



Peter Doseck

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by

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CHAPTER ONE

DON'T CALL ME COMMON

One day Peter was praying on a rooftop at about the noon hour. While he prayed he became very hungry, and he desired to eat, but the food was not ready yet, so he continued to pray.

During this time Peter fell into a trance, and he saw the heavens opened. While he watched the vision unfold, he noticed a vessel of some kind, shaped like a sheet that was lifted at the four corners.

Peter saw the vessel come down to the earth, and he saw that inside were all kinds of four-footed animals, wild beasts, fowls of the air, and what the Bible calls “creeping things.” Peter was perplexed, and then a voice said, “Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.”

Peter immediately responded, “No, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.” The voice answered again, “What God has cleansed, do not call common.” (Acts 10:9-15)

The word common, in terms of what Peter knew, meant unholy, defiled, and unclean. It indicated something that was unusable in God’s eyes.

Peter had never eaten any of the things he saw in

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the vision, and so he spoke from his heart when he said, “No, Lord!” It seemed unthinkable to him for such creatures to be paraded before him, and for a voice to say, “Go ahead and eat.”

It was unnerving, but the voice made it clear that he was living in a new day, and that God was doing a new thing; therefore, Peter had to change his mindset.

Through this vision God taught Peter a valuable lesson. God showed him that his traditional Jewish upbringing was not relevant in this New Covenant era. Though all of the creatures Peter saw were considered unclean in the Old Covenant, they were no longer forbidden. This was big news to Peter.

God used this vision to launch Peter into a new revelation that went well beyond his understanding of what he was allowed to eat. Later in the story God showed him that he should not call Gentile believers unclean anymore, but he must accept them into the fold. In this new day, God wanted Peter to know that every believer should be considered equal in His eyes.

Peter came to realize that all people who had been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ were no longer common. Now in Jesus they were clean, set-apart, and needed in the Kingdom. Peter’s life and ministry would never be the same.

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You Are Uncommon

This brings me to you today. You are not common. You have been bought with a price, and you are a precious commodity to God. With this knowledge, you should never again call yourself common or less than another.

Far too many Christians still relate to who they were before they were saved more than they relate to who they have become in Christ. They consider themselves common, unfit, tarnished, and unworthy of God's love. This must stop.

Other believers mistakenly look at their brothers and sisters in the church and judge them after the flesh, rather than after their re-born spirits. This also must stop because it leads them to make false accusations.

When we talk against that which God has done in someone's life, based on their present circumstance, outward evidence, or temporary behavior, we become just as guilty as Peter. We should never do this to the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 2:12 says: "At that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world." This describes your common nature before you met Jesus and were recreated in His image.

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You are not that person anymore, so now you can declare Ephesians 2:13 over your life. It says: “But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”

It does not matter what the medical establishment says about you, what the banking system says about you, what the economic indicators say about you, what family and friends of the past say about you, how bleak life looks, or how dark the sky is; you are no longer without hope, common, or out of fellowship with God. No! You are not common!

Ephesians 2:19 goes on to say: “Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.” By the blood of Jesus you are now holy, innocent, justified, purified, established, and joined with God. You are His child, and no child of God is common.

Don't Look Back

Christians are notorious for looking backward instead of looking forward. When people have this type of attitude, they will actually find themselves opposing God without knowing it.

People who constantly look back create snares for themselves. They allow the enemy to overtake them, though he has no authority or power to do so. When someone gives the devil the resources to dominate their life, he will take the opportunity to

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come in and conquer them.

This is why we should not call ourselves common, or even think of ourselves as common people anymore. We must turn away from all we were before the blood of Jesus was applied to our lives, and we must do as Paul did when he said:

“This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:13-14).

You must forget the past, even today’s shortcomings, and acknowledge what God says about you, such as: “You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

You were once common, but the blood of Christ has done something very unique in your life; it has caused you to become a new creature (2 Corinthians 5:17). You are commanded by God to let go of the old man and to never look back. It’s time to embrace, receive, and walk in newness in Christ Jesus.

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CHAPTER TWO GIDEON MENTALITY

Too many in the Body of Christ have a Gideon mentality. They believe they are the lowest of the low, the least of the least, and the weakest of the weak.

