

EIGHT SIGNS GOD HAS CHOSEN YOU

A Fishers of Men Teaching Piece

Throughout Scripture, God chose ordinary people for extraordinary purposes. They were not perfect, fearless, or without failures. They faced opposition, isolation, hardship, and spiritual battles.

Yet God continued shaping them, providing for them, and leading them toward His purpose.

These signs do not mean that every hardship proves a person is chosen. We are chosen by God's grace—not because we have earned it. But these patterns can help us recognize how God may be working in our lives.

1. A Deep Sense of Purpose

Deep within you, there is a sense that you were created for more. You know your life is not supposed to be spent merely working, accumulating possessions, growing older, and eventually dying. You believe God created you to make a difference and impact the lives of others.

Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV)

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

God spoke these words specifically about Jeremiah's calling as a prophet, but they reveal an important truth: God knew Jeremiah before Jeremiah knew himself. His purpose began in the mind of God.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Your setbacks are not necessarily failures. Sometimes what appears to be a setback is part of God's preparation. Your mistakes do not automatically cancel your purpose. Your past does not have the authority to overrule God's calling.

You were called to impact lives, bring light into darkness, and use what God has placed within you for His Kingdom.

2. Intense Spiritual Battles

When God calls someone to advance His Kingdom, resistance often follows. Spiritual opposition does not always mean you are going in the wrong direction. Sometimes resistance increases because you are moving in the right direction.

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

The enemy does not want men to understand their identity, unite around Christ, strengthen their families, or make disciples. When God calls you, you may experience:

- Distraction, discouragement, temptation, fear, and doubt
- Resistance and setbacks

We should not become suspicious of everyone around us or blame every problem on spiritual warfare. But we must understand that the Christian life includes a real spiritual battle.

1 Peter 5:8–9 (NIV)

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.”

Resistance is not your signal to surrender. It is your signal to stand firm in Christ.

3. You Are Drawn Back to Righteousness

A person who belongs to God cannot remain comfortable while living separated from Him. You may make mistakes. You may fall into sin. You may wander for a season. But something within you continually pulls you back toward God.

David is a powerful example. David committed serious sins, but God described him as a man after His own heart.

Acts 13:22 (NIV)

“God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’”

David was not called a man after God’s own heart because he never sinned. He was called that because, when confronted, his heart returned to God through genuine repentance.

Psalms 51:10 (NIV)

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”

A heart after God is not a heart that never fails. It is a heart that cannot find lasting peace while separated from Him. That pull toward repentance is evidence that God is working within your heart.

4. Provision During Seasons of Need

God’s provision does not mean we will never experience hardship. It means that hardship cannot prevent God from fulfilling His purpose.

Joseph was betrayed by his brothers, thrown into a pit, sold into slavery, falsely accused, and imprisoned. Each event appeared to be another setback. But God was positioning Joseph for something greater.

Joseph eventually became second only to Pharaoh in Egypt and was placed in a position to save many lives—including the family that had betrayed him.

Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”

God can use what was intended to harm you as part of the preparation for your purpose. Sometimes God meets our needs by giving us what we requested. At other times, He allows something to be removed because He is leading us toward something better for His purpose.

Philippians 4:19 (NIV)

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”

God’s provision may not always arrive in the form we expected, but He remains faithful through every season.

5. You Carry the Burdens of Others

Sometimes God reveals your calling by allowing you to feel a burden that other people seem able to ignore.

Nehemiah lived far away from Jerusalem, but when he heard that its walls were broken down and its gates had been burned, the news broke his heart.

Nehemiah 1:3–4 (NIV)

“The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.’ When I heard these things, I sat down and wept.”

Nehemiah did not say, ‘That is someone else’s problem.’ He mourned. He fasted. He prayed. Then he acted. The burden became a mission, and the mission led him to organize the people and rebuild Jerusalem’s walls.

- If division burdens you, God may be calling you to build unity.
- If broken families burden you, God may be calling you to strengthen families.
- If lost people burden you, God may be calling you to evangelism and discipleship.

God often places a burden in our hearts before He places the assignment in our hands.

6. Separation From Certain People or Situations

Sometimes God allows separation because He is preparing us for a different season.

After Moses killed an Egyptian, he fled Egypt and lived in Midian. What looked like exile became a season of preparation.

Exodus 2:15 (NIV)

“When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian.”

Moses had been raised in Pharaoh’s household, but he spent years in the wilderness as a shepherd. There, God humbled him, shaped him, and prepared him. Then God appeared to Moses from the burning bush and sent him back to Egypt to free the same people from whom he had been separated.

Exodus 3:10 (NIV)

“So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

Not every relationship that ends is a divine separation, and we should not use God as an excuse to abandon people. But there are seasons when God removes us from familiar surroundings so He can reshape our character and redirect our lives.

Separation does not always mean rejection. Sometimes it means preparation.

7. Attacked but Not Defeated

Job experienced devastating attacks. He lost his possessions, his children, his health, and the support he expected from those around him. Job suffered deeply, questioned what was happening, and grieved honestly. But he did not completely abandon his faith in God.

Job 1:21–22 (NIV)

*“The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.”
“In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.”*

Job was attacked, but he was not ultimately defeated. At the end of Job’s story, God restored him—not tenfold, but with twice as much as he had before.

Job 42:10 (NIV)

“The Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.”

Being chosen does not mean you will never be attacked. It means the attack does not have the authority to write the final chapter of your life.

2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (NIV)

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”

You may be wounded, but you are not abandoned. You may be knocked down, but through Christ, you can rise again.

8. Unshakable Peace

One of the greatest signs of God's presence is peace that cannot be explained by circumstances. This does not mean you never experience fear, sadness, grief, or concern. It means that underneath the storm, there is a confidence that God remains in control.

Philippians 4:6–7 (NIV)

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

This is not peace because everything is perfect. It is peace because God is present.

- God has not abandoned me.
- God is still working and remains faithful.
- God will give me the strength I need.
- My future remains in His hands.

The world cannot manufacture this kind of peace because it does not come from circumstances. It comes through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Are You Chosen?

Do you have a deep sense that God created you for more? Have you encountered resistance that attempted to stop you? Does your heart continually pull you back toward God? Have you watched God provide during difficult seasons?

Do you carry a burden for people and problems that others overlook? Has God used seasons of separation to prepare you? Have you been attacked but refused to remain defeated? Have you experienced peace that your circumstances could not explain?

Then perhaps the better question is not simply, ‘Am I chosen?’

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV)

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession.”

The real question is:

WILL YOU RESPOND TO THE ONE WHO HAS CALLED YOU?

Being chosen is not a reason to believe we are better than others. It is a responsibility to serve others. God does not call us merely to make us feel important. He calls us to make us useful for His Kingdom.

- He calls us to follow.
- He changes us through the journey.
- He establishes our identity and gives us a burden.
- He prepares us through hardship.
- Then He sends us to carry out His command.

Ephesians 4:1 (NIV)

“I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.”

Men, if God has called us, then it is time to answer. If He has given us a burden, it is time to act. If He has brought us together, it is time to unite. And if He has commanded us to make disciples, it is time to go.

ARE YOU CHOSEN?

AND IF YOU ARE—WILL YOU ANSWER THE CALL?