

Bite Size Bible Study

A Servant #100

By Pastor Lee

Everyone has a passion. For some it is just to survive another day, for others it might be the study of art, music, or technology. For some it is the gaining of wealth. When ones passion becomes their occupation they often benefit from spending more time, learning more and finding success in their pursuit of that passion. The wise ones, however, will not let that passion be their whole life and ending up burnt out and having nothing to be passionate about.

Anything done without some degree of passion becomes drab and lifeless. Our passions put life into anything we do. The amount of that life is directly proportional to our passion for that activity, be it survival, art or technological advancement. Our passion may change for different times in our lives.

For much of my working life I was passionate about electronics. I studied it, I worked in various fields that were dependent on it, and you might say I was obsessive about it. But somewhere along the years I began to have a passion for teaching. I wanted to pass on, to others, the things I had learned. I taught Electronics in the local Regional Occupational Program for a time. But when I retired I needed a new subject to be passionate about.

After some time I began a much more serious study of the Bible than I had done in the past and that became my new passion. I couldn't get enough. As time went on I began to want to pass along to others what I was learning. And so began the Bite Size Bible Studies and other writing on Biblical Subjects.

So what does passion and teaching and my story have to do with being a servant?

Within any kingdom or government, there are basically two types of people: those who are **subjects** to the king or ruler, and those who are **servants** of the king.

The subjects confine their passions to their family and business and are virtually oblivious to the needs and desires of the king. But the servant is continually occupied with the needs and wishes of the king. His sole purpose in life, his passion, is to recognize and fulfill the needs, desires, wishes and will of the king.

A good servant will learn from and study the king until he knows the king so well he can anticipate the needs and wishes of the king. **A servant knows what the king wants because the will of his master is in him; the servant becomes *echad* (one, or in unity) with the king.**

The good prophets are examples of the servants of God. They had studied the scriptures long enough to know God's mind. In a sense they knew what God was thinking (at least in part). When God told them to speak to the people about His plans for the future, they generally were not surprised. As much as any human could, they knew the mind of God. A prophet who performs his function with passion will be a mighty servant for God.

Sadly, the majority of Israel, as well as today's followers of God (or Jesus), are subjects. We continually live our lives to ourselves, following after our needs and our desires (passions) with little regard for the desires of the King of kings. Moses and a few other prophets in the history of Israel have shown us what a true servant of God is capable of doing and being. But there are many so called prophets and seers that have sullied the title of prophet by not having the passion of knowing the mind of the King.

I had hope for our generation that the "What would Jesus do" movement would bring a change in the apathy of so of many the Christians; and for a while it did. But like all movements it lost it's appeal and became the "What do I want" movement. It would be easy to become despondent over the current lack of zeal for God, but if we know the mind of Jesus we can be encouraged.

Mankind was originally created in the image of God and given rule over the land and its inhabitance. We were no longer profitable servants when we lost our *echad* (unity) to our King through the actions of Adam and his descendants.

We can, and probably should, seek with continual passion the *echad* (unity) with The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To know their character so well that our character is approaching their character. To know before being told how they would respond to a given situation, and to have the character to act accordingly. If we are, as we say, Servants of God; then this is our duty and our privilege to serve the KING.

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