We all know the story of Gideon. The Midianites had oppressed Israel for seven years, nearly to the point of giving up. Because of the cry of the people, God sent a prophet to restore their uncommon image.

He reminded them of the things God had done before, bringing them out of Egyptian bondage. He also reminded them that their disobedience had brought them into this situation.

At this same time Gideon was out threshing wheat behind a winepress to hide a little grain from the enemy. An angel of the Lord appeared to him with a message and said, “The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor.”

This sounds like a great message, but Gideon replied (paraphrasing), “Hold on! If God is with us, then why has all this stuff been happening to us? Where are all the miracles I’ve heard about my whole life? I heard we were delivered from Egypt, but I haven’t seen anything like that in my lifetime.

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God has forsaken us and given us into the hands of our enemies.”

Gideon was obviously very upset, and he let the angel know it. Thankfully, God had pity on him and told him, “Go in this your might, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent you?”

Gideon still did not get the drift. He fired back an answer (paraphrasing), “Hey, God! Haven’t you noticed I’m from the poorest family in the neighborhood, and I am the least likely to succeed in my family?” Again, the mercy of the Lord prevailed, and God said, “Surely I will be with you, and you shall smite the Midianites as one man.”

Gideon started to get the hint, but he wasn’t entirely convinced, and so he asked, “If now I have found grace in Your sight, then show me a sign that You are talking with me.” I know this sounds strange, but Gideon was not used to having conversations with God, and so he was in need of mercy once again.

God gave him sign after sign, answering Gideon’s nervous questions, and narrowing his army to only those with keen awareness and uncommon courage.

When it came time for Gideon to take his 300 men into a battle against thousands, God allowed him to hear about a dream an enemy soldier had one night. The dream depicted a massive defeat by Israel,

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and the soldier was terrified by it.

After hearing the dream, Gideon fully believed that he could do what God had told him he was empowered to do all along. It took this final push where Gideon heard the enemy waver and confess that they believed he could defeat them before he was ready to go.

Gideon's greatness was not limited by God, but it was limited by His own perception of himself. In God's eyes, Gideon was a mighty man of valor, but in Gideon's sight he was just a common man. He did not succeed until he began to see himself as God saw him.

Who Are You?

Just like Gideon, your ability lies within the recognition that you are not common. The determination of God for your life, the things He has decreed for you to possess, and the things He has desired for you to accomplish – they all lie within your reach if you will simply come to know who you are in Him.

If you believe you are common, you will miss the greatness that God has ordained for you. You will miss the life that Jesus purchased for you.

You will miss the calling God has given you to fulfill. You will miss the identity He has accredited to you. You will miss the joy of fellowship and

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intimacy with God. All will be lost if you believe you are common.

1 John 3:1-2 sums up your uncommon nature when it says: “Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knows us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.”

You are a child of God, and you are His heritage because you have been touched by the blood of Jesus. Your rights and privileges are the same as those of Jesus Himself. You are a joint heir and an equal participant (Romans 8:17; Ephesians 1:3; Ephesians 2:6).

The birth of Jesus was supernatural, which made Him uncommon. In like manner your new birth was supernatural, which makes you uncommon.

If you are ever going to ascend to the things that God has declared about you – that you can be an overcomer, more than a conqueror, the head and not the tail, above and not beneath, blessed going in and blessed going out – you must believe what God says about you (1 John 5:4; Romans 8:37; Deuteronomy 28:6, 13).

Sometimes other people can see that you are

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special, but you cannot. They know what God said about you, but you have forgotten. Words have been spoken over you to remind you that you are uncommon, but you have laid them aside.

Pick up what God has said about you from His Word, His prophetic declarations, and His encouragement through others. Pick them up, and never lay them down again.

The devil is not stronger than you are. It might be so with the common folk, but it is not so with the redeemed folk. You are not common!

What God Sees

God views you as a man or woman of great valor, of incredible possibility, of set purpose, and of divine ability. He sees you this way because He made you this way, and when God declares something over you, there is enough power in what He says about you to bring it to pass.

