

## LESSONS FROM RICK JOYNER'S BOOK "THE FINAL QUEST"

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### Recap of the previous lesson (A Bare Life)

- There is a cloud of witnesses in heaven who know all of us and see all that we do (Hebrews 12:1-3).
- Everything we are doing is being recorded in heavenly books (Revelation 20:11-12).
- We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad (2 Corinthians 5:9-10).

### Today's Topic: TRUE AND EFFECTIVE MINISTRY

1. Live for Jesus, not to make a name or history
2. Do not waste time
3. Do not compare yourself with others
4. Do not control people: be secure in God & be humble
5. Practice what you preach

#### Live for Jesus, not to make a name or history

45-9 *We knew the Lord and trusted in His cross for salvation, but we lived for ourselves more than we really lived for Him.* **2 Corinthians 5:14-15**

51-7 Reformer's wife: *You can dictate the course of history and yet not do the Father's will or glorify His Son. If you commit yourself to making human history, you may do it, but it is a fleeting accomplishment that will evaporate like a wisp of smoke.*

53-1 *"Only the Spirit can beget that which is Spirit. If you are truly yoked with Him, you will do nothing for the sake of politics or history. Anything you do because of political pressures or opportunities will only lead you to the end of your true ministry. The things that are done in an effort to make history will at best confine your accomplishments to history, and you will fail to impact eternity.* **1 John 2:17**

#### Do not waste time

47-6 *I then began to think of all of the time that I had wasted in my own life.* **Ephesians 5:15-16**

#### Do not compare yourself with others

47- 6 *I may have kept more oil in my lamp than others, but now I knew how foolish I had been to measure what was required of me by how others were doing.* **(2 Corinthians 10:12-13)**

#### Do not control people – be secure in God

48-4, 8 *"It is true you were prideful, but that is not why I was offended with you," he said. "I was offended because of my insecurity, which made me want to control everyone around me. **Philippians 2:13 and Philemon 8-10, 14, 17 – 21**) I was offended that you would not accept everything I said without questioning it. I then started to look for anything that was wrong with you so I could justify rejecting you. I began to feel that if I could not control you, one day you would embarrass me and my ministry. I esteemed my ministry more than I did the people for whom it was given to me, so I drove you and many others like you away."*

(8) *"I built a large organization," he continued, "and had considerable influence in the church. But the greatest gifts the Lord entrusted to me were the people who were sent to me for discipling, many of whom I rejected. **John 3:16***

### **Do not control people – be humble**

50-1 *I started out knowing that I had been one of the greatest of sinners who had found grace, but ended up thinking that I was one of the greatest apostles. It was because of my great pride, not insecurity like our friend here, that I began to attack everyone who did not see everything just the way I did. **1 Corinthians 13:9 and Galatians 1:11-12; 15-17; 2:1-2***

(2) *"I stripped those who followed me of their own callings and even their personalities, pressuring them all to become just like me. No one around me could be himself. No one dared to question me because they knew I would crush them into powder. I thought by making others smaller I made myself greater. I thought that I was supposed to be the Holy Spirit to everyone.*

51-10 to 52-1 *"Much of what my husband did, he did more for me than for the Lord. I pressured him and even gave him much of the knowledge that he taught. I used him as an extension of my own ego because as a woman I could not be recognized at the time as a spiritual leader myself. In a sense, I took over his life so that I could live my life through him . . ."*

### **Practice what you preach**

52-4 (last sentence) *If you preach the greatest truths but do not live them, you are only the greatest hypocrite and the most tormented soul **Matthew 23:1 – 3. Verse 14 (hypocrites to receive greater condemnation)***

52-8 *Then the famous Reformer offered a final exhortation: "Do not try to teach others to do what you, yourself, are not doing.*