

The Making of a Man

Notes by Franklin

1 Samuel 17:4-11 Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out to face the forces of Israel. He was a **giant** of a man, measuring over nine feet tall! (5) He wore a bronze helmet and a coat of mail that weighed 125 pounds. (6) He also wore bronze leggings, and he slung a bronze javelin over his back. (7) The shaft of his spear was as heavy and thick as a weaver's beam, tipped with an iron spearhead that weighed fifteen pounds. An armor bearer walked ahead of him carrying a huge shield. (8) Goliath stood and shouted across to the Israelites, "Do you need a whole army to settle this? **Choose a man** to fight for you, and we will settle this dispute in a single combat! (9) If your man is able to kill me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves! (10) I defy the armies of Israel! **Send me a man who will fight with me!**" (11) When Saul and the Israelites heard this, **they were terrified and deeply shaken.** NLT

- Two types of men – a huge, well trained, fierce champion and a very young, seemingly inexperienced nobody.
- What kind of analogies can we draw from this Giant?
 - The giant is the '**lusts of the flesh**' coming at us with all the weapons that easily defeat us. Speaking loudly and defiantly - through TV, movies, the internet - and many become his servants.

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to **abstain from fleshly lusts** which wage war against the soul.

- He is **fear**. Coming at us with all the strength, the reasoning's and knowledge of this world. Faith fades away like a leaf in the wind as he consumes and takes many captive.

1 Samuel 17:26-27 Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, "**What will be done for the MAN** who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised (not in covenant or from the LORD) Philistine, that he should taunt **the armies of the living God?**" The people answered him in accord with this word, saying, "Thus it will be done for the man who kills him."

- David was different from all the rest of the men. Why?

- **Why** was David a man of great faith / no fear /and ready to fight for what was right, regardless of what everyone else was saying or doing?

The Answer:

Acts 13:22-23 I have found **David a MAN AFTER MY HEART**, who **WILL DO ALL MY WILL**.

- Having this testimony from the Lord will give you favor leading to leadership and victory in all your battles.

There are Great Blessings for a Man like David:

1 Samuel 17:25 it will be that **the king WILL ENRICH the MAN** who kills him with **great riches** and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel.

- Our KING is THE KING of kings.
- **Enrich** the man who is **victorious over the 'giants' (lusts, fears)** and cause him to walk in **Freedom**.

John 8:36 **So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.**

1 Samuel 17:45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but **I come to you in THE NAME of the LORD of hosts**, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted.

Jeremiah 17:7 **Blessed** is the man who **trusts in the LORD**.

Approach all of your battles, all of your enemies in the NAME OF THE LORD and you will be Victorious and Successful – a Leader – in all that you do.

So, the question is: **How** do you become a "**MAN** after the heart of the Lord?"

The answer . . . the same way David did.

I. David was humble / obedient / and hard working.

- He was the youngest in the family – humbled by his older brothers
- He was assigned the difficult and lonely job of shepherding the family flock. He would be out with the flock for a week or more at a time. He often passed the long hours by knocking the bark off of the trees as he became proficient, or should we say an expert, with his sling. (1Samuel 16:5, 11; 17:28)

Mt. 11:29 / Lk. 1:52 / James 4:6, 10 / 1 Pet. 5:5, 6 / Rom.12:3

Humble:

1. Marked by meekness or modesty in behavior and attitude, not arrogant or prideful.
2. Showing deferential or submissive respect at all times to those in authority and to your elders.

II. His closest companion for conversation (prayer) was the Lord Himself. And the Lord became David's most intimate and cherished friend.

- THIS PASSION IS WHAT SET DAVID APART from the rest.
- It was the ONE THING he desired more than anything else.

Psalm 27:4 **One thing** I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. NIV

Psalms 63:1 A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah.

O God, you are my God, **earnestly** I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. NIV

- The Hebrew word **earnestly** means literally: "to dawn." That is: it takes first place over all other priorities, to be up early at any task, with the implication of earnestness; or to search for with painstaking.

Psalm 5:3 **In the morning**, O LORD, You will hear my voice; **In the morning** I will order **my prayer** to You and eagerly watch.

Psalm 88:13 But I, O LORD, have cried out to You for help, and in the **morning** my **prayer** comes before You.

Psalm 141:2 May **my prayer** be counted as incense before You; the lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

- ❖ David developed an intimate relationship with the Lord. His passion and zeal caused him to spend time with the Lord FIRST THING every Morning.
- ❖ To be a MAN, like David, to have the LORD's favor, to be victorious in battle over our enemies, We Must be Men of EARLY MORNING PRAYER

Mark 1:35 The time that Jesus prayed.

