

Hidden in Secret, Released in Power

I John 3:16-18 (NLT)

"We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us. So, we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother and sister in need and shows no compassion- how can God's love be in that person? Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth."

It is God's goodness in and through us that can draw the community to Him.

It is about building strong relationships in the community and letting them know that we are here and that we care.

I.

When we meet the needs of the community, we create opportunities to minister to their spiritual needs.

We owe it to them and to God to be the best version He has called us to be.

It will require holiness and sanctification.

Consider: 2 Timothy 2:21 (NLT)

If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.

God often develops His people where nobody sees them.

What He develops in the secret place He releases in power.

God is positioning us to make a greater impact.

II.

Colossians 3:3 says, "For ye are dead, and your life is hid in God."

Colossians 3:3 is a powerful identity defining scripture. Because being hidden is intentional.

God often hides what He considers valuable until the proper season for His glory to be released. God's hiding place is not a place of rejection: it is a place of preparation until the appointed time.

God is looking for hearts that are surrendered, obedient, disciplined, consistency, alignment and prepared.

We must not have anything within us that the enemy can use.

III.

Isaiah 49:2 says, *“And He made my mouth like a sharp sword; In the shadow of His hand hath He hid me and made me a **polished shaft**; in His quiver hath He hid me.”*

When Isaiah speaks of being hidden in God’s quiver, it speaks of being: concealed, protected, reserved, and strategically kept until the appointed time.

The biblical nature of a polished arrow is designed to hit the target. Spiritually, God develops people who can accurately hit the target.

Habakkuk 2:2 says, *“For the vision is yet for an appointed time but in the end, it shall speak and not lie. Though its will not be a tarry wait for it to **surely** come, it will not tarry.”*

And as we have allowed the Divine Archer to prepare us, He goes into His quiver and removes the arrow. The metal is mined, shaped hammered, ground, polished finished. At first, it doesn’t look like much, the process is uncomfortable and even painful, but every stage has a purpose.

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And when you show up on the scene, things begin to change because of your presence. Because signs and wonders follow them that believe.