

AUTHORIZED TO SERVE

September 17, 2017

- GOD BECAME A MAN AND DWELT AMONG US
- IN PHILIPPIANS WE READ THAT JESUS BECAME A MAN BUT ALSO A SERVANT
- IN MATTHEW WE READ THAT JESUS DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE
- IN JOHN WE READ THAT JESUS WASHED HIS DISCIPLES' FEET
- JESUS WAS THE SUFFERING SERVANT WRITTEN ABOUT IN ISAIAH
- JESUS CAME TO SERVE
- HE WAS AUTHORIZED TO SERVE BY HIS FATHER
- HE THEN IN TURN AUTHORIZED HIS FOLLOWERS TO SERVE ALSO
- HE TAUGHT BELIEVERS TO SERVE AND THEN THROUGH HIS SPIRIT HE EMPOWERED, EMBOLDENED, AND EQUIPPED US TO SERVE

And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you." ² Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me. ³ And He said to me: "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day. ⁴ For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' ⁵ As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse--for they are a rebellious house--yet they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ "And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions; do not be afraid of their words or dismayed by their looks, though they are a rebellious house. ⁷ You shall speak My words to them, whether they hear or whether they refuse, for they are rebellious. ⁸ But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."

Ezekiel 2:1-8 (NKJV)

HE PROVIDED POWER FOR EZEKIEL (2:1-2)

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:2-4 (NKJV)

HE HAS GIVEN HIS SPIRIT

HE HAS GIVEN US INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM

HE TOLD EZEKIEL HIS ASSIGNMENT (VV. 3-5)

DELIVER GOD'S MESSAGE OF COMING JUDGMENT AND HOPE

THE ASSIGNMENT AND THE MESSAGE ALWAYS TRUMPS RESPONSE

HE CHALLENGED HIM TO BE FAITHFUL (VV. 6-7)

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEM DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEIR WORDS DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEIR PRICKS

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEIR POISON DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEIR LOOKS

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. **John 9:4 (NKJV)**

BOTTOM LINE—THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE, JESUS WAS AUTHORIZED TO DO THE WORK OF GOD AND HE HAS AUTHORIZED US