John 20:1 The first one to see the resurrected Lord.

Genesis 3:8 It appears that the Lord God walked with Adam every morning, in the cool of the day.

Exodus 16:12-14, 18, 21 The lesson of the manna.

Jesus said: **I Am the Bread of Life** (John 6:32-35).

Exodus 30:7-8 Incense as a type of prayer Revelation 8:3-5

Leviticus 6:12-13 The priest brings the fire to full blaze.

Proverb 3:9 First fruits belong to the Lord.

Psalm 5:3; 57:8; 63:1; 90:14; 119:147 David knew the secret

Psalm 27:5; 31:19-20; 32:6-7; 61:1-4 The secret place

Isaiah 50:4 He awakens me morning by morning, He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple.

Exodus 33:12-23

Vs:12 Then Moses said to the LORD, . . . " You have said, 'I have **known you by name**, and you have also found **favor** (grace) in My sight."

- **He Knows Your Name:**

Isaiah 43:1-4 I have redeemed You; I have called You by name; You are Mine! You are precious in My sight, honored and I love You

Luke 10:20 . . . rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.

Revelation 13:8 written from the foundation of the world in the book of life

- Your Heavenly Father knows and recorded YOUR NAME.
- Just as your earthly parents recorded your name when you were born and it is filed at the Court House

- **Favor** (χάρις / charis) also translated: grace; pleasure

Vs:13 Now therefore, I pray You, **if I have found favor** (grace) in Your sight, **LET ME KNOW YOUR WAYS THAT I MAY KNOW YOU, so that I may find favor** in Your sight. Consider too, that this nation is Your people."

- After their encounter at the: burning bush / before Pharaoh / the plagues / the parting of the Red Sea / the Manna / quail / water from the rock / and the thunder and lightning - smoke and fire, and quaking on Mt. Sinai / and the LORD speaking and giving the Ten Commandments: **Moses realizes:**
 - My thoughts are not your thoughts, **Neither are your ways My ways,"** declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are **My ways higher than your ways** and My thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55: 8-9
- Realizing this first hand Moses prays: "LET ME **KNOW YOUR WAYS THAT I MAY KNOW YOU**"
- KNOWING THE LORD BETTER – MORE INTIMATELY – BEGINS WITH **KNOWING HIS WAYS**, which is learned from quality time together in **HIS WRITTEN WORD** and **SPOKEN WORD** (Prayer).
- so that **I may find** (more) **favor** in Your sight (vs.13)
 - by **doing those things that please YOU.**
 - Moses has a burning desire to PLEASE THE LORD.

WE SHOULD PRAY AS MOSES PRAYED:

- Now therefore, I pray You, **if I have found favor** (grace) in Your sight, **LET ME KNOW YOUR WAYS THAT I MAY KNOW YOU, so that I may find** (more) **favor** in Your sight.

Luke 2:52 JESUS kept **increasing** in wisdom and stature, and in **favor** with God and men.

- If Jesus increased in these ways – **how much more should we.**
- The angel said to Mary **you have found favor with God.** Luke 1:30
->because of her chaste and godly life<-
- 1 Peter 2:19-20 **For this finds favor** (χάρις / charis; or **pleasure**) **if for the sake of conscience toward God** a person **bears up** under sorrows when suffering unjustly (as Jesus did). (20) **For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it (as Jesus did) this finds favor with God.**
 - We find favor or grace from the Lord when we live our life as Jesus lived His life – “harshly treated and endure it.”
 - Job is a good example (Job 1:1-22)
Job 13:15 *Though He slay me, I will hope in Him.*
 - All the hero's of the faith in Hebrews 11 are an example:
vs:39 *And all these, **having gained approval through their faith.*** Though rejected and suffered greatly.
 - By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, for before his translation he had this testimony, **that he pleased God.** Hebrews 11:5
- 1 Peter 2:21-25 **For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,** (22) **WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;** (23) and while **being reviled,** He did **not revile in return;** while suffering, He uttered **no threats,** but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; (24) and **He Himself bore our sins** in His body on the cross, **so that WE MIGHT DIE TO SIN & LIVE TO RIGHTEOUSNESS** for by His wounds you were healed. (25) **For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.**
- In response to PAUL'S THORN or AFFLICTION the Lord said:
My grace (χάρις / charis; or **favor**) **is sufficient (enough) for you,** for **power** is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will

rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 2 Corinthians 12:9

- The grace or favor of the Lord comes with, or gives us, His **power** - to live the supernatural life of Christ.
- In response to living a life of GIVING the LORD says:
God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make **all grace** abound to you, so that always having **all sufficiency** in everything, you may have an abundance **for every good deed**. 2Cor.9: 7-8
 - The LORD so loves cheerful giving that He will give you the **favor** the **grace** so that you will have all you need for every good deed. Empower you to do His work.

