

A DARK HORSE is a usually unknown contender that makes an unexpected, good showing—a unexpectedly nominated candidate who succeeds.

God was in the practice of calling out people who are unlikely candidates—people others would not consider able to do the task.

**NEVER JUDGE SOMEONE BASED ON A SEASON**

- ONE SEASON DAVID WAS A SHEPHERD, THE NEXT SEASON HE WAS A KING!
- ONE SEASON RUTH WAS WORKING IN THE FIELD, THE NEXT SEASON SHE WAS OWNING THE SAME FIELD
- ONE SEASON MORDECAI WAS SITTING OUTSIDE THE KING'S PALACE, THE NEXT SEASON HE WAS INSIDE THE PALACE.

**WE SERVE A GOD WHO TURNS THINGS AROUND, THE GOD OF UNMERITED FAVOR!**

- I. When people saw a barren woman in **SARAH**, God saw the mother of all nations. (Genesis 17:15-22)
- II. When People saw a poor prisoner in **JOSEPH**, God saw a powerful minister in Egypt. (Genesis 41:37-41)
- III. When people saw **MOSES** as someone who stuttered and was incapable of speaking effectively, God saw a deliverer for His people. (Exodus 2-3)
- IV. When people saw **JOSHUA**, they could not imagine him as their leader. But God saw him as the perfect choice. (Exodus 17; Joshua 1)
- V. When people saw **GIDEON** as the last in his father's house, God saw a man humble enough for Him to use. (Judges 6)
- VI. When people saw a poor young shepherd in **DAVID**, God saw a mighty King of Israel. (1 Samuel 16)

Well, it wasn't the oldest  
And it was the strongest  
Chosen on that day  
Yet the giant fell  
And nation's trembled  
When they stood in his way.

- VII. When people saw **ZACCHAEUS** as a crooked thief, Jesus saw him as a faithful follower. (Luke 19:1-10)
- VIII. When people saw **SIMON PETER** as a frightened failure who denied Jesus, God saw him as one who would lead out in a worldwide evangelical movement. (Matthew 26:31-35; John 21:15-19)
- IX. When **PAUL** said that he was not eloquent enough to speak, God said, "You are to appear before kings for me," and God used him in that way.

## HOW DO YOU KNOW THE WILL OF GOD?

- A. WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT JESUS HAS A RIGHT TO OUR LIVES
- B. WE MUST REALIZE THAT HE WANTS SOMETHING FROM US
- C. WE MUST DETERINE TO DISCOVER THE WILL OF GOD
- D. WE MUST DECIDE DAILY TO DO WHAT HE LAYS ON OUR HEARTS

A young man sat in a congregation listening to a little-known preacher by the name of Henry Varley. He wasn't even a good preacher. But Henry Varley said, "The world has yet to see what God can do with a man who is fully yielded to him." Dwight L. Moody, that young man sitting out there, said, "By the grace of God I'm going to be that man." He came close. But when Moody was dying he said, "I heard Henry Varley when I was a young man say, "The world has yet to see what God can do with a man who is fully yielded to Him." And I said I'd be that man, but the world has YET to see what God can do with a man fully yielded to Him."