Introduction:

- "<u>There were no blacksmiths in the land of Israel in those days</u>. The Philistines (The enemies of God's people) wouldn't allow them for fear they would make swords and spears for the Hebrews". (1 Samuel 13:19, NLT)
- <u>Dream</u> 170822 (August 22, 2017) On the last day of Jewish Month of Av Moses fashioned the 10 commandments.
 - The dream begins and I am standing on a vast new construction sight. The earth has been dug up, piled up, moved and shifted. I was with a handful of people and we were looking at all the work being done.
 - <u>I was looking for a job</u> and the man I was with said "follow me." (They were faceless so I assume they were angelic). We went into an old metal building where lots of metal work was being done. "This is <u>the fabrication area</u>." We were watching a man at the table working with metal and I asked, "What is he doing?" Answer: "This is where the new parts are being fabricated to go deeper. We are going to get that oil." I asked, "How deep are we are going?" He replied, "Come and i will show you."
 - We walked back out to one of the taller piles of dirt. And <u>he said take a look</u>. As I made my way up the mound I expected to see a deep hole. When I got to the top and looked down it took my breath away as to how deep it was. [I have never been to Grand Canyon but this is what I would expect it to be.]
 - Suddenly I was caught up and lifted over the area and looking down. I knew immediately that I was looking at a map of Satellite Beach. The city was gone. Streets were gone. It was one big massive hole. And I woke up. From there I went to the scriptures to see what God was saying.
- I present this dream because of the connection between the blacksmiths of scripture and the fabricators in the dream.
 - I believe this dream is about partnering with God for what He wants to do.
 - I believe that God is looking to employ every believer into Kingdom work. You cant just be an observer in the Ecclesia/church.
 - I believe that God is looking for people who perceive in the Spirit and fabricate/create in the natural what has been perceived.
 - I believe that God is equipping the church to access the oil of His Spirit by going deeper with Him.
 - I believe that what God is about to do in Satellite beach will be bigger than anything any of us have dreamed of.
- Fabrication :construct, manufacture; *specifically* : to construct from diverse and usually standardized parts. le. "Their plan is to *fabricate* the house out of synthetic parts."
- I have titled this message, "The Need For Fabricators."
- The challenge to us is how do we take the parts and assemble them together or fabricate them to accomplish the purposes of heaven?
- I. What Do Blacksmiths Do? We have to answer this in order to understand the seriousness in which the Israelites found themselves. No blacksmiths is a very serious issue or problem within the nation of Israel.
 - IE. Only Saul and Jonathan had a sword. No wonder the army fled as the Philistines approached.
 - A. Blacksmith comes from the Hebrew word, haras -
 - 1. the basic idea is <u>cutting</u> into some type of material. As in engraving

- 2. "its noun derivative, occurring thirty-five times, stresses engraving, usually metal, but also wood or stone. (.Eds) Waltke .K .B & .Archer Jr .L .G ,Harris .L .R <u>הרש, 760</u> .(1999) .J .L ,Wood *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (electronic ed., p. 328). Chicago: Moody Press.
- 3. It is also translated in many places as 'craftsman.' Craftsman shaped altar of God, ark of covenant, temple, etc.
- 4. Therefore, a blacksmith/craftsman would make altars, idols, column for cities, jewelry, etc. forge swords, hoes for farming. This is the activity that they do.
- B. To be craftsman you had to be able to cut or shape some kind of material into something else. What are the implications?
 - 1. Implies the ability to 'see.' See a vision of something. You have to see in your heart or head what you are making.
 - 2. And then produce it in the natural. Then transfer or 'craft' what is seen in the heart or with the understanding to the stone or metal. It <u>carries a creative force</u> with it. There are a number of people who can perceive but not produce. A craftsman is able to both perceive and then with skill produce. IE. Modern Blacksmith show "Forged". Competition to produce knives and swords out of random raw material.
 - 3. Kingdom vision is the ability to transfer from the Spirit into the the natural realm... "on earth as it is in heaven". Blacksmiths we can say, have vision. They can see in the spirit and craft in the natural. There are probably a number people here with prophetic words who have perceived but you have not built or acted according to the word of the Lord. IE. Silver Dollar City full of craftsman...wood, leather, etc. God said, let there be light but God was perceiving and creating! That is what He is looking for in the apostolic and prophetic movements. How would your life be different if you were about your Father business of fabricating? On earth as it is in heaven. God looks for people who have a yes in their spirit. <u>le, Noah</u> knew by the spirit about the flood and he built a boat/ark. He took what he saw in the spirit and built it in the natural.
- C. ***<u>The blacksmiths represent a picture of a people with powerful apostolic and prophetic insights.</u>
 IE. Paul is a wise master builder (1 Cor 3:10). It enabled him to give shape to the church. The church/ekklesia is establish on the foundation of the revelation that flows out of the prophetic and apostolic. What about your life? your family? your friends?
 - 1. These insights keep the nation and the church on THE CUTTING EDGE?"
 - a) IE. Samuel was this to Saul through prophetic words /Paul was this to the church.
 - b) What does it mean to be on the cutting edge?
 - c) If someone's on the cutting edge, "they're pioneering, up to date, leading the pack, covering new ground." They're the thinkers, the movers and shakers, the entrepreneurs, they make things happen! They see and are able to construct in the natural what they have perceived in the Spirit.
 - 2. In spiritual things, it means being:
 - a) Sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit,
 - b) Attuned to God,
 - c) In the center of God's will,
 - d) To be about the Master's business,

