

What It Takes to Elevate

What does it mean to elevate?

raise or lift (something) up to a higher position.

- raise to a more important or impressive level.
- (of a priest) hold up (a [consecrated](#) host or [chalice](#)) for [adoration](#).
- increase the level or amount of (something, especially the level of a component of a person's blood).
- raise the axis of (a piece of [artillery](#)) to increase its range.

late Middle English: from Latin *elevat-* 'raised', from the verb *elevare*, from *e-* (variant of *ex-*) 'out, away' + *levare* 'lighten' (from *levis* 'light').

A Turn for Better Teaching Notes

Key Passage: Deut. 2:1-3

BACKGROUND

- ❖ Moses charged to prepare a people that have caused him to miss the Promised Land
 - Yet, he is not considered a failure – John 3:14-15, Heb. 11:23-29, Deut. 34:10,12
 - The problem – Deut. 32:51-52, Num. 20 (vs. 10-12)
 - Disobeyed God
 - Chose anger over faith
 - Stuck rock like before (Exo. 17) when God wanted to do a new thing
 - Took the glory from God by taking credit (Num. 20:10)
 - Christ was struck once (1 Cor. 10:4)

- ❖ Some 30 days or so before Moses will transition, God graces him to provide the children of Israel a reminder of where they have come from
 - Important b/c when you forget the past, it is difficult or impossible to appreciate the present and move into the future...
 - Jesus often would illustrate the importance of knowing the past to understand the now and future...

- ❖ Moses literally is preparing the people of God to walk into the Promised land by reminding them of the lesson they have learned along the way – Psalm 103

- ❖ Moses is writing in recollection to all that God has done during his time of leadership of the people of God
 - He has led them out of Egypt
 - 1:19-33: He led them to the doorstep of the Promised Land yet the people refused to walk into it because...
 - Facts void of truth
 - Fact was just like God said it was – Num. 13:25-28
 - Fact was flowing with milk and honey – Num. 13:27
 - Fact that the people looked like giants – Num. 13:28
 - But the truth was that it was already theirs – Num. 13:1-2; Deut. 3:18
 - Truth was they were favored of God
 - Truth was they couldn't handle what God had for them at the time
 - 1:34-40: God told them they wouldn't get there but their children would

- “Turn around and go back into wilderness” – vs. 40
- 1:41-46: thought could fix it your way – self elevation
 - Apologize and go when ready but God said it won’t work...
 - Vs. 43: they went presumptuously in rebellion against God...you went up anyway...
 - Ended up defeated by enemies (Amorites) – vs. 44
- Told to go back into wilderness by way of Red Sea
- Now Moses comes to them again and says it’s time to take a turn for the better...
 - 2:3 – You’ve been circling long enough...
 - You’ve been in repeat cycle long enough...
 - It’s been long enough
 - God tells them to turn northward...

POINTS TO PONDER

❖ We all have made some bad turns – Romans 3:23

- Adam and Eve turned to the serpent – Gen. 3:1-5
- Abram lied about Sarai – Gen. 12:10-20
- Elijah for fear turned to a cave – 1 Kings 19:9-11
- Samson turned into Delilah – Judges 16
- David turned to Bathsheba – 2 Sam. 11
- Peter turned and denied knowing Jesus – Mat. 26:69-75
- Paul held coats of those who stoned Stephen – Acts 7:58-59
- You and I – 1 Cor. 6:9-11

❖ God will teach you in a spin cycle –

Deu 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

❖ You must wait on God for another opportunity – 1:41-46

- You can’t manufacture it on your own
- You can’t manipulate it
- You can’t fake it – Acts 19:11-20

❖ When God says move, move

Psa 95:7-9 For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice, (8) Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and

Elevating Christ Alone

Key Passages: Mat. 17:1-13; 2 Pet. 1:16-19

- ❖ Who we worship matters
- ❖ Who we memorialize matters
- ❖ God wants us to know Him through the finished work of His Son Jesus
- ❖ If the work being done is of God, it should find it's fulfillment in Christ
- ❖ No matter how on may have been used, no man compares to who Jesus is and what He has done

