

Title: Challenge of the Lowlands

Pastor: Fred May

Date: 31 July 2011

Time: 18:00



Judges 1:19 NKJV

So the LORD was with Judah. And they drove out the mountaineers, but they could not drive out the inhabitants of the lowland, because they had chariots of iron.

Rigters 1:19

En die HERE was met Juda, sodat hy die gebergte in besit geneem het; maar die bewoners van die laagte kon hy nie verdrywe nie, omdat hulle ysterwaens gehad het.

a: Providential Genius / Voorsiening se Begaafdheid

1. Bezalel & friends / Besaleël en vriende

Exodus 31:1-4

1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 2 “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. 3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4 to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze

Exodus 31:1-4

¹VERDER het die HERE met Moses gespreek en gesê ² Kyk, Ek het Besaleël die seun van Uri, die seun van Hur, van die stam van Juda, by sy naam geroep;

³ en Ek het hom vervul met die Gees van God, met wysheid en verstand en kennis en bekwaamheid vir allerhande werk, ⁴ om kunstige planne uit te dink, om dit uit te voer in goud en silwer en koper,

Exodus 35:34

³⁴ “And He has put in his heart the ability to teach, in him and Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.

Exodus 35:34

³⁴ Hy het dit ook in sy hart gegee om ander te onderrig, aan hom en aan Ohóliab, die seun van Ahísamag, van die stam van Dan.

- 400yrs of underdevelopment & disempowerment restored / 400jr se agterstand ingehaal

2. the blacksmith assignment / Die Ystersmit se bedreiging

I Samuel 13:19-20,22

¹⁹ Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, “Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears.” ²⁰ But all the Israelites would go down to the Philistines to sharpen each man’s plowshare, his mattock, his ax, and his sickle; ²¹ and the charge for a sharpening was a pim for the plowshares, the mattocks, the forks, and the axes, and to set the points of the goads. ²² So it came about, on the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan. But they were found with Saul and Jonathan his son

1 Samuel 13:19-20, 22

¹⁹ En daar was geen smid te vinde in die hele land van Israel nie, want die Filistyne het gesê: Anders kan die Hebreërs swaarde of spiese maak.

²⁰ Daarom moes al die Israëliete na die Filistyne afgaan om elkeen sy kluitbreker of sy pik of sy byl of sy ploegskaar skerp te maak —

²¹ so dikwels as die snykant stomp was aan ploegskare en pikke en drietandvurke en byle; en om die osprikkels reg te maak

²²So het dit gekom dat daar in oorlogstyd geen swaard of spies te vinde was in die hand van al die manskappe wat by Saul en Jónatan was nie; maar by Saul en sy seun Jónatan was dit wel te vinde

- Skills & knowledge; spiritual & material technology / *vaardighede, kennis & tegnologie - geestelike en konkrete*
- Containment through disarmament and enslavement – slow destruction / *inperking deur ontwapening en slawerny – stadige vernietiging*

b: The Curse of Dualism / Die vloek vd Dualisme

1. golden calf OR iron chariot (Ex 32) / die goue kalf of die strydwa (Ex 32)

2. blindness thru idolatry(compromise, consumption/lovelessness) / die verblinding van afgodery (kompromiteer,hebsug)

Judges 2:11-14NIV

¹¹ Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals. ¹² They forsook the LORD, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the LORD's anger ¹³because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. ¹⁴ In his anger against Israel the LORD gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist

Rigters 2:11-14

¹¹Die Israëliete het toe gedoen wat verkeerd is in die oë van die Here: hulle het die Baäls gedien

¹²Hulle het opgehou om die Here die God van hulle voorvaders, wat hulle uit Egipte laat trek het, te dien. Hulle het ander gode begin dien, van die gode van die nasies in die omgewing. Die Israëliete het hierdie gode aanbid en die Here getart.

¹³Hulle het opgehou om die Here te dien en hulle het die Baäls en die Astartes gedien.

