

**Celebrating His Life**  
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**God says: “HERE’S THE LOW DOWN ON THE HIGHER GROUND”**

*A Just In Time Word by Al Thomas*

**God Says: “MY HIGHER GROUND IS WAITING FOR YOU”**

“THE HIGHER GROUND IS NOT SOME ETHERAL, MISTY, CLOUD FILLED PLACE where you will have no problems or temptations. My Higher Ground is where you stop arguing with yourself and others, cease struggling with your flesh and move on to My perfect will for you. It’s the place where you have made the decision to live a holy life in a temporally unholy world and although you I are quite aware that you will never (in this life) avoid occasional stumbling, you must get up and go to Higher Ground. My Higher Ground is the only place where ‘super grow’ soil exists for your spirit to grow (Mark 4: 20). It is the place where you are determined to fulfill the purpose I placed you here for or die. My blessings abound in that place...are you willing to go to Higher Ground?”

**God says: “HERE’S HOW TO GET TO HIGHER GROUND”**

“FIND MY WILL FOR YOUR LIFE. HOW DO YOU DO THAT? FIND MY FAVOR. Where My favor is you will find My purpose for your life. I have placed no one on this earth without purpose. Did not Solomon write, ‘*And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it*’ (Ps. 90:17)? I have placed My beauty in the work of your hands and I will establish it. My beauty is brought forth in your life when you discover and do the work I called you to do...but you must be absolutely convinced that what you are doing is what I called you to do. Uncertainty in your calling will create doubt (and in-effectiveness) in your service to Me. Trust that I will establish your work and the vision I have given you (Habakkuk 2: 2-3). Some of you wonder why the implementation of your calling takes years. It is because I am fine tuning your gifts and preparing your vineyard (1 Thess. 5:24). You have made and will make more mistakes, but I will be faithful to complete in you what I promised (2 Cor. 1:20). You also must be faithful to take those steps towards the goal even when you cannot see it in front of you (Hebrews 11:1). I want you to take a great leap of faith, one that will challenge your normal way of thinking and sometimes even your financial security. Again, Paul said, ‘*I have given up everything, that I might obtain that for which I was call to do, that I fulfill the ministry (purpose) on my life...*’ (Philip. 3: 7-8). There will occasionally be valleys and dry places (Psalm 23: 4), but I will lead you to victory and fruit (John 15: 16). Get on the path I called you to (no matter what it is you may have to give up) and stay faithful. Even if few witness to the vision I have given you, it will come to pass, but you must not quit. Act like it is from Me and it will be My responsibility to bring it to pass. Once you do make the decision to come to My Higher Ground don’t make the mistake of acting like it’s a strain or like you have to move a stubborn mountain everyday. See it as a parade and a celebration and it will turn into one. Attacks will come from the enemy, but the time will come when you will rise up and conquer Goliath. The dogs always bark when the parade comes through town, so keep in mind the critics will always be there. Seek to please only Me who called you...then you will have the joyful conviction that you have done all you can do and will not have regrets when your life is ready to be offered up (2 Tim. 4:7). If others don’t see or understand the vision I have given you, love them, be patient with them, but follow Me (John 12:26). I will give you some who are like-vision people, and intercessors. Value them, reward them and take their counsel. Financial provision is always provided on Higher Ground (Phil 4:19).”

**God says: “WHEN YOU’RE ON HIGHER GROUND...”**

“THERE WILL BE AN INWARD ‘HEAVENLY KNOWING’ AND ‘CONSTANT thankfulness’ that you’re in My will (Eph. 5:20). You will refuse to allow the enemy to rob you of My joy, no matter what circumstances you find yourself in (1 Peter 4:13). Plus, (because you have weathered storms and still remained faithful) I will open doors that were previously closed. The door of deep fellowship with Me (John 14:23) will open and the door of guidance will seem to ease open and frustration will seldom be experienced (Isaiah 26:3). Victory over self will be easier and a fresh sensitivity to My Holy Spirit will be recognized and walked in (Romans 8:14). My blessings will seem to be all around you because ‘*When a man’s ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be a peace with him*’ (Proverbs 16:7). On Higher Ground My love controls you (2 Cor. 5:14-15). On Higher Ground you do not think so much about your own needs, knowing I will take care of them. Rise up now and get started. That’s not a mountain in front of you, it’s Me waiting for you on Higher Ground...”