❖ So, we see that we also can grow in favor with the Lord by "*knowing His ways*" and doing them – Obeying.

- Genesis 6:8 Noah found **favor** in the eyes of the LORD.
- Acts 7:46 David found **favor** in God's sight
 - Psalm 27:11 **Teach me thy way, O LORD**
 - David **knew His ways** from His Word through Prayer.
- Galatians 1:10 For am I now seeking the **favor** of men, or of God? Or am I **striving to please** men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.
 - This is a very serious question which we would do good to honestly answer. Who am I trying to please?
- 1 Thessalonians 4:1 Finally then, brethren, we **request** and **exhort you** in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction (in the "ways" of the Lord) as to how **you ought to walk and please God** as you do walk, that **you excel still more**.
 - As you spend time with the Lord in His Word and Prayer **You WILL learn His ways**.
 - The **MORE** you walk in HIS WAYS, the **MORE** you PLEASE HIM, the **MORE Grace** and **Favor HE GIVES YOU**.

In response to Moses' plea to know His ways so that he may know the Lord
The Lord's immediate response was:

Exodus 33:14 **My presence** shall go with you, and I will give you rest.

- Moses had the "WORD of the Lord," and was a man of PRAYER.
- And **now** Moses had the LORD Himself to walk with him, talk with him and show him how to LIVE the WORD of the Lord in every situation that is to know His ways.

And the PROMISE of the LORD is to **YOU ALSO**:

My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.

To show YOU how to LIVE the WORD of the Lord in every situation, to know His ways.

- Matthew 28:20 I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
- John 14:16 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever NASU
- Hebrews 13:5 God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. NIV

Exodus 33:15 **Then Moses said, If Your presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here.**

❖ We need the **SAME** Attitude! **Aware** of His **Presence With us**, and **Dependent** on His presence with us.

- Proverb 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. **In all your ways acknowledge Him**, (**His presence**) and He will make your paths straight. NASU

Exodus 33:16 For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not by **Your going with us**, so that **we**, I and Your people, may be **distinguished** from all the other people who are upon the face of the earth?

His PRESENCE, DISTINGUISHES US from all the other people.

We must ask our self:

- Am I different from all the people?
- Do others see and know that His Presence makes me different?
- We should be able to say as Jesus said:
I have manifested Your name . . . John 17:6

➤ **If** this is the **Desire of YOUR heart**, as it was Moses' the LORD says:

Exodus 33:17 I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for **you** have found **favor** in My sight and I have known you by name.

➤ Beginning to realize that **he does have the LORD's favor** . . . Moses boldly asks:

Exodus 33:18 Then Moses said, "I pray You, **show me Your glory!**

- ❖ The hunger, and boldness of his desire to 'KNOW' the LORD, pleased HIM very much, and the LORD responds:

Exodus 33:19-20 I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the Name of the LORD before you; (Revelation) and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion. But you cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!

Exodus 33:21-23 Then the LORD said, "Behold, **there is a place by Me**, and you shall stand there **on the rock**; (22) and it will come about, while **My glory** is passing by, that I will put you in the **cleft of the rock** and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. (23) "Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen."

- **On the Rock**- "*The Rock of my salvation.*" 2Sam.22:47; Ps.89:26
- **there is a place by Me** A Special Place.
 - David also spoke of The **Secret Place** being a man **after the heart of the LORD**.

Psalm 27:5 For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle; in the **secret place** of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock.

Psalm 27:4 **One thing** I have **desired** of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple. NKJV

Psalm 27:7-9 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice, and be gracious to me and answer me. When **You said, "Seek My face,"** my heart said to You, **"Your face, O LORD, I shall seek."**
Do not hide Your face from me.

Psalm 31:20 You hide them in the **secret place** of Your presence from the conspiracies of man; You keep them secretly in a shelter from the strife of tongues.

Song of Solomon 2:14 O my dove, in the **clefts of the rock**, in the **secret place** of the steep pathway, let me see your form, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your form is lovely.

