

House On The Rock Life Group Study outline 2022

July: Divine Shifts

Week 1 – Positioning for a divine shift

Introduction

The following story was told by a famous golfer, Gary Player.

'I was practicing in a bunker down in Texas and this good old boy with a big hat stopped to watch. The first shot he saw me hit went in the hole. He said, "You got 50 bucks if you knock the next one in." I holed the next one. Then he says, "You got \$100 if you hole the next one." In it went for three in a row. As he peeled off the bills he said, "Boy, I've never seen anyone so lucky in my life." And I shot back, "Well, the harder I practice, the luckier I get."

What is the moral of this story? Gary player was not claiming that the result of his effort was 100% within his control. He was saying was that positioning is a key ingredient of success. In order to be "lucky", he had to actively put himself in the best possible position by training. Louis Pasteur put it this way "chance favours the prepared mind".

When people use the word "luck", they are saying that they don't know why something is happening, they can't control when it happens and they don't know how to make it happen again. A divine shift may be counted lucky by those who are not connected to God, but we know better. We may not be in control of it, but we know it is under control - by God himself. Even better, we know that His thoughts towards us are always for good, and that includes constantly giving us opportunities to experience something new with Him.

Our question therefore is not whether there will be a divine shift, but how we can position ourselves so that we can be a part of it when it does happen.

Pilot text

[Ecc 9:11](#) I returned and saw under the sun that— The race is not to the swift, Nor the battle to the strong, Nor bread to the wise, Nor riches to men of understanding, Nor favor to men of skill; But time and chance happen to them all.

[Acts 16:26](#) Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

- Reflections
- How would you define a divine shift? [Open discussion]
- How do we position for divine shift?
 - [Matt 13:18-23](#), [1 Chr 12:23](#), [Dan 9:1-2](#), [Psa 102:13](#), [Eph 5:17](#)
- Take home actions

- Are you truly positioned for the divine shift you are desiring? What do you need to change in order to make sure that you are prepared?