



Mark Hanby Ministries P.O. Box 8093 Chattanooga, TN 37414  
(423)-510-8383

### **SPECIAL TREASURE**

*Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.*

EXODUS 19:5

The Hebrew word for ‘special’ gives the connotation of a private, personally acquired POSSESSION. God spoke this to the children of Israel after He delivered them from Egyptian bondage. It’s the first reference of God ever calling people special. Obedience made them special treasure—a priesthood and nation He promised to carefully preserve.

Being His “special treasure” means they possess what is of VALUE to God. It’s exemplified by a WILLINGNESS to be led. The Apostle Peter identified God’s special people as not only led by the Spirit but also as grateful CELEBRATORS of His excellence and virtue.

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God’s] own purchase, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.*

1 PETER 2:9 AMP

Webster’s dictionary derived ‘special’ from Latin—meaning an individual or particular ‘specie’—it’s in the same likeness, form or kind. God made mankind in His IMAGE to be LIKE Him and it manifests through our ALIGNING to Eternal Truth and Love.

#### **=Special Identity**

It is the creative potential itself in human beings that is the image of God. ~MARY DALY

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters, compared to what lies within us. ~ RALPH WALDO EMERSON

‘Special’ stresses having the identity, character, and purpose of God. ‘Special treasure’ is His essence manifesting in you as ‘Christ’—meaning it’s the express image of His purpose. It’s crucial to know your IDENTITY is ‘in’ CHRIST and not ‘what’ you do. Otherwise

you'll be like Moses—he identified himself by what he did and ended up with a list of HANDICAPS for why he couldn't obey God and fulfill his purpose.

Identity is everything. It takes a lot more work to change a misguided identity than it does to change character (attitude/behavior) or purpose. That's why God starts with identity—He defines who you are in Him first by showing you Who He Is.

### **=Moses' Handicap**

Although Moses was born a Hebrew, he was adopted by the daughter of Pharaoh and grew up as an Egyptian. When he's forty years old he attempted to take a stand against the infringement of an Israeli slave by an Egyptian taskmaster. He thought his Hebrew brethren would interpret his act as a confirmation that God would use him to deliver them from bondage—but his attempt at deliverance ends in disaster. He barely escaped Egypt and abandoned any future thought of ever becoming a deliverer.

Another forty years passed before the fugitive Moses saw a burning bush and heard God say, "... Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say." God wanted to teach Moses how to deliver the children of Israel out of bondage but Moses thinks he's too handicapped to be used of God. Even though the Bible says Moses "*was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was mighty in word*" nothing God said changed Moses' belief that he could only be a disappointment. Finally God had Moses' brother Aaron be his mouthpiece.

### **=Knowing His Identity Made All the Difference**

Although Moses had an inkling of his purpose early in life, now he saw the big picture—God's plan of deliverance. God revealed the outworking of the Tabernacle/Temple/Body of Christ. Moses comprehended God's salvation plan for mankind—something we're still interpreting as it continues unfolding in our day.

While on Mount Sinai the people made a golden calf. The situation created a RIFT between God and Israel.irate with the people's hasty corruption of worship God wanted to destroy them and establish His promise through Moses' lineage—building the nation again through one man as He did with Abraham.

But during the Exodus from Egypt, Moses was DELIVERED from his RUT—his limited notion of what he was able to accomplish. Now he truly believed his purpose was what God said—to deliver the children of Israel from bondage and lead them to the promise land. All that transpired in his life led to this defining moment. Therefore Moses interceded as one of the children of Israel and asked God to help them change.

### **=Stuck in a Rut**

The children of Israel were mentally stuck in a rut. It's similar to some of the vinyl phonograph recordings of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. A scratched record skipped moving forward. The needle literally STUCK in a crevice and kept repeating the same words over and over again without any hope of ever changing—unless there's some outside intervention. Israel

was stuck in their fearful thoughts—they couldn't get out of the rut to move forward into the promise land. They would have died in there 'Wilderness' except Moses stood in the breach to intercede for them.

Most people aren't even aware that their thoughts keep circling the same well-worn grooves. They were scratched/hurt/damaged and found safety in a fox hole—they just never came out. Now they're stagnating in a rut and to step out is just too frightening.

