

Men Without Names

“Now a Certain Man...”

Key Unnamed Bible Characters

- Great events do not require great men for a great resolution
- In the service of the Lord, it does not matter who does the great work; it matters that the great work is done
- God often uses quiet, unknown men to shape the course of this world

1Kings 20 - The Unknown Prophet

- 1Kings 20:28-43 - “(35) Now a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor by the word of the LORD...”
- 2Cor. 4:8-11 - “We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed-- 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.”
- Do your part for the Lord regardless of the personal cost to you

1Kings 22:29-38 - The Unknown Archer

- 1Kings 22:29-38 - “(34) Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of his armor.”
- God was able to use an archer randomly chosen, making a shot at random, following orders given by a man who had no idea Ahab was in disguise in the chariot line fleeing from them

1Kings 22:29-38 - The Unknown Archer

- Isa. 46:8-11 - “Remember this, and show yourselves men; Recall to mind, O you transgressors. 9 Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.”

1Kings 22:29-38 - The Unknown Archer

- There is no way to stop the full realization of God's purposes
- There is no way to be certain how crucial or unimportant our role may be in it; it is best just to do our part and let God deliver the results

1Kings 22:29-38 - The Unknown Archer

- 1Cor. 3:5-8 - “Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.”

2Kings 5 - The Unknown Servant

- 2Kings 5:13 - “And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?”
 - His own servants gave him reproof and counsel
 - The reproof was modest and respectful

2Kings 5 - The Unknown Servant

- Great men would do well to listen to the counsel of subordinates
 - Prov. 9:7-9 - “He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself, And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself. 8 Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you. 9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.”
- One need not be a great man to offer great counsel to a great man
 - Gal. 6:1 - “Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”

Matt. 26:17-19 - The Unknown Homeowner

- Luke 22:7-13 - “Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. 8 And He sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat. 9 So they said to Him, Where do You want us to prepare? 10 And He said to them, Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. 11 Then you shall say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?' 12 Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready. 13 So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.”

The Unknown Homeowner

- Some persons, like some interesting matters, are unknown because such knowledge is not necessary, and can at best be considered distracting; and, at worst, a potential source for digression
- Matt. 17:1-5 - “Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; 2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. 3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. 4 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. 5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”

The Unknown Homeowner

- Some persons in scripture must remain unknown in this world; God's revelation is complete; it was not designed to satisfy casual human curiosity; we have all we need
 - Deut. 29:29 - "The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."
 - 2Tim. 3:16-17 - "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."