Remember what God said to Gideon. He said: “The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor.” Even after Gideon’s arguing, God said: “Go in this your might.”

Notice the message did not say, “I will anoint you and give you more power.” No, God declared that Gideon was a mighty man of valor already, and so He sent him in the might of this predetermined

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power.

God has predetermined power for your life, too. It's in the Word, and it's in His personal words to you. God does not see you as you were before you were saved. He does not even see you as you appear to the world today. God sees you as He has declared you to be. Everything written about you in the Word, this is what God sees in you.

This would explain why Jesus became so frustrated with the disciples sometimes and called them, "O ye of little faith." They had everything they needed right at their fingertips, and yet they did not perceive themselves as having anything, and so they did not believe.

Don't frustrate God anymore. Believe His words about you, and begin to think of yourself as God thinks of you. Begin to see what God sees, and begin to do mighty works because of what you see.

It's time for you to "go in this your might" just like Gideon. If God says: "I will supply all your need according to My riches in glory by Christ Jesus", then believe it and act on it. You don't need more signs to prove that God is really on your side. You have His Word and His declarations about you. This is all you need.

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CHAPTER THREE UNCOMMON LIVING

We were created for signs and wonders. We were not created to be ordinary because we are the light of the world. We are the salt of the earth. We are lambs among the wolves. There's nothing common about us.

The world is dark, but we are light. The world is corrupt, but we are purifying salt. The world is full of wolves, but we are the sheep of His pasture. God has designed us, and He has declared over us an identity that the world cannot deny.

When you get a revelation of this, a real revelation where you truly believe what the Bible says about you, you will begin to do uncommon acts.

An uncommon act might be as simple as a confession of faith born of a revelation of the Word. You see what God says in a new light, and suddenly it's no longer *if* God will do it, but that He *will* do it.

When the light goes on, you begin to speak those things which be not as though they were (Romans 4:17). You no longer fake a faith confession, but now a true confession of faith pours forth from you like rivers of living water.

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Your confession is coupled with praise and thanksgiving, and lo and behold the promise comes to pass. This is an uncommon act. You have behaved like Jesus.

An uncommon act might be to take one step out of a wheelchair. That step might be wobbly, and it may take every ounce of strength you have, but take it! When a revelation of God your healer permeates your heart, get up and do what you could not do before.

Take one step, and then another and another and another. Keep pressing beyond normalcy into the realm of the uncommon acts of an uncommon believer.

Your uncommon action may be a hundred and one things, but the reason you are beginning to do something is because you have a revelation that you are not common.

You are the apple of God's eye, the child of His delight, the one over whom He longs to sing, the one who makes Him glad (Psalm 17:8; Psalm 18:19; Zephaniah 3:17; Proverbs 10:1).

You must begin to think outside the box of your past life. You must release your present failures. You must look through your weaknesses and see where God is strong on your behalf.

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Paul said this: “Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong” (2 Corinthians 12:10).

Paul learned that no matter what came his way, if he relied on the strength of God who dwelt in him rather than on his own strength, he would live an uncommon life and prevail.

Storms come. Life is sometimes hard. But what does that change? God is still with you, in you, and ready to fight the battle for you. You must learn to turn to Him quickly when life rises up to strike a blow. Let Christ in you, the hope of glory, overcome every obstacle because you are not common (Colossians 1:27).

Failure should never cause you to give up. You have greatness on the inside of you in the person of Christ. What has a setback got to do with anything? Get back up and go again, knowing that in Him you live and move and have your being (Acts 17:28).

Regroup

Sometimes we begin our journey on the road of uncommon living, and because of the struggles of life we revert back to the place where we think we are common again. Though it is tragic, it is reversible.

Here's an example. God brought Moses and Israel

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out of Egypt by mighty signs and wonders. Moses stood in the palace of his enemy, and ten marvelous miracles came forth in the land which overthrew the power of Pharaoh. There was nothing that could stand against Moses because God's presence was with him.

All of Israel witnessed these marvels, and they saw the hand of God hovering over them to protect them from each and every plague. Yet, when they came to the Red Sea on the final leg of their great escape, Moses had to reassure them once again and convince them that God had not forsaken them.