- ❖ The SECRET PLACE is a Special place of Intimacy and Communion with the LORD. It is a place only for those of zealous passion for the GLORY OF THE LORD.
- ❖ The burning **desire** of the heart of Moses, to **behold HIS Glory**, is the same **desire that Jesus has for us to behold HIS Glory**.

John 17:24 *Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that **they may see My glory** which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.*

- ❖ To the degree that this desire consumes us → **WE** behold HIS GLORY:

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, **beholding** as in a mirror **the glory of the Lord**, are **being transformed** into **the same image** from **glory to glory**, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

- Mirror – Creation reflects Him as does His People & His Word.

- ❖ As we pursue the LORD with this kind of Passion – it transforms & changes us more into His image . . . glory to glory:

- For the same purpose as that of his Son:
Father, glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You John 17:1

- This is OUR PURPOSE on this earth. **As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.** John 17:18
- We have the same mission that Jesus had:
“that the Son may glorify The Father”
- And it is then that we can say with Jesus:

I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. John 17:4

And:

I have manifested Your name . . . John 17:6

Jesus has made HIS FATHER's NAME known:

John 17:6 **I have manifested Your name** to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

John 17:26 **and I have made Your name known** to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.

THE QUESTION IS: Do YOU have this kind of PASSION and DRIVE to SEE and PROCLAIM the GLORY OF THE LORD?

IT REQUIRES: Psalms 63:1 **O my God, earnestly** (literally: at dawn) I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. NIV

Song of Solomon 7:12 **Let us get up early . . .**

III. A love relationship does not just include conversation (prayer) but also puts a song in your heart and on your lips - WORSHIP

Psalm 59:16 **But as for me, I shall sing** of Your strength; yes, **I shall joyfully sing** of Your lovingkindness **in the morning**, or You have been my stronghold and a refuge in the day of my distress. NASU

Psalm 90:14 O **satisfy us in the morning** with Your lovingkindness, that **we may sing for joy** and be glad all our days.

Psalm 92:2 To **declare** Your lovingkindness in **the morning** and Your faithfulness by night,

Psalm 143:8 Let me hear Your lovingkindness in the **morning**; for I trust in You; teach me the way in which I should walk; for to You I lift up my soul.

IV. David Cherished any Word of the Lord, written and spoken, and lived by it. (Matthew 7:24-27)

Psalm 119:1-3 How **blessed** are those whose way is **blameless**, who walk in the **law of the LORD**. How **blessed** are those who observe His testimonies, who **seek Him with all their heart**. They also do no unrighteousness; they walk in His ways. NASU

Vs: 5 Oh that **my ways** may be established to keep Your statutes!

Vs: 8 **I shall** keep Your statutes. DAVID'S COMMITMENT.

Vs: 9-11 **How can a young man keep his way pure?** By keeping it according to **Your word**. With **all my heart** I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments. **Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.**

Vs: 13-16 DAVID'S COMMITMENT: With my lips **I have told** of all the ordinances of Your mouth. I have **rejoiced** in the way of Your testimonies, as much as in all riches. **I will meditate** on Your precepts and regard Your ways. **I shall delight** in Your statutes; **I shall not forget Your word.**

Vs: 18 **Open my eyes**, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law.

Vs: 20 My soul is crushed **with longing** after Your ordinances at all times.

Vs: 24 Your testimonies also are my **delight**; they are my counselors.

Vs: 26-27 **Teach me** Your statutes. **Make me** understand the way of Your precepts, **so I will meditate** on Your wonders.

Vs: 31 **I cling** to Your testimonies

Vs:32 **I shall run** the way of Your commandments, for You will enlarge my heart.

Vs:33-36 **Teach me**, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, and **I shall observe** it to the end. **Give me understanding**, that I may observe Your law and **keep it with all my heart**. Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it. Incline my heart to Your testimonies

Vs:44 So I will keep Your law continually, forever and ever.

Vs:45 And I will walk at liberty (*freedom-NIV*), for I seek Your precepts.

Vs:47 I shall delight in Your commandments, which I love.

Vs:48 And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, which I love; and I will meditate on Your statutes.

Vs:51 I do not turn aside from Your law.

Vs:54 Your statutes are my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

Vs:57 The LORD is my portion; I have promised to keep Your words.

Vs:59 I considered my ways and turned my feet to Your testimonies.

Vs:62 At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You because of Your righteous ordinances.

Vs:63 I am a companion of all those who fear You, and of those who keep Your precepts.

Vs:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.

