

THE GREAT EQUALIZER

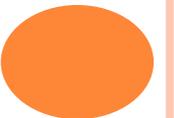
ECCLESIASTES 9:10-12

Woodland Park Church of Christ

4 February 2018

BACKDROP

- Solomon offers some lines that appear counterintuitive –
 - **The race is not to the swift**
 - **Battle is not won by the strong (or the more mighty men)**
 - **The wise go hungry**
 - **Riches do not always go to men of understanding (those adept at solving problems or rendering effective outcomes)**
 - **The highly skilled are not favored**



Well, what determines success or favorable outcome?

Solomon offers a response –

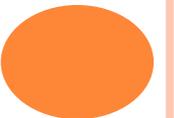
Time and chance happen to them all. Eccles. 9:11

- Would appear that Solomon appears to offer luck as an explanation.
- Fortune has its place, but I think it runs a bit deeper!



It is akin to the disciples' reaction when Jesus remarked, *“It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”*

- *They were greatly astonished, saying among themselves “Who then can be saved?”*
- Jesus' response, *“With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.”* **Mark 10:25-27**



God is our GREAT EQUALIZER!

We move through faith that he will reward us if we diligently seek Him. See Hebrews 11:6

For the Lord God is a sun and shield ; The Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from those who walk uprightly. Psalm 84:11

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Galatians 6:9 NLT



Also, check out Ecclesiastes 9:10 →

Whatever your hands find to do, do it with your might . . .

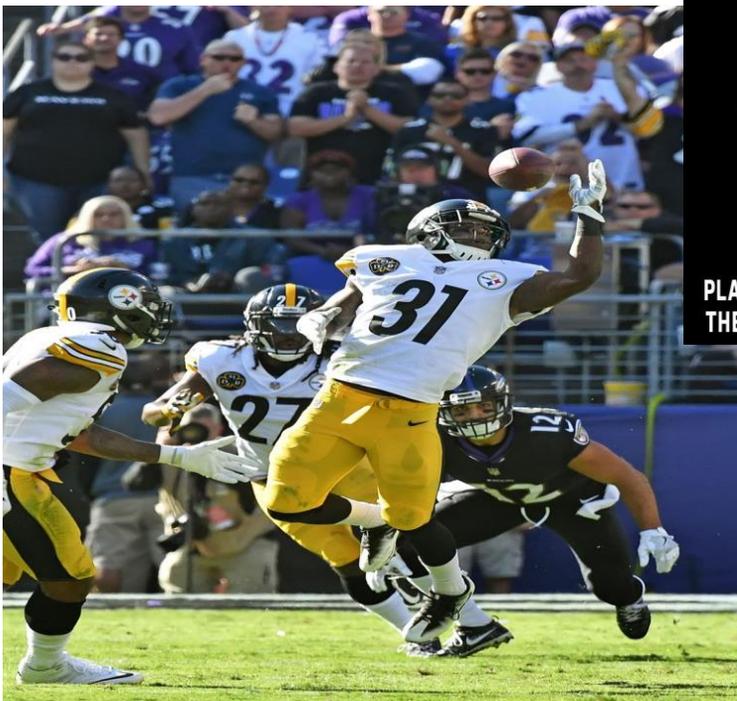
- When the opportunity arises, seize it!
- So, be ready!



I was shocked to learn that 18 members of the New England Patriots' 53 roster were not drafted by any NFL teams.

- This includes starters Danny Amendola and Chris Hogan (WRs), Malcolm Butler (DB), and Ryan Allen (P)
- Players who were considered second or third tier or whom many thought did not belong in the National Football League





WEEK 16

**D
E
F
E
N
S
I
V
E**

**PLAYER OF
THE WEEK**



1ST CAREER PLAYER OF THE WEEK AWARD

**MIKE HILTON
PITTSBURGH STEELERS**



gettyimages
Diamond Images



Steelers Depot

MIKE HILTON

- Every time I spoke with NFL personnel about him, there was always, “He did some nice things at Ole Miss, but he is”
 - Little small
 - Too short
 - Not on our size chart
- Interestingly, moments after he signed with the Steelers in December 2016, an Atlanta area Footlocker called to extend offer of employment



THE VICTOR'S CREED

- I will trust in God!
- I am willing to do the things others are not.
- I will fight against the odds.
- I will sacrifice.
- I am not **shackled** by fear, insecurity or doubt.
- I am motivated by accomplishment – not pride.
- I will not let negativity, regardless of the source, deter me!



LORD'S INVITATION

- **Be added to the Lord's body**

Hear the gospel (**Romans 10:17**)

Believe the gospel (**Hebrews 11:6, Acts 15:7**)

Repent of sins (**Acts 2:38**)

Confess Christ (**Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10**)

Be baptized for the remission of sin (**Acts 2:38**) or



INVITATION CONT'D

- **Be reconciled unto the Lord (I John 1:9); or**
- **Desire prayer (James 5:16).**

