

Title: You Have A Role

Grant Hill, Garden Gathering, 7/9/23

We are going to read a story here of Elijah, a mighty prophet of the Lord. He has just confronted the powers, principalities, officials, rulers, and the priests of Israel, asking, "Whom shall you serve? If you serve God, serve Him. If you serve another god, Baal, then serve him." In this story, fire had actually fallen from heaven and burned everything up. Fire burned the altar, the rocks, the dirt, the water, the wood and everything. The prophets of Baal were slaughtered, making Queen Jezebel mad. She threatened Elijah's life. If he killed her prophets, she was going to kill him. Elijah has run away to the desert and the mountain of God, to escape Jezebel. Elijah is in a place of self pity, intimidation and fear as we begin our story. This mighty man of God has hit probably his lowest point in his ministry.

I Kings 19:13-14

Elijah comes and gives his complaint to God. The people had just turned from their wicked ways and declared that they would serve the Lord. A mighty sign has happened. Yet, Elijah turns it around and shows that there is still a battle to be won. There is still something that is attacking us. There is still an enemy that has not been defeated. God does not even acknowledge his griping.

I Kings 19:15-18

God does not even acknowledge his complaint and tells him go and get to work, there is more to do. He goes and actually sets up the king of a neighboring nation. He sets up a king in an enemy nation of Israel for several years in Israel's history. He has the authority to go and say, "You are now the king over Syria," not always a friendly nation of Israel. God also says they are to set up Jehu as a new king over Israel, and anoint Elisha as a prophet. In the rest of I Kings and in II Kings we read that Elisha takes up a double mantle of Elijah, the prophet, when he sees Elijah taken up in the chariot of fire. The Lord God also says, "I have reserved 7000 in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

I want you to hear today that these are nameless, faceless people. We do not know their names. We do not have an image of their faces. But, God has seen every one of them. God has seen 7000 men and women in Israel, who would not turn and serve any other god but Him. They are nameless and they are faceless. Sometimes when the remnant keeps getting smaller in Israel, self pity, self doubt, and unbelief comes against the hearts of the believers. Elijah is wallowing in that place of *self pity* right here, saying, "I alone am left," that will stand up for righteousness and the one true God. God says, no. I have 7000 others who I have seen, who I know, who I hear, and who I am with. I have been in their house, and I know what they do in their secret place. I know where they have stood fast in my work.

I am here to tell you that you have a vital role to play in the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as the 7000 helped bring down the fire of God in their land. It was not just Elijah, but it was also the 7000 people praying steadfastly, "God turn us from our evil ways." Elijah was not the only one. Elijah was the head. He was the head of the house of Israel for the one true God. But, there were 7000 that God said no, these are a part of the remnant. These are a part of the intercessors. These are a part of my Kingdom happening in Israel.

God is looking for this in our house, in our nation, and in our state today. God is looking for the for those that say, "I still have a part. I might be nameless and faceless in the state, in the nation, or in the Body of Christ, but God sees me. My prayers and my decrees matter. God is

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writing down these accounts, saying that “I have not bowed my knee, have not been intimidated, and have not kissed any other god, but Him, Yahweh, the One who should be feared.” The spirit of the fear of the Lord is clean and pure. The most powerful thing that you can know is that you have a role and a part in the Kingdom of Heaven. You have a significant part and a significant role in the Kingdom of Heaven. God really does not care what anybody else says, but His people. God can hear the mockers. God can hear what the devil is saying, but He does not really care what the devil says. What He cares about is, what are my people praying? What are my people saying? What are my people believing? He saw a *remnant* of 7000, and that is what mattered to Him.

You are not alone, so let's get going. We have something to do. It is the same for us and our time now. God is ever increasing. His Kingdom is ever expanding. His Kingdom is ever enlarging. He said get up and get going. You are not the only one. Let's go. What do you want to decree? What do you want to believe? We are and have been in a time, in our state and in our nation, where things are coming to light. Things are looking ugly. Things discourage us with what we see in Washington, DC with the corruption, evil, and blatant, outright yuck.

The Lord says, “what are you going to say about it before me?” You can complain and wallow in it, saying, “I am the only one here, or we are the only ones left.” Or we can have the attitude of “We are going to stay steadfast in what we have decreed. We are going to stay steadfast in what you have said. We are going to stay steadfast in faith and not be intimidated, or bow the knee.” Staying true to what the Lord has called you to do.