Vs:71-72 It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes. The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Vs:74 I wait for Your word.

Vs:82 My eyes fail with longing for Your word

Vs:89 Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.

Vs:92 If Your law had not been my delight, then I would have perished in my affliction.

Vs:93 I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have revived me.

Vs:97 O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

Vs:98-104 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, For they are ever mine. I have more insight than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, because I have observed Your precepts. I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word. I have not turned aside from Your ordinances, for You Yourself have taught me. How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth! From Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Romans 10:17 So **faith** comes from **hearing**, and hearing by **the word** of Christ.

- V. David's love for the LORD over all other competing desires (Psalm 27:4) positioned him to completely fulfill and obtain his destiny - to reign as King (1 Samuel 16:12-13). We also are to "*reign on earth*" (Revelation 5:10).
- VI. David's Intimacy with the LORD Produced a Great FAITH as seen in his extraordinary courage and righteous indignation for the enemies of the Lord. David was a Warrior. Why?

Psalm 97:10 Hate evil, you who love the LORD, who preserves the souls of His godly ones; He delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

1 Samuel 17:26 For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God? NASU

1 Samuel 17:32 David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine. NASU

1 Samuel 17:37 And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and may the LORD be with you." NASU

David fought and won many private and personal battles that developed his Strength of Character and Integrity.

- Integrity – steadfast adherence to righteous morals and ethics.

Winning these battles prepared him for public victories.

1 Samuel 17:45-46 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. 46 "This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down NASU

Public battles expose either previously hidden weakness or strength.

- Example: Joseph (Genesis 37) - favor from his father & two dreams along with his immaturity and perhaps pride, resulted in his brothers jealousy and plot to kill him.

King Saul's victories exposed his weakness for the favor of man and his desire to bring glory to himself, which results in disobeying the Lord (1 Samuel 15).

We MUST win the personal battles against pride (James 4:6), the "roaring lion" (satan, 1Peter 5:8), and the ravishing hunger of the "bear" of lusts.

- Joseph (Genesis 39:6-25)

The Preparation for their destiny required years of testing to prepare David and Joseph for their responsibilities on the throne.

We all face these years of trials and testing to prepare us, as we also are destined to rule and reign.

Revelation 5:10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.

The more tests you pass – as integrity grows - the more the Lord can trust you with greater responsibility.

James 1:2-4; 12-15 // 2 Timothy 2:20-22 // 2 Peter 1:1-11 / Romans 5:3-4

If you do not have a strong love for the Lord - that motivates a love for His Word - you will not stand – you will not pass the tests - in the day of temptation. (Luke 4:4, 8, 12).

The life of David is filled with the lessons that we all face as we travel the road that prepares us for our destiny.

VII. Learning From the Lessons of Rejection

1. Rejected by his brothers (1 Samuel 17 22-30)
 - Vs.26 Why this question about “what shall be done . . . ” & vs.30?
 - Vs.28 What motivated Eliab’s response?
(embarrassment / fear / jealousy / anger)
 - Do you recall anything like this in your past, or present?
 - Which brother were/are you, the older or younger?
 - Vs.29 David’s defense. Was he innocent?
 - Vs.30 The result of Rejection –> broken relationships

James 3:16 *For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.*

2. After killing Goliath, King Saul took David into the palace and set him over the armies of Israel. As David’s popularity grew, so did Saul’s jealousy, and for over a decade David had to dodge Saul’s spears of rejection (1 Samuel 18+).
 - Vs.8 “*very angry*” the word means: to burn with anger or jealousy
 - Vs.9 “*watched with jealousy*”
 - Vs.10 “*an evil spirit from God*”? Saul belonged to the Lord but his sin of jealousy gave satan a legal right, and the Lord allowed it.

James 3:16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.

- What are the root causes of jealousy?
 - Selfish ambition / poor self esteem / immaturity / fear of losing your position (1Sam.18:12)
- Where does jealousy tend to exist?
 - Work / toward those more prosperous / ministry

Mark 15:10 For he was aware that the chief priests had handed Him (Jesus) over because of envy.

- 18:11 Jealously results in “spear throwing” of one kind or another.
 - Insults / put-downs / hitting / crucifixion
 - When did you throw your last spear?
- 18:13 “Therefore Saul removed him from his presence”
 - When an ‘spirit of rejection’ comes upon us:
 1. We try to bring the person down, prevent their progress
 2. WE PUSH OTHERS AWAY: with body language // avoidance // and/or physically & verbal abuse.