Moses made a bold and fiery speech, and then he stopped and looked up to Heaven. When he did God said (paraphrasing): "What are you looking at Me for? Look at your record. Have I not proven that you are uncommon? Take that stick and lift it up one more time!" (See Exodus 14:1-31.)

We're no different than Moses. We can see miracle after miracle, and we can even encourage those around us, but then will come the time when something stands in our way that makes us forget who we are for a moment. It is in those times that we will discover what we are made of.

When God spoke, Moses immediately realized his mistake, and he raised the rod as he had in times past. Moses stretched forth his hand, and God sent a great wind upon the sea so that it opened up with a

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tremendous fury. The water stood up like a massive wall, and the next morning the children of Israel walked through on dry ground.

The Egyptian army thought they could follow behind and capture the Israelites, but Moses knew what to do this time. He raised his hand as God directed, and the water came crashing down, drowning the enemy.

How great was this miracle, but how close to failure they were because for a brief moment Moses looked the wrong way.

When God tells you something, this is not the time to look up and ask, “Are you sure?” You never know when your miracle is at the ready but will be hindered because you question who you are and what God will do.

When revelation comes, keep it in the midst of your heart and never let it go. Do not allow doubt to creep in when things get intense, but remember what God has said about you, use what He has given you, and then do what needs to be done.

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CHAPTER FOUR UNCOMMON PRACTICE

You discover your uncommon nature by prayer, by study of the Word, by meditation of the scriptures, by time spent in fellowship with God, by seeing beyond your limitations, and by activating the Word with a willing heart.

It's time to let go of false humility and to embrace what God says about you. It's not wrong to believe what God says about you, to say what God says about you, and to act on what God says about you. This is what God expects you to do.

Let's practice. Here's what God says about you: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

First you must believe it. Romans 10:17 says: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." The word "hearing" denotes more than just physical hearing. It refers to understanding.

This kind of understanding comes from repeated hearing and hearing and hearing of the Word. This is called meditation, and here's what God says meditation of the Word will do:

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“This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success” (Joshua 1:8).

Meditation brings understanding from the Holy Spirit, which is called revelation, and revelation produces the faith of Romans 10:17. This is how you believe.

Next, you must say what God says about you. This is called a confession of faith, and it is not just a repeating of words, but it is an embracing of the truth that pours forth from you when faith has come.

You could say: “I am in Christ. I have been in Christ since the day He saved me and made me a new person in Him. I am a new creature. All of my old habits, lustful passions, and sinful acts have passed away. I am fresh and new, and there is nothing to hold me back or keep me in the past anymore.”

Next comes acting on what you believe. It may be as simple as watching your words carefully so that you no longer talk down about yourself. You speak only good things because you believe you are a new creature, and the past has no hold on you.

An uncommon lifestyle will follow. People who know who they are in Jesus are not afraid to pray.

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They are not afraid to believe the Bible, and they are not afraid to act on what God tells them to do.

They know God has their back because He created them in His image. The old has passed away, and the new has come. Fear has no place in their vocabulary, and they become more than conquerors through Him who loves them (Romans 8:37).

There is a progression, and there is a roadmap in the Bible, but it is not a lifeless formula. You must activate faith every step of the way, and you must be determined to stick with it until you see victory overcome defeat.

If you will practice this uncommon faith, you can activate every promise you find. It works this way no matter what you need: healing, blessing, wisdom, favor, and even miracles. There is nothing outside the scope of your uncommon nature.

Uncommon Thinking

It comes down to the battlefield of your mind. It does not matter how much other people tell you about the greatness they see in you. It does not matter how many sermons you hear about your uncommon abilities. It does not matter how many Bible promises exist which reveal your uncommon nature. You must discover it, believe it, receive it, and activate it by faith.

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It does not matter how great people tell you that you are; it's how great you believe you are. It's not how blessed preachers say you are; it's how blessed you believe you are. Every promise is waiting for you to access it, but you never will until you make it your own.

Hebrews 4:2 says: "For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." 2 Corinthians 1:20 says: "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

There is not one promise denied. There is not one gospel precept out of reach. They are waiting for the light to go on in your heart, and for you to reach out and grasp your uncommon makeup.