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- e) "Understanding the signs of the times...and knowing what Israel ought to do" 1 Chron.
 12:32. Blacksmiths help equip us to have the right tool at the right time! There must be doing in response to the perceiving. James: Faith without works is dead.
- f) In Samuel's day, blacksmiths transitioned people from times of warring to times of planting.
- D. Israel was blessed by God with both blacksmiths and metals. Where God placed blacksmiths He also provided great 'natural' resources.
 - "... It is a land where iron is as common as stone, and copper is abundant in the hills". (Deuteronomy 8:9, NLT) God is telling Israel even before they are fashioning ore into tools the hills are full of your future!!! A blacksmith must have materials!
 - 2. "May the bolts of your gates be of iron and bronze; may you be secure all your days"". (Deuteronomy 33:25, NLT) They did not even have a city at this point.
 - 3. God had given Israel all that they needed for farming, warring, and building. Her craftsman were 'excellent.'

II. The Absence of Blacksmiths

- A. Why were there no blacksmiths?
 - 1. <u>It was strategic</u> for the victor in battle that conquered a people to take away their ability to fight. Therefore the invading and victorious armies would either kill or take captive those who trained in the art of making weapons. Having no blacksmiths neuters a nation! It cant produce!
 - Nebuchadnezzar deported or sent into exile the craftsman of Israel. (2 Kings 4:14,16; Jer 29:2; 52:15)
 - 3. By doing this you secure yourself from any threat that your enemy may pose in the future.
 - 4. You also build your own resources with this new slave labor.
- B. There were no blacksmiths in the land seems like an out of place phrase in this chapter. But it's implications are huge! <u>The blacksmiths represent a picture of a people lacking apostolic and prophetic insights</u>. What are those implications?
 - 1. The most obvious is that Israel did not have the weapons they needed to wage war.
 - a) They were not equipped to fight. Therefore they were not a fighting force.
 - b) They did not have the ability in the natural nor in the spirit to fight a war. The longer a nation goes without blacksmiths the further they go from having a fighting spirit.
 - c) The blacksmith tells us, "We are crossing over! Run through the camp and tell everybody to get ready! We are entering our promise. 10 spies were spineless! They retreated back and when they did, the adversary assigned them their role...go farm. But when Joshua got the Word of the Lord, the Blacksmith began to craft their future...tell the leaders to tell the people get ready! Craftsman anointing has at its heart a warring spirit. It was said of Samuel, "Do you come in peace?"
 - 2. There was no one skilled to sharpen their farming tools nor to forge weapons. "When the axe is dull it takes more effort to swing it." Ecc. 10:10 Dullness brings weariness.
 - 3. The nation was reduced to farmers, a role now assigned to it by an outside force. <u>On a positive</u> <u>note, blacksmiths...</u>

- a) Prophetically they bring us back to reality when we run ahead of ourselves. IE. Saul announcing the 'great' victory. When he had not done a thing, nor was his army armed to fight. He is singing victory not knowing that 30k chariots are coming for him.
- b) They recommission the intimidated who have shrunk from the battle. IE. Give them weapons/ revelation to fight with. Help them believe they can win! They will come out of their holes.
- c) They rally famers to become fighters. IE. WWI and WWII shifted the nation from farming to fighting/to being a major industrial nation.
- C. This was a deliberate action on the part of the Philistines, take away the craftsman.

III. We Need Blacksmiths!

- A. We need those prophetic and apostolic voices that <u>keep the edge</u> on the church sharp. We need them in government, education, entertainment, business, etc. We need the sight, leadership, and alignment that their prophetic voices bring. It keeps the church accountable to its destiny and purpose.
- B. Zechariah gives us insight into what Craftsman do from God's perspective. Zechariah "Then the Lord showed me four blacksmiths. "What are these men coming to do?" I asked. The angel replied, "These four horns-these nations-scattered and humbled Judah. Now these blacksmiths have come to terrify those nations and throw them down and destroy them."" (Zechariah 1:20-21, NLT)
 - 1. terrify-make them afraid
 - 2. throw down horn that are thrown down have no authority!
- C. Zechariah 2:1-10 we see the fruit of the Blacksmith
 - 1. Expansion 1-3 measure how wide and long the city is.
 - 2. Prosperity vs 4 it will be so full the city cant hold it.
 - 3. Freedom from Captivity vs 7 there will be freedom from captivity.
 - 4. God dwells there! vs. 10 I, God will live among you!
- D. "Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful." (1 Corinthians 3:10, NLT)

Conclusion:

- This is the time for the kind of courage displayed in1 Samuel 14, where two men refused to be intimidated by overwhelming odds and led by the Spirit they refused the role assigned to it by the opposition and trusted God for a strategy to establish His glory in the land.
- We need warriors! We need intercessors to step up their game and command in the Spirit.
- Sign up today to work in God's Kingdom.
- Perceive, understand what God wants and build it. (Sometimes this is as simple as following your leader.)
- Get the oil, the anointing for this hour.