

God Works through People

Read Genesis 6 & 7

We've looked at *God Our Creator*, and we've seen a rich variety of pictures of God's holiness, love, and wisdom. Now we start a new section: *Pictures of His Power*. Here we'll see God as King, Judge, and Savior. However, we'll start with a picture that is highly important but doesn't neatly correspond to a human role: *God Calls and Anoints*.

To begin, ponder this. God is sovereign. He expresses his will, and reality obeys. Realities both seen and unseen obey. He spoke the worlds into existence from nothing.

Because His power is infinite, He is undiminished by such "working". Nothing He does drains His resources even the slightest bit. Yet even with infinite ability, He chooses to work through His created beings. Often He does what He does and is who He is through angels or through people. He creates. He shepherds. He shares His wisdom. He delivers...through people.

Why? God can do anything perfectly by simply expressing His will and be undiminished by so doing. Why does He choose the messy, troublesome, imperfect process of accomplishing His will through created beings? We don't know all the mind of God, but He tells us this in His Word:

1. He created us to be like Himself. That is His destiny for us. He created us to make meaningful decisions, to rule, and to share His creativity.
2. God is love. He overflows with love. That is His nature. He gives. He shares Himself. And when He shares His work with us, He is sharing Himself.
3. God is incarnational. He reveals Himself in bodily form. We normally associate incarnation with the birth of Jesus - God becoming flesh and blood. But God is also incarnational in a broader sense: He chooses to bring His qualities to bodily form. He reveals His wisdom, power, and love through human beings. He chooses to share Himself, not only with us, but through us.

Specifically, when God sets about to save the human race, He chooses to work through human beings. He chooses individuals. He calls them. Sometimes He anoints them. These individuals whom God chooses and prepares become mediators between Him and His people. God thus works through relationships. He works through His relationship with individuals, and through their relationships with others.