

THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD #3 PERSONS

We have learned that dreams give us direction and guidance. Our dreams cannot be controlled thus God in his providence may use them. We also learned that God has a prepared place for us. His providence will take us to a place of worship, provision, success, and protection.

Another act of God's providence may be found in our relationships.

1SA 16:17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring [him] to me.

1SA 16:18 Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite, [that is] cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD [is] with him.

Let's consider how God uses people in providential acts.

1. David and Saul's servant.

In Isa 16 13 David has just been anointed to be the next king of Israel.

While he is being anointed it is pointed out next in v 14 " and the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul."

An evil spirit troubled Saul and his servant suggests that he needs music to settle his spirit. The servant is commanded to find a man that can play well. This unnamed servant is who God uses to put David in a place of prominence and set him on course with his destiny.

2. Esther and Mordicai

EST 2:17 And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

EST 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, [then] shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for [such] a time as this?

Mordicai took his niece whose parents had died and raised her as his daughter. They were taken into Babylonian captivity. The king does away with his queen by having a virgin search for her replacement. Esther

becomes queen. The king is tricked into signing a law that would do away with the Jews. Thus he pressures Esther to represent the Jewish cause.

3. Joseph and the butler

GEN 41:9 ¶ Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

GEN 41:10 Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, [both] me and the chief baker:

GEN 41:11 And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

GEN 41:12 And [there was] there with us a young man, an Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

GEN 41:13 And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

GEN 41:14 ¶ Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph,

4. Ahab and an unknown soldier

1KI 21:19 And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.

1KI 22:34 And a [certain] man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of the harness: wherefore he said unto the driver of his chariot, Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host; for I am wounded.

1KI 22:37 ¶ So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria.

1KI 22:38 And [one] washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; and they washed his armour; according unto the word of the LORD which he spake.

The prophets' warning was fulfilled by providence. Without aiming a soldier shots into the crowd and hits Ahab. The chariot is washed in the pool of Samaria where Ahab killed Naboth.

4. Paul and Barnabus

ACS 9:26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

ACS 9:27 But Barnabas took him, and brought [him] to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

It was the influence of Barnabas that gave Paul favor with the apostles. How would you have liked to be the one who introduced Paul to the fellowship?

5. Mary and Jesus

JOH 2:3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.

JOH 2:4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

JOH 2:5 His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do [it].

This is the third day after Jesus has called some of his disciples. Mary presents the problem of the wedding, no wine. Jesus informs her it is not his time. Mary commands the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them. She is more or less saying “you have called disciples, I know who you are, you know who you are, now do something!” And he did.

6. Paul and Onesimus

PHM 1:8 Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient,

PHM 1:9 Yet for love's sake I rather beseech [thee], being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

PHM 1:10 I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

PHM 1:11 Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:

PHM 1:12 Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:

Onesimus is a runaway slave of a man that Paul knows. He meets him in prison and wins him to the Lord. Paul writes a letter to his owner Philemon

requesting that he receive Onesimus as a brother on Paul's behalf. Onesimus' life was changed and redirected because he met Paul in prison.

My testimony: My ministry started a different course when Dwayne came into my office. It was out of this relationship we have developed an emotional healing ministry.

When in Mexico the Lord gave me a word "The man from Africa graduating from CBC whose wife you are paying for a plane ticket to his graduation? Have him speak in your church. From now on whenever you meet someone you are to see them differently. They will minister to you or you are to minister to them."

After that word I have met, Don Nordin, Gary Davidson, David Hartman, Etc. all has changed my life.