

Responding to Revelation part 2

Too many people respond to knowledge and not to revelation. There can be a positive response or a negative response. This week we are going to look at 2 scriptures, one from the old and one from the new testaments which are different responses from people being used by God.

To respond means to act on, or do something in reaction to something else.

When we get revelation we should respond to it, make it start to work in our lives, let it become a part of us. As our wineskins remain open and pliable for what God wants to do in us and through us.

Then we will find it easier to respond to what we hear and see.

Let's look at mark 9:38

³⁸ "Teacher," said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

Here we see John go to Jesus and say " there is a guy over there who are driving out demons in your name."

Let's look at the man casting out demons:

1. He was doing it in the Name of Jesus
2. He was not part of the disciples
3. He could have been one of the 72
4. He must have known Jesus and not just about him
5. He could have been one of John the Baptist disciples
6. He must have some time come in contact with Jesus' teaching
7. He wasn't concerned what people thought about him
8. He must have had a kingdom mindset
9. This guy had the authority of the name of Christ
10. This guy is a faith person

Let's look at John's response to this.

1. He ran to Jesus
2. He gave a bad report
3. He told him to stop
4. He could not understand that this guy could use the Name of Jesus and not be in the cliquy group

It's amazing how we tend to expect people to perform to our expectations, our denomination, our theology, our doctrine, our church building

Let's look at the response of Jesus

1. He says do not stop him
2. No one can do a miracle then bad mouth me
3. Who is for us is not against us
4. Notice Jesus didn't ask him what covering he was under
5. Jesus didn't say who he was submitted to
6. Which bible college he went to
7. What committee was he on?

Let's look at a similar story in the Old Testament:

Numbers 11:26-29

⁶ Meanwhile two men, Eldad and Medad, had stayed in the camp. They were listed as leaders but they didn't leave camp to go to the Tent. Still, the Spirit also rested on them and they prophesied in the camp.

²⁷ A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!"

²⁸ Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' right-hand man since his youth, said, "Moses, master! Stop them!"

²⁹ But Moses said, "Are you jealous for me? Would that all GOD's people were prophets. Would that GOD would put his Spirit on all of them."

This is an amazing passage of scripture that shows a likeness to John 9.

Lets look at Eldad and Medad:

- Eldad: one who God has loved, favored of God
- Medad: means love, he that measures water of love, beloved friend

1. They were listed among the 70
2. Anointed
3. Prophesied
4. They did not conform to the others
5. The prophesied in the camp and not in the tent (tabernacle)

Now let's look at Joshua:

1. Faithful servant
2. Brings a bad report
3. Wanted to stop Eldad and Medad from prophesying
4. Did not see the big picture
5. Was jealous

Now let's look at Moses:

1. He questions Joshua's motives
2. Leaves them alone
3. I wish all of Gods people would prophesy

These two guys were nominated to assist Moses in the government of the people. They prophesied in the camp instead of going with the rest of the tabernacle as Moses had commanded. This incident was announced to Moses by Joshua who thought their conduct and respect was irregular. But Moses replied "are you envious? I wish that all people would be prophets?"

This story emphasized that God's spirit can fill any person at any place at any time!

These two stories emphasize the importance of being obedient to God and to the great commission and to what God has spoken in your heart. Everything has started by somebody stepping out and having a "go". These passages of scripture don't talk about being independent, I believe they talk about using what God has given you in the place you planted to advance the Kingdom of God and see people set free instead of taking them to a building and making them conform to another system.

Another fine example is the Ethiopian eunuch. Philip had preached to him and told him about the good news and then the eunuch's response to this was in Acts 8:36, "why shouldn't I be baptized now?"

Do we tend to take the place of God and not allow His Spirit to work in the person?

In both stories men didn't wait for man's approval or to be sent but just got about the business God had called them to do and if we think this is independence then we have a problem with control.