Romans 12:2 shows you how to begin the process which will result in uncommon thinking. It says: "Be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God."

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 defines the process further when it says: "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

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Notice both verses put the initiative in your hands. It's not up to God, but it's up to you. You control your thinking; therefore, you control your destiny. No one can do what is necessary to renew your mind but you. No one can take your thoughts captive and cast down vain imaginations but you.

You can't blame God, or your parents, or your neighborhood, or your economic condition, or your education, or anyone or anything around you. It comes down to you and what you will do with the precious thing we call the Word of God.

Will you embrace it, dig into it, make discoveries, believe it, receive it, and activate faith in it? If so, you will lose your old way of thinking and will begin to walk in a new way of thinking. Your thoughts will become uncommon, and you will overcome every obstacle set before you by the enemy. What will you do?

Don't let a Gideon mentality rule you anymore. Gideon thought God was against him and that's why everything around him was falling apart. You know that's not true, but he didn't know it back then.

It's time to accept the fact that if things are not going your way in life, it may be because you have not embraced your uncommon nature.

There is grace; Gideon found that. There is mercy; Gideon discovered that, too. There is recovery, and

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there is redemption. But it begins with your thinking. Stop looking at the evidence around you, and begin to look at the uncommon nature within you.

You are uncommon based on the blood of Christ, the work of God, and the declarations of His promises. You are nothing on your own, but thank God, He did not leave you on your own. You have been bought with a price, and now you belong to Him (1 Corinthians 6:20). Live like it!

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CHAPTER FIVE UNCOMMON PERCEPTION

We see the power of perception in Numbers 13:25-33. Here, Moses had sent 12 spies to search out the Promised Land to see what lay before the children of Israel. Two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, brought back a positive report and told the people it was time to go in because they were well able to take the land from those who dwelt there.

Unfortunately, the other ten spies did not see it this way. They brought a negative report, claiming that the men of the land were much mightier than they were. They told the congregation that the inhabitants would eat them like giants munching on grasshoppers.

The flip side of this coin was revealed later in Joshua 2:9-11 when Moses' successor Joshua sent two more spies to Jericho to scout out the situation before they went forward to take it. The two men snuck into the house of a harlot, and she hid them while the men of the city searched for them.

This is what she told the two spies about the perception of the inhabitants of the Promised Land. She said: "I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that

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all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

“For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you, when you came out of Egypt; and what you did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

“And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the Lord your God, He is God in Heaven above, and in earth beneath.”

Israel had wasted time and energy in the wilderness for 40 years because they could not muster a proper perception of their uncommon nature. Meanwhile, all of the mighty men of Jericho were terrified. They lived in the most fortified city in the Promised Land, a place with a great impenetrable wall, strong towers, and massive weapons of war, and yet these mighty men were afraid of Israel because of what they had heard.

The report of Israel crossing the Red Sea 40 years prior had been handed down from the previous generation, and they also heard about the battles of recent days on the other side of the Jordan. They had been living in fear and utter hopelessness before Israel set one foot near them.

Imagine that! Israel could have come over at

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any time and taken the land, but they held fast to the wrong perception of themselves, and an entire generation failed to make it to the place God had prepared for them.

The enemy knew more about their uncommon nature than Israel did. They realized the Israelites were uncommon people, and they knew their days were numbered should they fall into their hands.

They knew there was no nation, no matter how great, that could stand against the people of God. They realized there were no natural elements that could restrict them and keep them from entering into that which God had given them. The enemy looked upon them, and realized there was something working on their behalf that no other nation on earth possessed.

When they thought about the might of these uncommon people, they trembled in fear. Their strength, fortitude, and resistance melted away, and they became weary men waiting to be taken. If only Israel had known. If only they had believed.

Joshua had to wait for the old attitudes to pass away before he could take his people into the land with a renewed sense of purpose. They were uncommon, just like the previous generation, but the difference was they believed it.

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A Cloud of Witnesses

When the Lord joins up with you, nothing is impossible. When God tells you something, it is not you alone anymore trying to work it out, but it is man and God coupled together to declare the uncommon counsel of the Lord.