Whom do they say and whom do you say Jesus is

(Mat. 16:13-17; Mark 8:27-33; Luke 9:19-21)

- ❖ Jesus knew that there were diverse opinions regarding who He was.
 - Men: the people, mankind – Mat. 16:13-14
 - They had opinions based upon what they had heard – Mat. 14:1-2
 - Placed Him in high regard with other men that were respected from the past
 - Ye: reference to His disciples
 - Jesus asked the disciples, knowing that they should know more – Mat. 16:15
 - Peter's knowing came by revelation from the Father – Mat. 16:18
 - Note that the church was built on revelation from God. When an assembly is void of the revelation of who Jesus, THE Son of Man is, it is void of the revelation necessary for God to build HIS church upon – Mat. 16:18
 - Note the definitive article "THE" to designate Jesus as THE Son of the living God.

Preparation through suffering

(Mat. 16:21-23)

- ❖ Jesus prepares His disciples by continuously teaching them of what He would have to go through to get to
 - A gospel that tells us we will never go through anything is a man-based fantasy that robs you and I of the victory and glory God wants to reveal in and through us – John 16:33; Rom. 8:18; 1 Pet. 5:10; James 1:2-4
 - Ends up rebuking Peter after Peter tries to rebuke Jesus
 - QUESTION TO PONDER: Are we still trying to rebuke Jesus?

True Signs of Discipleship

(Mat. 16:24-27)

- ❖ Self-denial – vs. 24; Luke 9:23-24; Gal. 2:20
- ❖ Possessing, lifting up your cross – vs. 24; Mat. 5:16; 2 Tim. 1:8
- ❖ Following Christ – vs. 24; 1 Pet. 2:21
- ❖ Living for Christ – vs. 25; John 12:25
- ❖ The world or Christ – vs. 26-27 – Luke 12:20; Psa. 49:7-8

The Transfiguration

(Mat. 17:1-13)

- ❖ Vs. 1: After 6 days, Jesus takes Peter, James, John UP privily APART
 - Representative of the inner circle among the disciples – Luke 8:51; Mat. 26:37
- ❖ Vs. 2: HIS face did shine – Rev. 1: 16
 - The glow of being in His Presence
- ❖ Vs. 3: Moses and Elijah appear with HIM
 - Peter knew who Moses and Elijah were...
 - Both in the presence of God
 - Moses – Mt. Sinai
 - Represents Law
 - Had a glory but was reflective – 2 Cor. 3:13
 - Elijah – Mt. Horeb,
 - The prophetic

Mat 5:17 KJV Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

- ❖ Vs. 4-5: Just one tabernacle needed
 - Jesus affirmed by God
 - 2 Peter 1:17-18
- ❖ VS. 6-7: Jesus touched them
- ❖ Vs. 8: After the touch, they only saw Jesus

Lessons in Elevation

Key Passages: Mat. 17:1-13; 2 Pet. 1:16-19

- ❖ Elevation is more than a word but a process – 2 Pet. 1:5-8
- ❖ Elevation requires clarity – 1 Thes. 5:21; Acts 2:46-47
- ❖ Elevation requires submission – John 12:20-26
 - To the process
 - To principles
 - To practice
 - Ultimately, to God
- ❖ Elevation requires acceptance of the responsibility that comes with it
 - There is no more without more – Luke 12:48
 - Some of the mores that come with elevation:
 - Time with God
 - Responsibility to help others
 - Scrutiny
 - Sacrifice of time
 - Commitment to learning – Pro. 12:1
- ❖ Elevation requires a new mind -
 - Regarding your mindset – Col. 3:2; Phil. 4:8; 2 Cor. 10:3-5
 - Regarding your relationship with God – 1 Chr. 4:9-10
 - Regarding your life – Gen. 32:28; Eph. 2:2-10
 - You are not the same person – Rom. 6:4
 - You are not the same mistakes – 2 Cor. 5:17
 - You are not in the same place or space – 2 Tim. 2:20-26
 - Regarding your witness – Mat. 5:14-16; Isa. 43:1-12
 - In your family and community – Acts 2:46
 - In this world – 1 Tim. 3:6-7; Mark 16:15