3. Saul’s rejection drove David far away from the throne (his destiny) and TESTED his ABILITY to BELIEVE the WORD OF THE LORD FOR HIS LIFE.

James 1:2-4 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, (3) knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. (4) And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

4. David refused to return the spears – WE ALSO MUST REFUSE.

- 1 Samuel 24:10 I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD’S anointed.

- Matthew 5:39 **But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.**
 - A hurtful word hurts as much or more than a slap
 - James 4:11 **Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law.**
 - How often we do this very thing – speak against others?
 - 1 Peter 2:21-24 This suffering is all part of what God has called you to. Christ, who suffered for you, is your example. Follow in his steps. (22) He never sinned, and he never deceived anyone. (23) He did not retaliate when he was insulted. When he suffered, he did not threaten to get even. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. NLT
 - James 3:6 **And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell.**
 - James 3:8 **But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison.**
5. In spite of all the spears, David never allowed a 'poor me' attitude or the bemoaning that can result in a 'spirit of rejection' setting in.
- Romans 12:14 **Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse**
 - Romans 12:17 **Never pay back evil for evil to anyone.**
 - Luke 6:27-29 **But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.**
6. Rejection attracts others who have been rejected, who have been pushed out. Thus forming a 'us and them' warring / competitive mindset
- 1 Samuel 22:1-2 **So David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam; and when his brothers and all his father's household**

heard of it, they went down there to him. Everyone who was in **distress**, and everyone who was in **debt**, and everyone who was **discontented** gathered to him; and he became captain over them. Now there were about four hundred men with him.

- Why his brothers? Have they changed their attitude?
- distress – a tight place // discontent – angry, bitter of soul
- later his army of discontent's grew to six hundred (23:13)

7. Even though David was rejected time and time again, pursued and attacked, he NEVER allowed a "spirit of rejection" to settle on him, to fight back, or return rejection for rejection.

8. 1 Samuel 24:3-4 He came to the sheepfolds on the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the inner recesses of the cave. (4) The men of David said to him, "Behold, this is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold; I am about to give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.' Then David arose and cut off the edge of Saul's robe secretly

- David's first act of retaliation.
1 Samuel 24:5 It came about afterward that David's **conscience** bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul's robe.
- Is our conscience this sensitive after "cutting someone off?"
 - Acts 23:1 Paul, looking intently at the Council, said, "Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day."
 - Acts 24:16 In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.
 - 1 Timothy 1:5 But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.
 - 1 Timothy 1:19 keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith.
 - 1 Timothy 3:9 but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.

- Titus 1:15 To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.
- We must be careful and judge the counsel others give us (24:4). Where are they coming from? What is their motivation?
 - Luke 12:57 **And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?**
How can we judge what is right?
 - John 5:30 **I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.**
 - John 7:24 **Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.**

9. We must do all that we can to prevent others from throwing spears.

- 1 Samuel 26:9 But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him, for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD'S anointed and be without guilt?
 - Psalm 105:15 Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.
 - Romans 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.
- David would not allow any of his men to throw spears. They were his disciples and trained in the way of courage, righteousness and integrity and THEY BECAME '**MIGHTY MEN.**'
 - ❖ This is leadership.
 - ❖ This demonstrates maturity in the Kingdom of God.
 - ❖ This is the heart of a king. One ready to rule over others as a servant whose every desire is to help them grow, succeed and prosper.

10. 1 Samuel 23: 1,5,12 David's **rejection intensifies** as he delivers the village of Keilah from the Philistines, and then learns that instead of helping him they also will **reject him** and turn him over to Saul. Again David flees and time and time again, and **refuses to fight back**.

- Is running a sign of weakness?
 - Matthew 10:23 **But whenever they persecute you in one city, flee to the next; for truly I say to you, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes.**
 - 1 Corinthians 6:18 **Flee** immorality.
 - 1 Timothy 6:11 **But flee** from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.
 - 2 Timothy 2:22 **Now flee** from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

11. 1 Samuel 27-28 David was finally forced to leave Israel, his country. He went to the Philistines and King Achish gave him the city of Ziklag for David and his six hundred men.

12. 1 Samuel 29 The Philistines were going to fight Israel, David and his men were with them but they sent David back saying He would fight for Israel. Returning to Ziklag they found it burned and all their families taken captive. And now, the **greatest rejection of all**, the very men he loved, trained, provided for them and their families, were ready to reject David also (1 Sam. 30).