Job 22:28

Wednesday night we had a table talk. The word that the Lord gave us was about decreeing a thing and it shall be established. The most revolutionary thing of the gospel was that men and women realized that God was calling them, from whatever social status they were in, to be kings and priests unto their God. That is a revolutionary message. The good news is that I do not have to be impoverished anymore. I do not have to be tormented. I do not have to be beaten up. I do not have to be chewed up and spit out every month, every three months, or every six months. I do not have to go through the cycle of going up and coming down. I am the son or daughter of the living God. Not by my works, but by faith in Jesus Christ, that through His blood He has forgiven me of my sins and all of my mistakes.

That forgiveness allows me to be adopted, redeemed and bought back from a slave of sin, to now be a son or daughter of God and set free. He is the king of all the Earth, and I am His son. I am in the kingdom of priests of our God. If He is the high priest of Heaven, then I am in the order of His priesthood, the order of Melchizedek. That is in Hebrews. This is revolutionary when you get the revelation and the revelatory understanding that we have a part to play in the Kingdom of God, and it is not just for the fivefold ministers.

Ephesians 4

Everybody in the Garden should know what Ephesians four says. “He has given some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers, and pastors for the equipping of the saints who are doing the work of the ministry.” Who is doing the ministry? The saints are doing the work of the ministry. The fivefold leaders are equipping them. If you want to lead in the house, you must serve everyone. You must wash the feet of all. Leaders lead by serving as Jesus leads us by serving us. He is constantly, consistently, everlastingly serving us and our needs, and therefore God has exalted Him high above every other name.

Yes, it is the saints who are doing the work of the ministry. You and I have a role to play. We are doing the ministry of Jesus. We have a ministry of reconciliation. We have a ministry of rebuilding the old ruins. We have a ministry that takes up the desolation and plants restoration.

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Yes, this is our ministry we have because we are equipped with the Holy Spirit. The five fold offices of Holy Spirit encourage you, exhort you, discipline you, train you, and refine you. But, you are doing the casting out, you are doing the laying on of hands, you are doing the speaking forth in faith and it shall be done. You are speaking to the mountains and they are moved.

That is the work of the ministry of the Bride of Christ. Who is the Bride of Christ? Just the heads? No, we are all the Body of Christ being made into the image and likeness of Him, who is our Head until we come into the full maturity of Christ Jesus. That is Ephesians four. Yes. Amen.

Job 22:27-29

Some of you were here on Wednesday so you get a double dose. This isn't Job, himself. But, it is true. We know that pride comes before a fall, but a humble and contrite spirit God raises up. So, there are two parts going on here. You will decree a thing. You will declare a thing. But, if you speak it out in pride, you will fall. If you come with the humility of Christ Jesus, and I have faith in what you are saying to me, I will decree it to be established. That humble spirit God will exalt. Exaltation will come. The light will shine on your ways, because it will be established for you when you decree a thing. Those who are humble, He will save.

I want you to hear some verses on what it means. Part of the role that we have to fulfill in the Church, in the House of God, is we have to speak what God wants to do and agree with what He wants to do. Right? Because, if you actually think about it, what do you do? Do you heal people? No, God heals the person through you, right? Do you send those demons out? Do you *break* those chains, and yank them out? No, it's the Holy Spirit, when you say, "cast it out." You use the authority of Christ Jesus, and the demons flee, because they know Jesus's name and they see Jesus in you. You are speaking the words, but God is the power. Right.

God uses our agreement and our faith. We are an empty vessel, that He can pour through and do the works of faith. We have a will. The work that you do is actually your will to choose to do it. In the book of James, he says, "I will show you my faith by my works." I choose to do something. I choose to be there. I choose to speak. I choose to have this attitude. I choose to believe. That is the work of faith. Faith and works go together. That is why we can say, "that person has faith." How do you know he has faith? He just sits there. But, he is a believer who shows up every Sunday. Okay, where is "come sit," in the Bible? That is not the role that God has given you to do. The role is cleanse the lepers. I choose to put my hand here. Heal the sick. I choose to pray and believe that you are the One that does this work. We are believers, and we walk by faith and not by sight. We go from glory to glory and faith to faith.

Part of this is I speak and I declare what I hear God doing. That is what God needs. He needs your agreement. He needs your mouth. He needs your words. There were 7000 of them at this dire time of Elijah's worst moment. In his worst hour, there were 7000 giving God their words, giving their prayers, giving Heaven their decrees. Giving Heaven their declarations, and giving their actions. The actions are their will to choose. This is what God needs, because God does the rest. In Corinthians, Paul says, "Apollos watered, I planted, and God did the growth." Holy Spirit does everything.

