Obey it -- Phil. 1:27; II Tim. 3: 16 - 17
- (3) Teach it to others -- II Tim. 2:2; I Tim. 4:16

2. Your life

- (1) Only you can live it.
- (2) Only you can account for it -- Rom. 14:12; II Cor. 5:10
- (3) We will reap what we sow -- Gal. 6: 7 - 8
- (4) What are you doing with your life?

3. Time

- (1) It is too priceless to waste.
- (2) To waste time is to waste life -- Psa. 90:12
- (3) How are you using your time?

4. Your Influence

- (1) Influence, good or bad, is something every person has within his own hands -- I Pet. 3 :1 - 4
- (2) What kind of influence do you have?
- (3) Influence lives on after death -- Rev. 14:13

5. Your Talents

- (1) If we use our talents they will be increased -- Matt. 25: 14 - 23
- (2) If we fail to use our talents they will be taken from us -- Matt. 25:28

6. Your soul

- (1) Its salvation is in your hand
- (2) Jesus talks about the worth of the soul -- Matt. 16:26
- (3) Peter -- Acts 2: 40
- (4) Have you saved your soul??

CONCLUSION

1. *"WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND?"*

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