

#### 5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

# My Life Was Spared

I was born at an early age (just a joke) in a farming community in Northeastern Oklahoma. We had a farm and also a house in our little community of about 300 people.

There was a large field next to our home that was overgrown with high weeds. My dad brought a large farm tractor to town with a mower to mow this field. As he was mowing the field, he felt compelled to stop for some reason. He didn't know why.

I was in a bassinet on the porch, when some neighboring kids took me and the bassinet into the field of tall weeds without my mother or father knowing about it. My father was not a Christian and had no reason to listen to the still small voice that was telling him to stop the tractor.

One time a prophet named Elijah had a revelation of our great God, and God said to him,

"...'What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>10</sup>So he said, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.'

<sup>11</sup>Then He said, 'Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

<sup>13</sup>So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle..." (1 Kings 19:9-13 NKJV)

It was this still small voice, that I believe was speaking to my father, when he was told to stop his tractor as he was mowing the field. As my father stopped, he jumped off the tractor and went to the front of the vehicle. There I was. In front of the tractor tires, my bassinet was being crushed and I was patty caking on the front tires of this machine. Just a few more feet and I would have perished, run over by my dad on his own tractor.

Jeremiah the prophet was told by God,

"5'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

<sup>6</sup>Then said I:

'Ah, Lord God! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth.'

<sup>7</sup>But the Lord said to me:

'Do not say, "I am a youth,"
For you shall go to all to whom I send you,
And whatever I command you, you shall speak.
Bo not be afraid of their faces,
For I am with you to deliver you,' says the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me:

'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup>See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms,

To root out and to pull down,

To destroy and to throw down,

To build and to plant." (Jeremiah 1:5-10 NKJV)

Today this website is reaching into many nations of the world, bringing the message of Jesus Christ to the nations.

Hebrews 1:14 tells us that angels are ministering spirits of God, sent to minister on behalf of those that shall inherit salvation (Hebrews 1:14). I am glad that the angel of the Lord stopped my dad that day. I think of the many children whose lives are not spared. I am thankful that I am here today.

There were ten lepers in the Bible that Jesus healed (Luke 17:12-19). Only one returned to thank Him. Would you have been like the nine that went on their way thinking, "I sure am lucky!?" Or would you have been like the one who was healed, that broke out in praise to God for His mercy and grace that was bestowed on him that day? Selah. Think about that.

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11 New Living Translation)

## **Questions**

Before you were ever born God had a plan to save you from destruction.

True or False

2 If you want to hear God's voice, do not harden your hearts.

True or False

### We want to hear from you!

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

delessons.org/contact

DKM 10065 Sun Ridge Circle Rogers, AR 72756 U.S.A. delessons.org

## **Answer Key**

Before you were ever born God had a plan to save you from destruction.

#### True

"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth," (2 Thessalonians 2:13 NKJV)

2 If you want to hear God's voice, do not harden your hearts.

#### True

"7So God set another time for entering his rest, and that time is today. God announced this through David much later in the words already quoted:

'Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts.'" (Hebrews 4:7 NLT)