Who fights your battles for you? The Lord says, "Arise and fight my enemies. Have them scatter." You say, "So, I just do not do anything?" No, you are important, because if you do not speak, if you do not pray, if you do not worship Him, and if you do not have agreement, then Heaven cannot come to Earth. You are an ambassador of Christ. You are the Kingdom of Heaven's Ambassador right here. You cannot send an ambassador to another country and have him do nothing, or your country is not exemplified. Your country is not represented correctly in the other country. You are a nobody. You have no influence. That is the truth. If you

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are an ambassador of Christ, then you have a role in the hospital, in the school, in the workplace, on the streets, in the House of God, and in the families of God with mamas, daddies, grandmas, and grandpas. We have a role to play. We have a voice. We have a vessel to be used through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is why we must be declaring a thing to be established on the dirt you are on. The apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers, and the pastors in this town in San Angelo cannot walk all of the dirt. We could try. That would take a lot of months, but we all can do all of that in a week with everybody in the House of God.

In Joshua it states that every place the soul of your feet tread upon, He has given to you. I have a role to play. I have a purpose. I have a function. I have a destiny in the Kingdom of God, and I will be a vessel that speaks the word of the Lord and declares the thing so it can be established and the Kingdom of Heaven can come. I hope you are feeling empowered. This is the truth. This is why you are here.

This is why you were born for this time, because there is a kingdom of darkness that anytime the kingdom of light comes, those in darkness try to build a wall in front of it. Anytime a soul is delivered, those in darkness try to snatch up that word. It says that in the Bible. Whenever the seed has been sown, they try to dry up the ground. Darkness tries to make it hard. Stealing the word as the birds steal the seeds. There is an enemy that says, "okay, you are free, but I am going to try to seduce you." There is an enemy that says, "okay, you are healed, but I am going to bring you fear over this other area." "This has been broken open, but now we are going to build a wall here." There is a kingdom of darkness that does not want to lose its ground. We can agree with it, because it is looking for your agreement as well.

The Kingdom of Heaven needs your agreement, but the kingdom of darkness does as well. It cannot move in an area unless you agree with it? Because, it has been delegated to you. It has been delegated to the children of mankind. When you agree with it, saying, "I like that." "I want this." "Yes, I would rather do that, than follow the way of the Lord." You give them access. You give them a break. You give them a key to open doors and bring in darkness. This is the war. This is the battlefield of the mind. This is what is happening. That is why it is always pressing against the Kingdom of Heaven. That is why it is always at enmity with God. You understand?

You might say, "God, we have broken through right here." Well, the devil did not say, "okay, it is an open Heaven." The enemy is not just going to let it happen. He is going to try to close it back up. How do they get the closing of an open heaven? They have to get the agreement on Earth. They have to get the agreement of men to close it or try to stop its advancement.

We read about Daniel when he was praying twenty-one days and the Angel of the Lord had been sent from Heaven with a word for Daniel. The Angel of the Lord was detained for three weeks in the second heaven. The enemy was trying to stop Daniel from getting the word. Who was stopping it? The principality of Persia, held me back so that the word of God would not advance. How can that happen? God has delegated authorities. This allows us to see the wrestling that is happening in the heavens and know that we are in a war.

You are in a battlefield, and you have a role to play. But, every time the light we have been talking about shines forth, then the cockroaches scatter. They go to find more darkness to build a bigger wall, so that the light cannot penetrate it. So, you have to go from faith to faith. You have to get higher and higher in the glory, so that the light shines brighter. Are you seeing how this works in the spirit? This is spiritual warfare 101. It is one on one. We need to get to level 505, glory to glory, and up, up, up.

I have a role to play. We have a role to play. God has called us, as in the book of Esther, "you were born for such a time as this." Do not be intimidated. Do not be shaken, but decree and

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declare. Do not bow, do not bend, and do not break. But, believe in Him, the One who does it all. Jesus said, "I am all in all. I do it for you." He needs your faith. I need your faith. Who opens the Red Sea? Who splits it wide open? Did Moses do that? No, but he believed. He did the will of Him who sent him. He chose to say, "I will do what you tell me to do." God says, "Raise the staff," and the winds came and split the sea open. But, nobody there was saying Moses did it. His faith is choosing His will and to say I have a role to play. This is my role. This is my position. This is my authority. This is my place. This is my time. That is the "yes." This should be encouraging your spirit. We are going to read some scriptures here. "Decree a thing and it shall be established for you."