- 1 Samuel 30:6 **Moreover David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all the people were embittered, each one because of his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.**
- When others are against you // reject you:
 - What do you turn to, to find strength?
 - Who do you turn to?

13. Finding **strength in the LORD** kept David from collapsing under pressure, it saved his life and brought another victory. David kept his focus on the LORD and not on himself or the situation, seeking the LORD for direction, **David called the men back to the purpose, vision and calling for their lives – THEY SAVED THEIR FAMILIES.** 1Sam. 30:16-20

- ❖ This is leadership.
- ❖ This demonstrates maturity in the Kingdom of God.
- ❖ This is the heart of a king. One ready to rule over others as a servant whose every desire is to help them grow, succeed and prosper.

We **MUST** learn to respond correctly and NOT REACT to: REJECTION, being ATTACKED by others and PROBLEMS in our life.

And when we do respond correctly the LORD will cause it:

1. to work for our good and **save** us from more disastrous situations in the future. Romans 8:28
2. And our correct response prepares us for our destiny.
 - As True Believers:
 - **"We Have Been Saved"** (Eph.2:5,8) from the **penalty** of sin and HAVE Eternal Life. Our **only** participation is believing.
 - We now **"are being saved"** (1Cor.1:18) from the **power** of sin and therefore satan's attacks. Our part is **Obeying** our LORD and His Word, which is Responding Correctly.

Philippians 2:12-13 *So then, my beloved, just as you have always **obeyed**, . . . **work out your salvation** with fear and trembling; (13) for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*

The life of David is an example to inspire us to pursue a life of (1) finding strength in the Lord, and (2) gaining **favor** and **intimacy** with the LORD.

14. Reaching our God given destiny requires our participation.

Jesus Himself: "kept increasing in **wisdom** and **stature (maturity)**, and in **favor** with God and men." (Luke 2:52)

HOW do we increase in wisdom, maturity and favor?

- As Moses Prayed: "*Show me Your ways*" (Ex.33:13)

John 5:19 ". . . the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something HE **SEES** the Father doing . . . "

John 8:38 I speak the things which I **HAVE SEEN** with My Father

- He accomplished His ministry, **not by** His deity, but **as a man that OBEYED His Father**. He is our example.
- "*rejected by men,*" and suffered greatly, even unto death (Phil.2:8), and still OBEYED His Father. 1 Peter 2:4, 21-23
- He also: was "*tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin*" (Hebrews 4:15). Still OBEYED His Father
- THIS IS HOW JESUS INCREASED IN FAVOR WITH GOD AND HOW WE WILL INCREASE IN FAVOR WITH GOD TO FULFILL OUR DESTINY As JESUS DID HIS.
- In contrast: *The Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves* (Luke 7:30). By NOT Believing and Obeying.
- We also **MUST** keep "*increasing in wisdom, maturity, and in favor with God and men.*" Others will begin to see YOU ARE DIFFERENT from all the rest. Begin to RESPECT you, begin to FOLLOW you.
- The LORD Loves us all 100% but favor is different. The word favor is *charis* which is divine grace or ability that He gives when He sees that you GENUINELY WANT TO LIVE A NEW LIFE.

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the **grace** of God I am what I am, and His **grace** toward me did not prove **vain** (empty, or no effect); but I **labored** even more than all of them, yet not I, but the **grace** of God with me. NASU

2 Timothy 2:20-21 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. Therefore, **if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.**

And as we cleanse our self, we grow in favor (*charis*) – or, more grace is given to accomplish His good work.

2 Corinthians 12:9 And He has said to me, "My **grace** is sufficient for you, for **power** is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

Therefore to fulfill our Destiny – reach our God given Potential it requires our PARTICIPATION - Finding Strength in the Lord and His Word as to how we are to live our life.

Through obedience, trials, rejection, and suffering we also must have the **right Response** to keep increasing in wisdom, maturity, and favor with God and men, as we also have a high calling and destiny.

15. Our Destiny is - to "*reign on the earth*"

2 Timothy 2:12 We will also reign with Him

Revelation 20:6 they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Revelation 5:9-10 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a ***kingdom** and **priests** to our God; and they will **reign** upon the earth."

*basileia (singular): royalty; abstractly – rule; concretely- a realm (literally or figuratively). Compare: Revelation 1:6; Exodus 19:6

- This means we are to have a SPHERE OF INFLUENCE – **earned** by our lifestyle - and accomplished by the grace given by the Lord.

- Growing in wisdom, maturity and favor, gives you a **sphere of influence** and places you as a **LEADER** in your sphere.
- Our "**REIGN**" is not to "rule over others." In the 'Kingdom of God' it is the grace, the power, to **SERVE OTHERS**.

