

The Warrior Son of a Prostitute - Judges Pt 10

There's the real you, AND there's what people say about you

Jdg 11:1-2 NLT Now Jephthah of Gilead was a **great warrior**. He was the son of Gilead, **but his mother was a prostitute**. 2 Gilead's wife also had several sons, and when these half brothers grew up, **they chased Jephthah off the land**. You will not get any of our father's inheritance, they said, for you are the son of a prostitute.

- **He WAS** Great Warrior - a skill he learned and developed - **something HE controlled**
- **His Mother WAS** a prostitute - **something he had no control over**
- **Words have impact** → **listen to words of others, or listen to words of God**

God can turn a bad thing into a good thing

Jdg 11:3 So Jephthah **fled from his brothers** and lived in **the land of Tob**. Soon he had a band of worthless rebels following him.

- Tob means → **Good**, as in "**God saw that it was good**" when He created → a good place
- Joseph - Gen 50:20 As for you, **you meant evil** against me, but **God meant it for good**, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.
- Jesus picked a group of unschooled ordinary fishermen who turned the world upside down
 - Turns out Jephthah & the band of worthless rebels are the deliverance Israel needed

How we respond to the mistreatment by others makes all the difference

5 When the Ammonites **attacked**, the elders of Gilead **sent for Jephthah** in the land of Tob. 6 The elders said, Come and be our commander! **Help us fight** the Ammonites! 7 But Jephthah said to them, Aren't you the ones **who hated me** and **drove me** from my father's house? **Why do you come to me now when you're in trouble?** 8 **Because we need you**, the elders replied. If you lead us in battle against the Ammonites, we will make you ruler over all the people of Gilead. 9 Jephthah said to the elders, Let me get this straight. If I come with you and if the LORD gives me victory over the Ammonites, will you really make me ruler over all the people? 10 The LORD is our witness, the elders replied. We promise to do whatever you say.

- **Outcast to Ruler...this is who God made him to be --**
- **He found his calling because he did not become bitter, he helped those who rejected him**

Keys for Responding Well to Rejection

- **Jesus understands** → Isa 53:3 – despised & rejected by men; (called blasphemer, demon possessed, insane, glutton and drunkard, friend of sinners, law breaker, out of his mind, bastard)
- **Rejection is THEIR issue** → Jn 1:11 – He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.
- **How others view you does not determine your destiny**
 - Acts 4:11 & Ps 118:22 – The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
- **This is what matters most...**Rom 8:31 – If God is for us, who can be against us?
- **God will ALWAYS enable you to do what HE wants you to do**
 - 29 **At that time the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah**, and he went throughout the land of Gilead and Manasseh, including Mizpah in Gilead, and from there he led an army against the Ammonites.

In the end Jephthah is mentioned among the heroes of the faith

- Heb 11:32 And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, **Jephthah**, of David and Samuel and the prophets...

WHO I AM in Christ

I am a child of God - *John 1:12* – But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

I am a new creation - *2 Cor 5:17* – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

I am Christ's friend *John 15:15* – ...I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

I am a saint *1 Cor 1:2* – To the church of God that is in Corinth... called to be saints...

I am God's workmanship *Eph 2:10* – For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works...

I am a citizen of heaven *Phil 3:20* – But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

WHAT I HAVE in Christ

I am justified *Rom 5:1* – Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am redeemed and forgiven *Eph 1:7* – In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses...

I am complete in Christ *Col 2:10* – And you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

I am free from condemnation *Rom 8:1* – There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

I am chosen, holy, and blameless *Eph 1:4* – ...he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

I am united with the Lord *1 Cor 6:17* – But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

I am not my own—I am bought with a price *1 Cor 6:19–20* – ...You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

WHAT I CAN DO through Christ

I can overcome because I am more than a conqueror *Rom 8:37* – No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

I cannot be separated from God's love *Rom 8:39* – ...nothing in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I can approach God with confidence *Heb 4:16* – Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace...

I can do all things through Christ *Phil 4:13* – I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Context: Paul is talking about contentment in every circumstance, not unlimited ability to do anything.