¹⁴Toe het die Here kwaad geword vir Israel en hulle oorgegee in die mag van roofbendes deur wie Israel beroof is. Die Here het hulle ook uitgelewer aan die vyande in die omgewing. Die Israëliete kon nie meer teen hulle vyande standhou nie.

Deuteronomy 28:28, 29

²⁸ The LORD will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart. ²⁹ And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you

Deuteronomium 28:28-29

²⁸Die HERE sal jou slaan met kranksinnigheid en blindheid en sinsverwarring

²⁹ sodat jy op die middag sal rondtas soos die blinde in die donker rondtas, en in jou weë sal jy geen voorspoed hê nie; maar jy sal altyddeur net verdruk en beroof wees sonder dat daar 'n helper is.

1 John 2:10-11

¹⁰ He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. ¹¹ But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

1 Johannes 2:10-11

¹⁰Wie sy broeder liefhet, bly in die lig, en in hom is geen oorsaak van struikeling nie.

¹¹Maar hy wat sy broeder haat, is in die duisternis en wandel in die duisternis en weet nie waarheen hy gaan nie, omdat die duisternis sy oë verblind het.

3. the checker board, the Chinese Yin&Yang; the profane and the sacred / skaakvloer en Sjinese Yin&Yang; die gewyde en ongewyde

2 Chronicles 1:5

⁵ Now the bronze altar that Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the LORD; Solomon and the assembly sought Him there

2 Kronieke 1:5

Ook die koperaltaar wat Besáleël, die en Salomo en die vergadering het dit besoek seun van Uri, die seun van Hur, gemaak het, was daar voor die tabernakel van die HERE;

c: The Glory of Incarnation / Inkarnasionele Heerlikheid

John 1:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Johannes 1:14

¹⁴En die Woord het vlees geword en het onder ons gewoon — en ons het sy heerlikheid aanskou, 'n heerlikheid soos van die Eniggeborene wat van die Vader kom — vol van genade en waarheid

1. GOD's eternal purpose brought to corporeal expression / GOD's ewigheidsdoel vergestalt

2. the gift of revelation / die genadegawe van openbaringskennis

Isaiah 11:2

² The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD

Jesaja 11:2

²en op Hom sal die Gees van die HERE rus, die Gees van wysheid en verstand, die Gees van raad en sterkte, die Gees van kennis en van die vrees van die HERE.

Isaiah 61:1-4

¹ “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.” ⁴ And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.

Jesaja 61:1-4

¹DIE Gees van die Here HERE is op My, omdat die HERE My gesalf het om 'n blye boodskap te bring aan die ootmoediges; Hy het My gestuur om te verbind die gebroekenes van hart, om vir die gevangenes 'n vrylating uit te roep en vir die geboeides opening van die gevangenis ²om uit te roep 'n jaar van die welbehag van die HERE en 'n dag van die wraak van onse God; om al die treurendes te troos; ³om vir die treurendes in Sion te beskik dat aan hulle gegee word sieraad vir as, vreugde-olie vir treurigheid, 'n gewaad van lof vir 'n verslae gees; sodat hulle genoem kan word terebinte van geregtigheid, 'n planting van die HERE, tot sy verheerliking. ⁴En hulle sal die ou puinhope bou, die verwoeste plekke uit vroeër dae weer oprig en die verwoeste stede weer nuut maak wat woest was van geslag tot geslag

- for holistic restoration / vir holistiese herstel

d: Vision for the Lowlands / Vlakke- visie

1. The trust of chariots / vertrou vanuit strydwaens

Psalms 20:7

⁷ Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God

Psalms 20:7

⁷*Sommige roem op strydwaens en ander op perde, maar óns sal roem op die Naam van die HERE onse God*

2. The LORD's earth / GOD se aarde

Psalm 24:1

¹ The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

Psalm 24:1

¹*Die aarde behoort aan die HERE en die volheid daarvan, die wêreld en die wat daarin woon;*

3. from the sanctuary / Vanuit die tempel

Exodus 36:1

¹ "And Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded."