John 13:14 **If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.**

- The leadership of Kings provides **protection, education** and **prosperity** to their citizens. Your FIRST sphere of influence is **YOUR FAMILY**. To provide an EXAMPLE of how to live a life of integrity, being a SERVANT-LEADER providing protection, education, and prosperity.
- This **REQUIRES** that we are ABLE to provide these things, and the ability to provide comes from the grace given to us by the Lord.

Psalm 27:4 **One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.**

Proverb 2:6-7 **For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity.**

We must Realize Who We Are, press on toward our high Calling, our Position, fulfill our Ministry, and achieve our DESTINY.

And, as a result of that position being given to us, Jesus: **raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**
Ephesians 2:6

THE QUESTION IS:

1. To what degree are we living and walking in the potential given to us?
2. Are we obeying the laws of His Kingdom? We cannot enforce laws that we do not obey.
3. To the degree that we disobey the laws of the Kingdom of God we sin, which places us in the kingdom of darkness and to the same degree under the authority of the evil one.

The Lord desires / wants **YOU** to *increase in WISDOM, MATURITY and FAVOR with God and man*, to think and act like Him, out of your own free will.

VIII. Living in the Kingdom and Fulfilling Our Responsibilities / Reaching Our Destiny, Requires:

- Proverb 4:23 Watch over **your heart** with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. NASU
- Proverb 4:23 Above all else, guard **your heart**, for it is the wellspring of life. NIV
- 1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks **at the heart**."

1. Guard your heart / Watch over it with all diligence (Proverb 4:23)
You Guard what is Valuable and Important.
The Heart is Important because it is the source / the alpha / the genesis from which flows the way we view, think and live our life.
2. When we are 'born again' we receive a '**new heart**' (Ezekiel 36:26), an upgrade, that is alive, whole and receptive, and receives the Holy Spirit.
3. The '**new heart**' is the central conjunction where the input of our rationality (our knowledge, thinking, feelings and emotions of our mind) meets with the spirituality that we have received and learned from the Holy Spirit.
4. The outcome of this meeting of our 'rationality' and 'spirituality' is the "*wellspring of our life*" (Proverb 4:23) and is determined by which is stronger, more dominant, and which is more desired by 'our will.' We make the decision.

- Joshua 23:11 So take diligent heed to yourselves to love the LORD your God.
- Joshua 24:15 choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: . . . the gods . . . in whose land you are living . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
- Deuteronomy 6:5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- Matthew 22:37 You shall love the Lord your god with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

5. Therefore, GUARD YOUR HEART

To the extent that I am successful in guarding or watching over my heart, I will experience:

- ❖ Kingdom breakthroughs and victories in my life inwardly and outwardly in my realm of influence.
- ❖ Grow in wisdom, maturity, favor and grace from the LORD and men, which will expand my realm of influence, my reign.
- **Do Not Quench the Spirit** (1Thes.5:19) by not listening, by not seeng. The Holy Spirit desires above all things that we "guard our heart" as it is His Home! When something is amiss, He warns us like the warning light in our auto. To disregard the warning light is to quench the Spirit.
- **Do Not Grieve the Spirit** (Eph.4:30). To disobey the warning light results in a mechanical breakdown - damage to our heart.
 - To step into the kingdom of darkness by sin is to grieve the Holy Spirit. Because He knows of the damage coming.
 - To add to and contaminate the gasoline or the oil severely damages the auto and it can not perform properly. And so it is with our mind and body. Do Not Defile your heart with anything unclean.
- Psalm 101:3 I will set no wicked, evil, worthless thing before my eyes.

- 2 Corinthians 6:17 . . . and touch not the unclean thing
- 2 Corinthians 7:1 . . . let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
- 2 Corinthians 10:5 . . . and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ

6. And RENEW YOUR MIND

- Romans 12:1-2 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies** a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. (2) And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. NASU

The renewing of our mind is very important so that our mind begins to conform and come into agreement with our heart. Thus eliminating more and more of the disagreement and disharmony between our mind and heart. The result being a life of peace and prosperity being led by the Holy Spirit.

- 2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ
- Proverb 23:7 For as he thinks within himself, so he is.

IX. Making Realty Real – A Study on Romans 6

see the notes with the above title on the website www.treasurehisword.com

To be continued as the class progresses
The Lord Bless You

Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, **act like men**, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. 1Cor.16:13-14 NASU