



Taking Responsibility

If it is to be, it is up to me... What an absolutely profound statement of personal responsibility and ownership. If we would accept this statement as a way of life, the world would be a better place. This is especially true in light of God's word as a guide for our lives.

I've had the opportunity to reflect on this phrase for a couple of weeks now and I can see how it played out in the lives of God's servants throughout history. Think about men like Noah, Moses, David, and the apostle Paul. What great things were accomplished through them that would not have happened if they did not live this out in their lives? For one thing we would not have survived the great flood that wiped out all who weren't aboard the ark built by Noah. It is entirely possible that the children of Israel would have ceased as a distinct people, absorbed into the nation of Egypt, were it not for the involvement of Moses bringing them out their bondage. Were it not for David, Israel might never have had the courage to go up against the Philistines in battle. This took place only after David accepted the challenge of Goliath, bringing defeat to the champion of the Philistines. Even in error, David thought it up to him to provide a proper home for God and the Ark of the Covenant. In a more contemporary setting, if not for the personal touch and devotion of the apostle Paul, congregations of the church would not have been established throughout the known world of his time. Do you realize that without each of these men and so many others, we would not be who we are? Let us remember too, that their actions were based on a their faith in God.

Ultimately, we have another who understands, dare I say originated, this statement very seriously, He is God Himself. Our very lives would not be, if it were not for His immeasurable love, compassion, mercy and Grace. There is a sign that has been posted says, "Don't Make Me Come Down There! - God". That sign is outdated! Because of our imperfection, our salvation is dependent on what God has done for us here. His work is complete, the rest is up to me and to everyone else who seeks to please His. Don't you see, if it is to be, it is up to me and it is up to you?