Exodus 36:1

¹*SO moet dan Besáleël en Ohóliab en elkeen wat kunsvaardig is, in wie die HERE wysheid en verstand gegee het om met kennis al die werk tot vervaardiging van die heiligdom te verrig, dit maak net soos die HERE beveel het.*

Haggai 2:6-9

⁶ "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; ⁷ and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. ⁸ 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts. ⁹ 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

Haggai 2:6-9

⁶*Want so sê die HERE van die leërskaar: 'n Rukkie nog, 'n kort tydjie, dan sal Ek die hemel en die aarde en die see en die droë grond laat bewe.*

⁷*Ek sal ook al die nasies laat bewe, sodat die skatte van al die nasies sal toevloei; en Ek sal hierdie huis met heerlijkheid vervul, sê die HERE van die leërskaar* ⁸*Aan My behoort die silwer en aan My die goud, spreek die HERE van die leërskaar.* ⁹*Die toekomstige heerlijkheid van hierdie huis sal groter wees as die vroeëre, sê die HERE van die leërskaar; en op hierdie plek sal Ek vrede gee, spreek die HERE van die leërskaar.*

- a. Consecration for transformation / heilige toewyding vir transformasie

Philemon 1:1

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus...

Philemon 1:1

¹ *Van Paulus, 'n gevangene ter wille van Christus Jesus...*

- a. stewardship not ownership of blessings & gifts / rentmeester vs eienarskap v seëninge en gawes
- b. integration, convergence > vision, long-term planning > innovation > initiative > military formation / integrering, konvergensie > visie, strategiese beplanning > innovering, inisiatiewe > militêre formasie

4. Lowlands ascendancy - marketplace, cultural, social and civic arenas / Impaktering vd vlakte - markplein, arenas vd kultuur, politiek en die maatskaplike

- e: The Prayer for Convergence and Ascendancy / Gebed vir integrering en oorwinning

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. ²² And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Efesiers 1:15-23

¹⁵Daarom — vandat ek gehoor het van die geloof in die Here Jesus wat onder julle is en die liefde tot al die heiliges — ¹⁶hou ek ook nie op om vir julle te dank as ek aan julle in my gebede dink nie ¹⁷dat die God van onse Here Jesus Christus, die Vader van die heerlikheid, aan julle die Gees van wysheid en openbaring in kennis van Hom mag gee, ¹⁸verligte oë van julle verstand, sodat julle kan weet wat die hoop van sy roeping en wat die rykdom van die heerlikheid van sy erfdeel onder die heiliges is ¹⁹en wat die uitnemende grootheid van sy krag is vir ons wat glo, na die werking van die krag van sy sterkte ²⁰wat Hy gewerk het in Christus toe Hy Hom uit die dode opgewek het en Hom laat sit het aan sy regterhand in die hemele, ²¹bo alle owerheid en mag en krag en heerskappy en elke naam wat genoem word, nie alleen in hierdie wêreld nie, maar ook in die toekomstige ²²En Hy het alle dinge onder sy voete onderwerp en Hom as Hoof bo alle dinge aan die gemeente gegee ²³ wat sy liggaam is, die volheid van Hom wat alles in almal vervul

Subject: The Mourning of "Common Sense" - An obituary you really must read

Posted by: MeIB

The Mourning of "Common Sense"

An Obituary You Really Must Read, printed in the London Times

Interesting and sadly, rather true.

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense , who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain*
- Why the early bird gets the worm*
- Life isn't always fair*
- and maybe it was my fault.*

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement..

Common Sense was preceded in death, by his parents, Truth and Trust, by his wife, Discretion, by his daughter, Responsibility, and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers

I Know My Rights

I Want It Now

Someone Else Is To Blame

I'm A Victim

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

If you still remember him, pass this on.

If not, join the majority and do nothing.