

God's Handy Man

Bezalel- "A leader, teacher, and a willing servant of the Most High God."

Who was he? (Grandson of Hur); remember, Hur helped Aaron hold up the hands of Moses when Joshua and the Israelites were fighting the Amalekites.

Character/Capabilities of Bezalel (Exodus 31:1-6)

¹ Then the LORD said to Moses, ² "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, ³ and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts- ⁴ to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, ⁵ to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship. ⁶ Moreover, I have appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, to help him. Also I have given skill to all the craftsmen to make everything I have commanded you.

Did Bezalel have a choice in the matter?

Every one of us has the choice to accept God's anointing, appointments/assignments, accommodations, acclamations, and even our acquittal from the penalty of sin.

A man:

- **Chosen by God (v.2)**
- **Filled with the Spirit of God (by the Lord) v. 3.**

Did you know that Bezalel is the first person mentioned in the Bible that was "filled with the Spirit of God"? And yet, he is a Bible character that most Christians have never heard of!
- **Skilled with abilities and knowledge in all kinds of crafts...by God (v.3-5)**
 - ✓ **To make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and precious stones;**
 - ✓ **To cut and set stones;**
 - ✓ **To work with wood;**
 - ✓ **To engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.**

"A man who designed and worked with every thing and was master of them all."

Bezalel was a master craftsman...but, God is the Master of it all! He humbled himself and accepted the responsibility/task God assigned him.

The key: Bezalel realized that he did not earn the special skills gave him, nor did he earn the gift of the Spirit God gave him.

When God gives, He gives the best. It is up to us to give back to the Master our best!

With a spirit of excellence!

- **With Understanding that He can't do God's work without help from others and the Lord--God gives Bezalel a helper (v.6), Ohiliab.**

No arrogance seen in Bezalel. *He did not think, "Now wait a minute, if Ohiliab is getting in on this blessing, I won't get the glory."*

Do you know of Christians who do all of the work themselves when it would be so much easier to let others help and to receive the blessing of being a blessing to others?

Partnering with God is wonderful; letting others become a partner with you will delight the Father and it will give glory to Him...not you!

- **With the ability to teach others (Exodus 35:34)**

³⁴ *And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others.*

The real teachers let their students use their skills and talents without being reprimanded.

T = Together

E = Everyone

A = Achieves

M = More!

T = Teaching

E = Energizes

A = An Army

M = Movers

Moving Mountains instead of hills!

Commitment:

- **Willing to do the work (Exodus 36:2)**

² *Then Moses summoned Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the LORD had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work.*

So there you go...Choice of accepting the task given.

God chooses and we choose together...making a winning team no matter what!

- **Made the Arc of the Covenant (Himself/Could be that he did this alone), Exodus 37:1-9**

¹ *Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood—two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high. ² He overlaid it with pure gold, both inside and out, and made a gold molding around it. ³ He cast four gold rings for it and fastened them to its four feet, with two rings on one side and two rings on*

the other. ⁴ Then he made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold. ⁵ And he inserted the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark to carry it.

⁶ He made the atonement cover of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide. ⁷ Then he made two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover. ⁸ He made one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; at the two ends he made them of one piece with the cover. ⁹ The cherubim had their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim faced each other, looking toward the cover.

All other times, the word “they” was used to describe what was accomplished. This time, Bezalel gave his all to complete the arc of the covenant. If you have a special talent and want to glorify God...and God alone...open yourself up and give your talent to God.

- **Was obedient and compliant with the Lord’s standards (Made everything exactly as the Lord commanded), Exodus 38:22.**

“Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made everything the LORD commanded Moses...”

- **Honest; with the highest of integrity (Exodus 38:24-31)
Access to 2,280 pounds of gold; 7,000 pounds of silver;
5,000 pounds of bronze; etc.**

“The total amount of the gold from the wave offering used for all the work on the sanctuary was 29 talents and 730 shekels, according to the sanctuary shekel.

²⁵ *The silver obtained from those of the community who were counted in the census was 100 talents and 1,775 shekels, according to the sanctuary shekel—²⁶ one beka per person, that is, half a shekel, according to the sanctuary shekel, from everyone who had crossed over to those counted, twenty years old or more, a total of 603,550 men. ²⁷ The 100 talents of silver were used to cast the bases for the sanctuary and for the curtain—100 bases from the 100 talents, one talent for each base. ²⁸ They used the 1,775 shekels to make the hooks for the posts, to overlay the tops of the posts, and to make their bands. ²⁹ The bronze from the wave offering was 70 talents and 2,400 shekels. ³⁰ They used it to make the bases for the entrance to the tent of meeting, the bronze altar with its bronze grating and all its utensils, ³¹ the bases for the surrounding courtyard and those for its entrance and all the tent pegs for the tabernacle and those for the surrounding courtyard.”*

In today’s market.....gold worth \$32.8 million; silver worth \$1.2 million

Just the gold and silver--\$34 million

How many people would say to themselves, “nobody will ever miss 2 or 3 pounds of gold. I did it and I deserve a little bit of credit?”

Commendations:

- **Blessing from Moses (Because he and all his helpers made the tabernacle, the arc of the covenant and all its contents “just as the Lord commanded.” (Exodus 39:43)**

⁴³ Moses inspected the work and saw that they had done it just as the LORD had commanded. So Moses blessed them.

- **Greatest blessing received: “The Glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle.” Exodus 40:34**

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Conclusion:

- **When a person is chosen by God to do something, that person can choose to accept God’s direction for his life....or refuse it.**
- **Bezalel was blessed and he knew it. He was willing to be faithful to which he was called.**

**“Faithful steward who gave of his talents and time to the Lord’s work.
He taught and trained others to follow his leading.”**

Challenge: Every time God gives something to someone, he wants something back in return. Appreciation for being a chosen vessel. Undeserved but Faithful in his obligations was Bezalel.

For us:

- *Be like Bezalel.*
- *Give back to God...with interest...what He has given to you.*
- *Be thankful for God’s spiritual gifts and talents He has given you through the Holy Spirit.*
- *Never look back to yesterday. It is past...and now we have today to make the best of where we are and what we have been assigned to do.*

Accomplishments are always past tense

- **You can’t continue to live on accomplishments...but you can build on them!**
- **Challenges keep us alert and reaching for something better!**
- **It is not what we have done in the past that will help us achieve our goal....it is what we are doing and are striving for that will make us achievers...and winners.**