Amos 3:7-8

How much does the Lord do without the speaking forth of words? Nothing, and it is almost unbelievable to the House of God sometimes. God does not move outside of us believing and decreeing and prophesying it. *Scripture* says that the Lord God does nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. Why the prophets? Because, they will speak it. They won't keep it in, they will speak it in faith. He has to reveal it to the ones who will speak it. He enters on the praises of His people. He abides. He shows up on the words that we say and on our worship, but He also can move with our prophecy. He can bring light and vision when we speak the prophecy. When the Lord roars, "who can but prophesy?" Yes, you are all called to be prophetic in the House of the Lord. Why? Because, the prophet is in you. Jesus, the Prophet is in you. You have His Spirit of Prophecy, "the testimony of Jesus, is the Spirit of prophecy." The testimony of Jesus Christ in you is the Spirit of prophecy. It says that in the book of Revelation. This is the truth, and when He roars, you will speak it forth. "Declare a thing and it will be established." Who is it going to be established for? The Kingdom that you are a part of establishing, the Kingdom of Heaven, yes.

Micah 7:11

The devil is trying to set up walls, snares, pits and traps. But, God is establishing His Kingdom and making a stronghold of Heaven. He sets up His ramparts. He sets up His standards. He sets up His City on a Hill. He sets up His tent. He sets up His mountain. He sets up His Kingdom here. Those walls are to be built with the people that pray, decree, and say, "Yes, Lord." The decree shall go far and wide. That is why we have "Just a Sound Regional Service." Just a sound. Just a sound of faith. Just a sound of prophecy. Just a sound of belief. Just a sound of a decree that goes far and wide. This is what is happening. The walls are going to be built. If you are not of the Kingdom of Heaven, you are getting evicted. The decree shall go far and wide. The ramparts shall be laid. This is the walk of faith. This is a walk of the Spirit. Holy Spirit is clean and pure and full of the fear of the Lord. He is the fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 10:1

You cannot just decree whatever you want to decree. "Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees, who write misfortune, which they have prescribed." You cannot just decree whatever you want to decree. If you want destruction to come to Russia, and you decree it over them. If that is not what the Lord has said, then that is an unrighteous decree. You have to know what the Lord God is saying. What does that mean? You have to spend time with Him? What does that mean? You have to know His voice.

You have to know the still small voice just as much as you know the fire of God. You cannot decree what you want to have happen. You have to decree what God says will happen. We can talk it out with God but decreeing a thing is a legal term. Decreeing a thing is a formal place to be. We can wrestle with God. We can talk to God. "God, this is what I want. This is what I desire." As you wrestle with Him, He works it out so that your desires become what is true. When you are in the Spirit, the Spirit of Truth will lead you into all truth. Then you can come to the place of a formal decree and a formal declaration, and say, "This is the truth. This is what

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shall be.” But, “Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees.” You have to hear both sides of this. You cannot just be swinging a sword because you have a sword. You need to have a sword that penetrates the soul, the mind, and the thoughts and intentions of the heart of man, even your own soul. Even your own soul, and your own thoughts. Yes, this is good.

Proverbs 8:14-15

You are the kings and priests of God. You are the sons of the living God. You are the rulers. You are the delegated authorities. You are the delegated ambassadors of this land, of this region, of this dirt. By the wisdom of God and by His counsel, you have the authority to decree justice. By the Holy Spirit of wisdom, you can do it, and you are supposed to do it. You need to do it.

Matthew 3:10-12

This word of the Lord came to us during Just a Sound. This scripture applies to what the Lord is doing. This is John the Baptist speaking. The Lord has said that even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. We are in a time and a place where the Lord has put His axe upon our nation. He is letting the fruit be exposed even in our own hearts. Where we have been intimidated, where we have compromised as the House of God and as a nation, and where we have turned from the way of the Lord to the way of the wicked. The axe is at the root. The axe is there, and He is just letting the tree produce more fruit. So that we all in this country, see how rotten it really is, and it is really rotten.

In the book of Jeremiah, it talks about good figs and bad figs. Jeremiah sees a vision of two baskets, one full of good figs and a basket full of bad figs. The nation of Judah and the nation of Israel had to see how bad their sin really had become. It took hundreds of years for them to see the place of where they were at. It was so bad they had to be sent away from their home into captivity for 2000 years before they would have their nation back as a sovereign nation.

