

Mighty God

Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince Of Peace.”

“And he will be called Mighty God.”

There is a paradox in this passage. God is telling us that one day a child will come, a baby. One who can't feed himself, clothe himself, communicate, defend himself, a completely dependent one, and somehow this child will be a mighty God.

That's the exciting part about Christmas. There's a baby being born who will change the world!

As you read the scriptures you will begin to see this kind of thinking throughout it. Thinking like, the world needs a savior so God sends us a baby and calls him “Mighty God.” And as we read into the New Testament Jesus carries on this line of thinking when he says things like, “The first shall be last” or “The greatest among you will be your servants” or “Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.” And on and on it goes.

He sees greatness in all of us. Case and point, in the book of Judges, the nation of Israel was facing annihilation from the Midianites. They were repeatedly stealing their food, their animals, tools and possession. Everything they tried failed. It got so bad that The Israelites ran into the mountains just to get away from them.

The people finally cried out for help to God for a deliverer so God sent them Gideon. Now, Gideon was as unlikely a hero as any nation could have.

God came to Gideon and this is what he said, ***“The Lord is with you, Mighty warrior.”*** Gideon's reply was, ***“How can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest, and I am the least in my family.”*** This doesn't mean much to us now but back then, pecking order was a big deal.

God is saying to Gideon; I want to prove to my people that I can do something great with something small. So Gideon, the Midianites are about to attack your country with with 120,000 soldiers. But I'm going to use you to defeat them with an army of 300. To sum it up God brought victory to a nation through the least of these.

The moral of the story is, God does something GREAT through something small! Which is exactly what Isaiah is saying when he says, ***“The child will be called, Mighty God.”***

As this baby grew so did his mighty power. Everywhere he went, people watched him heal people. Sometimes their bodies, sometimes their minds, sometimes their souls. Often all three at the same time.

Let's take a closer look at his mighty works.

Matthew 14:19-21 tells us that Jesus was out teaching all day on an open hillside to an unexpected crowd of probably about 15,000 people.

Jesus is teaching late into the afternoon and he starts getting concerned that some of the folks might not make it back into town without having something to eat.

Jesus saw a little boy that was smart enough to bring something to eat with him. He had five barley loaves, it's about the size of your fist, and

two fish. Just enough for him but Jesus didn't see it that way. Jesus asked a little boy if he might be willing to share his dinner with some of the rest of the folks on the hill and a little boy said yes. This is what happens next:

“Jesus directed the people to sit down in groups on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up 12 baskets full of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about 5000 men, besides women and children.”

Don't despise the small things in your lives because we serve a mighty God that can take the seemingly insignificant things and make them miraculous!

Directly after this, Jesus directed his disciples to get into a boat and go to the other side of the lake and he would catch up with them later. The disciples got in the boat and began to sail. Jesus however, went up to the mountain by himself to pray and read about 3 AM Jesus finished up his prayer time and decided to catch up with his disciples.

That doesn't sound so miraculous at first but if you take into account the fact that Jesus had no boat to catch up to them with then you have the beginnings of something miraculous. Jesus began to walk on the water and if that was an amazing enough, The Weather begin to turn into a terrible storm, which tells me, whatever storm you are in Jesus is going to get to you, and the storm will not affect his journey to you.

Hold on because he is on the way.

Matthew 14:26-32

“When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. It’s a ghost, they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them, take courage! It is OK. Don’t be afraid. Lord, if it is you, Peter replied, tell me to come to you on the water. Come, he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came towards Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and began to sink, Peter cried out, Lord, save me! Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. You of little faith, he said why did you doubt? And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.”

So let me get this straight:

- Jesus fed 15,000.
- Walked on water.
- Empowered a friend to walk on water.
- And calmed a storm.

Can I ask you today what great forces you are facing today? Is it unemployment? Is it fear, maybe it’s a relationship you know you’ve crossed the line in. Or maybe it’s just this time of year. Whatever the force may be do not forget, in the midst of the storm who to call out too. We serve a Mighty God Who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all we can think or ask of.

Peter, Jesus’s closest friend a companion wrote this in 1 Peter 5:6-7 “humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all of your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

1. Humble yourself. Admit you’re not as mighty as you pretend to be.
2. Cast your anxiety on him. Tell him the burden in your heart because he cares for you.