Examples of some HANDICAPS from rut-thinking:

- (1) 'Handicapped' by feeling like a VICTIM held hostage—someone else is to blame for your circumstances and you think there's nothing you can do.
- (2) 'Handicapped' by feeling OVERWHELMED with too much to do—you quit doing anything until you have time to catch up, but you never do.
- (3) 'Handicapped' by the uncreative circle of PERFECTIONISM—you get stuck in reworking the details and never move forward. Often when we say we can't do something, what we really mean is we won't do something unless we can guarantee that we'll do it perfectly the first time.
- (4) 'Handicapped' by paralyzing FEAR of failure or criticism—you'll never be good enough, smart enough, etc.

Fear is never easy to confront. Yet if you do and take that seemingly huge step to address the handicap that keeps you stuck, you'd find that it's not as frightening as imagined. You'd also discover that stepping out of your rut opens opportunity for success. The 'action' itself connects you to a spiritual pathway of empowerment that identifies you in His Christ.

### **=Making a Difference**

What looked like a tragedy for Israel turned into an OPPORTUNITY for Moses to learn intercession. Prayer is the routine operating procedure of any intercessor. He sought to forge the breach with a creative alliance with the Great Creator. He knew God could deliver those stuck in their wilderness places—it was the story of his life. Moses had been stuck forty years before God got his attention. Opportunity came when he aligned to the Great "I AM THAT I AM" Power Source that has the ability to bring expansive change by transforming lives and nations.

Moses sought to obey God and discovered OPPORTUNITY—taking the plan of God into another level of manifestation. Later God testified "*that He would destroy Israel, had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach.*" God called it a breach because it hinged two possibilities for Israel's future—life or death.

### **=The Goodness of God**

*And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth."*

EXODUS 34:6

*Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?*

ROMANS 2:4

There are ways that God triggers change in your life. Many times God simply paints a picture of your true identity to inspire or motivate a deeper desire in you to take steps in that direction. That's what He did for Moses. It took something WONDERFUL like the burning bush experience to awaken curiosity in Moses to turn aside and investigate. In opening your soul to opportunity you likewise come face to face with God and all that He has comes to you.

Another way is a form of visualization. In the Tabernacle visualization is seen in the ceremonial RITUALS. Rituals begin a mental change that transcends man's old identity by ACTING out a new role. In the Tabernacle the rituals were not only for the priesthood but also helped the people to see how they should act/ behave/ live.

Some people resist change. That's what happened when Moses spoke to Pharaoh. But God FORCED change. He INTERVENED by using spectacular signs and wonders through Moses to get Pharaoh's attention and also awaken the children of Israel. That's why at pivotal junctures in history there's a miraculous display of power that usually caused some type of visible upheaval.

### **=The Rich Opulence of Grace**

*And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.*

God loves the world He created and blesses anyone who accepts it. Heaven is His home and all the earth is His—even the rich oil fields or the cattle on a thousand hills. But not everyone receives His grace. God doesn't hold anything back—yet it's only those who position themselves to receive the benefits of His grace and love that tap into the rich opulence of His Kingdom. If you agree/align/obey God by identifying with Him as His Christ and Special Treasure, then all that He has comes to you.

God says, "You are mine!" Do you believe it? Tune into the voice of God within ... allow it to enthuse your innermost being into fulfill your purpose. Enthusiasm (filled with God) is the current or energy of the Spirit you tap into through obedience. It's being inspired or motivated to climb out of a rut or to climb higher. It intensifies when you grab onto what He reveals and take it seriously—BELIEVE it's true. Take the necessary steps now to be aligned to the abundant grace poured out to this generation ... let His grace impact your identity as never before. Be NEW in Christ.

Remember that God is your Power Source. Did you know that you decided just how powerful God is by setting the amount you're willing to receive? You can limit how much God can give you or help you. Consider how powerful God really is and then draw from that rich vastness of power. Learn to be receptive of the magnanimous power of God—when He gives a gift always be open to receive it as another opportunity.

Today we stand in a breach with the EXPECTATION of total saturation in truth/grace/love power. We are “... *a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, his own special people*”—empowered as His ‘special treasure’ to move forward into a greater manifestation of His Body by taking the steps that make a colossal difference now. That means you possess what He has—and you are absolutely priceless.

---

Roger and Karen Roth are the set ministry of a local church in Northeastern Wisconsin. They are a ministry son of Dr. Hanby, and along with writing the Bloodline articles each month, they are directors of a portion of Dr. Hanby's ministry called THE FATHER'S HEART.

Any questions or comments please contact us at [rogerandkaren@live.com](mailto:rogerandkaren@live.com)