



# REFLECTIONS

July 14, 2013 Refreshed from the Archives of February 1, 2009

**For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them**

*Romans 12:4-6 NKJV*

## Special Gifts

Perhaps more prominently than anyone in our time, Mother Teresa lived the way God made her to be. She cared for the poor, the sick, and the needy. Her compassion flowed from her heart into the lives of those she served. It was her way of loving the Lord. But to her, there was nothing extraordinary about her life. She was simply using the gift that God had created within her—the gift of mercy.

Bezalel lived in this world long before Mother Teresa. He was not born with the gift of mercy. Rather he was an artist. People from his day admired the designs he created from gold, silver, and bronze. They marveled at his skill for setting stones, and no one was a more masterful craftsman with wood. He was a gifted artisan. That's how God made him; and that is why God asked Moses to call upon Bezalel to build his tabernacle.

The job must have been a dream-come-true for Bezalel—to be called to do what he liked to do best in the world. He wasn't asked to tend sheep, till the soil, or lead an army into battle. He was called to build the tabernacle. It was to be a calling that would honor God for the remainder of time.

Bezalel's name is not listed among the great artisans we remember today, though it is permanently engraved in Scripture. There is no account that Bezalel had gifts for converting a gentile, writing a psalm, or caring for the needy. Bezalel was called to do what he did best—nothing more, nothing less. And so are we.

Each of us is blessed with something we do well. These are blessings given us to make a better world; and we are also given them to bring glory to God—each in our own unique way. We are not called to preach like Billy Graham without his ability to speak, or to have compassion for the needy without a heart like Mother Teresa. All of our gifts are different, but used together they make the world complete.

The gift you have is special. So is mine. May we use them to the glory of God.

*You are the light of the world,*

*Richard +*

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