Hebrews 12:1 says: “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”

You have so many examples of the uncommon victory available for a man or a woman who will join with God. Here are just a few.

Abraham and Sarah had a promised child long after the time of life-giving had passed them by because of their uncommon faith. Joseph delivered an entire nation because he stood fast with uncommon integrity.

Moses escaped Egypt with the wealth of his enemy in his hand because of an uncommon resolve. Joshua took Jericho with a shout and a trumpet because of his uncommon faithfulness.

Gideon defeated an army with a lamp and a shout because of his uncommon valor. David killed a giant with one smooth stone because of his uncommon

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courage.

Jehoshaphat destroyed three armies with the praise of a choir because of his uncommon wisdom. Elijah closed up the heavens for three years because of his uncommon obedience.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego withstood the fiery furnace because of their uncommon boldness. Daniel slept peacefully beside the lions because of his uncommon persistence.

Stephen saw the face of Jesus because of his uncommon fearlessness. Paul survived shipwreck, stonings, hunger, and imprisonment because of his uncommon determination.

Jesus endured the whipping post, the vindictive mockers, the brutal beating, and the cruelty of the cross because of His uncommon strength.

You are not alone in your trial. Whatever you are facing, it has been faced before. Whatever you are challenged by, it has been overcome. Whatever you are fighting against, it has been defeated.

You have been touched by God, and you can ascend to the greatness that is on the inside of you in the person of Jesus Christ. He is your all in all, and there is no other name given among men whereby we must be saved, delivered, transformed, blessed, prospered, healed, given wisdom, or shown mighty

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acts than by Him.

You can become a vision-fulfiller, a God-demonstrator, and a promise-receiver. It all comes down to your personal perception. Whose report will you believe? I will believe the report of the Lord!

Uncommon Outcomes

Faith is not a one time proposition. Faith believes what God says no matter what it looks like. Uncommon faith makes you stand firm. It gives you a steadfast resolve so that no matter how many times you miss it, you will not give up the quest.

Faith always works, but sometimes you have to persist in order to overcome the obstacles the enemy will sow in your path.

Daniel fasted and prayed for three weeks one time, and then an angel came with an answer. The angel gave Daniel a key bit of information about why it had taken him so long to get there. He said:

“Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that you did set your heart to understand and to chasten yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I am come for your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia” (Daniel 10:12-13).

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Notice God sent the answer immediately, but Daniel had to stand with an uncommon determination until the answer broke through the trouble in the heavenlies and finally made it to earth. There's more to spiritual activity than meets the eye.

Though you do not know what is going on around you, you must remain steadfast and unmovable in the midst of your waiting, knowing that God is working on your behalf. He has sent the answer you need, so don't give up!

Even if you somehow fail because of weariness or weakness, do not let failure have the last word. Take the opportunity to examine, regroup, and launch out again.

Don't be fearful, and don't give in to the "What if?" syndrome. What if what? God has no "what ifs" in His vocabulary, and neither should you.

Don't doubt or limit what God can do by allowing reasoning to cloud your faith. Don't let a double-minded attitude snuff out the spark of uncommon boldness in your heart.

Uncommon faith will withstand and overcome every fiery dart that the enemy sends its way. It will rise up as a great shield, and it will not only defend, but it will send the assault back where it came from.

Don't be offendable. People who are easily offended

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are always more worried about what others say than what God says. What other people say about you or do to you will never determine or hinder God's vision for you.

The truth is, you can do uncommon things, and you can experience uncommon outcomes. God has made uncommon declarations about you, and your life can be filled with uncommon reactions.

When people hate you, you can love them with an uncommon love. When temptation comes, you can resist with an uncommon determination. When hardships arise, you can persevere with an uncommon endurance. When needs appear, you can sow with an uncommon faith. When pressure comes, you can praise with an uncommon joy.

You are an uncommon believer who serves an uncommon God. It's time to soar above the cares of this life and allow God to pour forth His grace in every area. Never give up! Never give in! And never forget ...

YOU ARE UNCOMMON!