The axe of the Lord is here. Brandy mentioned it. There is this news of a terrible tsunami. But, if our eyes are on the glory of the Lord, Who has the axe, and if our eyes are on the Spirit of Truth, Who has the axe and the winnowing fork in His hand, then you would say, “Yes, Lord, I will not be shaken, because I know that you uproot and you pluck up and you plant good things. You produce good fruit. The way of the Lord is righteousness, peace and security. The fruit of man is always destruction, insecurity and fear. You hear it? The winnowing fork is in His hand. He is going to sever and cut away the chaff. He is going to burn it up. He is going to pluck up. How is He going to do that? If His Church that sees this Word says, “Yes, I decree and declare the winnowing fork is in your hand. I decree and declare that you have the axe, and you have set it to the root. Finish the work. Finish the work by your hand, not by our wants, not by our compromise, not by what we want to see happen. You finish the work, in my city, in my state, and in my nation. I trust your hand versus my desires. I trust your hand versus what I want. I trust you your deliverance, because you are a merciful God. But, you are also a just God. By you rulers decree justice. God hates corruption and injustice. He hates it, and He will expose it to the root. So that everybody says, “I do not want anything to do with that.” Right?

Sometimes you have to know what the vomit tastes like. We read in the Proverbs that the pig goes back to the vomit. The dog goes back to the vomit to eat it. It is such a graphic image in Proverbs of what we do with sin and our own fleshly desires. God allows you to finally see the vomit. Then you say, “I do not want anything to do with that anymore.” That is true deliverance, where you have an aversion to the fleshly lusts you had before. You have an aversion to the bondage that you used to willingly go to. That is true freedom, because when the Son sets you free, you are free indeed. That is the ministry of reconciliation that we have been given through Jesus.

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We have to agree that the winnowing fork is in Jesus's hands, and we have a role to play for Him to do the work powerfully, swiftly, righteously and justly. You have a role. Your voice matters. Your prayer matters. Your willingness matters. Your choice to pray matters. Your choice to say yes matters. Your boldness to go matters. "Elijah, go." Don't wallow in self pity. Right? Samuel is told after weeping over King Saul. "Get up. Stop weeping over Saul and go anoint the son of Jesse that I tell you to." We know the rest of the story.

Sometimes there is enough being solemn and grieving over your state or your nation. "Let's go. Let's make it right, and let's finish it. By your decrees, by your anointing, and by your work. Set up the kings. Set up the prophets. Set up those that are going to be coming. Set up the kings and set up the prophets that are going to be coming. It is not just about you and your ministry, Elijah. It is about the generation to come as well." Hear it? That is where we are at. This is where we are at right now. A Kingdom vision, a Kingdom mindset, a Kingdom to come and to keep coming, yes.

Luke 11:27-28

The woman was trying to exhort. The woman was trying to encourage Jesus. Saying, "Blessed be your heritage and blessed be your forefathers. What a great lineage you must have come from. What a great family who raised you." Jesus says, "Better than that, blessed are those who hear these words and keep them, because they are part of my heritage. They are a part of my inheritance. They are a part of my family." Do you see it? We can say the same thing. "Wow. What a nation I have been born in and what a heritage I have. What an inheritance I have been given here." Jesus says, "Well more than that, hear my words and do them. You will have a greater nation. You will have a better inheritance. You will have a more important community that will never be shaken, never perish, and never go away. More than that, 'Blessed are those who hear my words and keep them.'" Amen. We will continue on next week.

Holy Spirit, we receive your word, and we receive your instruction to decree a thing and it will be established for us. That every place the sole of our foot has tread upon, you have given to us, as it says in Joshua 1:3. God, we receive this. We receive this truth. We receive this promise, that as we are grafted into your covenant, when you speak, how can we but prophesy? How can we but decree, "You are the prophet that says the truth, and you are the Way, the Truth and the Life! The winnowing fork is in your hand, and I say, "Yes, Lord Jesus, cut, save, deliver, and remove the chaff. Uproot the trees, remove the desolations, expose corruption and wickedness. Let our house be so filled with your truth, your justice, and your decrees. That our house would be so full of the Spirit of the Lord, that we would recognize these times and seasons and not bow, be intimidated, nor be compromising. But, be anchored, steadfast, and immovable in who we are and who our God is. In Jesus's mighty name I pray, amen.