

Be not afraid of rejection – 20 Feb 2005

- Joshua Daniel

Now friends, let's turn to the word of God at the book of Acts 7th chapter from the 26th verse. Here we are reading about Moses: And the next day he showed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at once again, saying, sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

Wilt thou kill me, as thou did'st the Egyptian yesterday?

Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Median, where he begat two sons.

And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai an angel of the lord in a flame of fire in bush.

When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight: And as he drew near to behold it, the voice of the lord came unto him,

Saying, I am the god of thy fathers, the god of Abraham and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold

Then said the lord to him, put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground.

I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.

This Moses whom they refused saying who made you a ruler and a judge, the same did god send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush. He brought to them after that he had showed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the red see, and in the wilderness 40 years. This is that Moses which said unto the children of Israel, a prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren like unto me him shall you hear.

35th verse, please: This Moses whom they rejected or refused. Moses was rejected. You know my dear friends, from the time we send our children off to school; there is in them a great desire to be accepted. I suppose all of us have in sense to contend with that desire. We want to be accepted, no matter what the company is. When I went into college, some friend or somebody, very close to me, said, well, you know you are coming off to college to the university and mark you; we'll get you to smoke. You know we'll get you to do this, we'll get you to do that and people feel they are

rejected and therefore they think they must get dejected. Why should everybody accept me? They didn't accept my lord. Why should they accept me? They spat on his face, why shouldn't they spit on my face? Why should I receive a special treatment which was not even given to my lord? After all I am his disciple, I say that I fly his colours that I belong to him and the bible tells me in Mathew 21 and 42: The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. That's the lord's doing. He allows you to face rejection. You know my dear friends, when we started praying every day as young fellows, people thought, hey, what's all this? We have got our student organizations, you they had a students' Christian movement in those days which went very modernistic shortly after, began very well indeed. So by the time I arrived at college here was a just a place where boys found girls, and girls grabbed boys. That was about it. There wasn't anything very spiritual about the whole thing, except it was a kind of pre-matrimonial club. Most absurd. But that's how they wanted it, you see, the boys loved it. And I had nothing to do with it. Stay it away, that was the way that everything went that was accepted rout but I had nothing to do with it. I could see through the sham of it and soundly rejected it. Then some three or four of us getting alone in the bushes and pray, we seem like absurd and foolish fellows. 2 or 3 of us were so outstanding in sport that nobody dared to laugh at us outright. That we did not ridicule, we did not face to an intense degree but a strangeness of it all. Even the principal thought it very clear and he quoted as proverb to us; to work is to pray. I thought prayer was hard work but I didn't think that every other form of work was just prayer, adoration and prayer. Well, perhaps in a sense when you and I peel potatoes which we normally don't, we can get lost like some of those glorious men of old who could transport themselves into almost the third heavens and walk with god, peeling potatoes, well, we don't do that. And we get lost in work in such a way that prayer gets totally neglected. That's how I saw it. But my principal saw it differently. In fact he told me, the English honours course is so exacting, you cannot do anything besides. He was a very famous educationist. A doctor of divinity, but I said, look I don't want to be all the time under the nose because he was one of the professors in the English class room. I said I don't want to be directly under the nose of this gentleman because he will keep a tag on me all the time so I better move where I will have greater flexibility. You cannot to evangelistic work, he said. You wouldn't have the time. Well, I could see some point in that because there was heavy reading to be done. I was not going make use of my college years just to be proficient in the English language. I had more cooking, I wanted to serve the lord to prepare myself to win souls. I said this is the primary reason why I am here, to win souls. So if I cannot do in this college I will move away to another college which I did. Yes, your principal may reject you, your friends may reject you. But he was rejected and despised of men. A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. We turned our faces away from him. Yes, here is the lord. He was rejected,

what's the big deal if you and I are rejected. We want to be accepted. So we must imitate everybody, isn't it? To be accepted we must be a bunch of imitators. No, I don't do that. Emotion is a part of our makeup but allowing our emotions to run wild without a concomitant, that is, an equal righteousness. I want to tell you it is meaningless. If the ones that are shouting and singing on Sunday morning just slither into their holes or disappear in the crowd on Monday morning, what good will they do? What good is that religion? That's all it is today. You can barely see, recognize a Christian in the work place. You know the fear that is not of God, God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.