

## **THE NEED OF A WILLING HEART** **(Exodus 35:4-5)**

The time had come for the Tabernacle to be built. God did not force anyone to participate in the offering that was needed for the work. He wanted only those people of a willing heart to be responsible for the building of his dwelling place.

**Exodus 36:4-7** As far as I know, this is the only place in scripture, as well as in my life time that church leaders have ever had to compel people to stop bringing offerings for the work of God.

### **Amasiah: A Willing Servant**

**II Chronicles 17:16** Here we find how one verse of scripture can define a person's whole life. The bible does not tell us what Amasiah did to deserve the distinction of such recognition other than the fact of his total self-sacrifice based on a willingness to offer himself in the service of his Lord and his king. Amasiah (1) realized the need (2) he knew his abilities (3) he responded to the need (4) he willingly offered himself. No other leader in the army of Jehoshaphat was recognized with such distinction.

### **The Church Needs Willing Hearts**

**Exodus 36:2; Ephesians 4:11-12** God gives some believers specific skills and others are given their own special gifts by the Holy Spirit for the work of God. However, He will only bless those that desire to serve Him that serve from a willing heart.

**Matthew 11:28-30; Mark 12:30** As believers we must remember that the foundation of our relationship with God was our willingness to trust Him and receive Him as Lord and Savior. God never forces people to come to Him and He will not ever force people to serve Him.

**I Peter 5:1-4** All those that faithfully serve the Lord will receive a crown of unfading glory. The key to receive this crown of glory is having a willing heart to serve.

**Exodus 36:2; Galatians 6:9-10** Notice that Moses called those who had a heart for God and a heart that was stirred up for the work of God. God has not changed in the way He calls us to serve today.

### **The Degrees Of A Willing Heart**

**Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:7-9** Paul illustrates the ultimate willingness to give ourselves willingly to God for His purpose and service. This is what God is looking for in His people.

**II Corinthians 8:1-5** When I get convicted about my degree of giving in a time of need, God often brings these verses to my attention. The shock and respect that Paul gives these people is totally based on their willingness to give themselves 100% to God and His service. What a great example for us.

**II Corinthians 9:6-7** The proportion of God's blessings is in direct proportion to our willingness to give and to serve Him within His church. Unwillingness destroys the character of our offerings.

### **A Willing Heart Reward**

**Matthew 10:42** How many cups of cold water will be rewarding because of a willing heart?

**Mark 14:3-9** How many alabaster boxes given out of a willing heart will be rewarded?

**Mark 12:42** How many times have people given "the widows mite" without our knowledge?

Is God pleased with our service? With our sacrifice? Is He pleased with our willingness?

When needs our announced what is our response? What is our heart level of willingness to God?

