THE NAMES OF GOD---JEHOVAH-SABAOTH (of Hosts) 1 Sam. 1:3

INTRO: A.-Two Equivalent Terms:
1-Sabaoth---Term in the Hebrew original
---Transliterated in 2 places in N. T.
**Rom. 9:29 quoting Isa. 1:9
**James 5:4
2-Hosts--Translation of a Hebrew term, Sabaoth
--Used close to 300 times in O. T.
--Used 2 times in N. T.
3-Generally linked with the name Jehovah--LORD of hosts

B.-Definition Of These Equivalent Terms:
1-"Hosts"=="Sabaoth"=="armies", with special reference to warfare Plural of "army"
2-Jehovah Sabaoth==Lord of armies
==Leader & Commander Who went forth with the armies of the nation & led them to victory over the worshippers of false gods.
3-Warrior name of God
4-Ps. 24:10--"Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."

I.-THE IDENTITY OF THESE HOSTS:

A.-Earthly Armies Of Israel Under God's Control:
1-Josh. 5:13-15
2-Isa. 31:4-5

B.-Heavenly Armies Of Angels:
1-2 Kings 6:16-17
2-Isa. 6:1-5
3-Gen. 32:1-2
4-1 Kings 22:19
5-Luke 2:13-15

C.-Thus, This Name gathers into itself the idea of ALL divine & heavenly power as available for God's purposes & for His people

D.-Sometimes These Hosts Were Deprived Of Victory:
1-Ps. 44:9--"But thou hast cast off, & put us to shame; & goest not forth with our armies."
2-Josh. 7:1-5

II.-THE INCIDENCE OF OCCURRENCE OF REFERENCES TO THESE HOSTS:

A.-Never find the term Jehovah of Hosts used in Penteteuch
B.-Only indirectly used in Joshua & Judges
C.-Rarely used in Psalms — 46.7,11
D.-OFTEN used as God revealed Himself when Israel approached national disaster & judgment when Israel was in DESPERATE NEED.
1-80 times in Jeremiah in 52 chapters — Prophet of approaching Judgment.
2-14 times in Haggai in 2 chapters

3-50 times in Zechariah in 14 chapters
4-25 times in Malachi in 4 chapters

III.-THE LESSONS OF THESE REFERENCES TO JEHOVAH OF HOSTS:

A.-Reassurance That The Lord Is WITH His People:

1-Psalm 46--(Read)
2-Especially 46:7, 11
3-Hag. 2:4

B.-Reminder That God's Power Is AVAILABLE TO His People:

1-2 Kings 6:13-18
2-2 Cor. 10:3-4
3-1 Sam 17:1-45

C.-Refreshment That God Is A COMFORT TO His People In Time Of Division & Failure:

1-1 Kings 19:14 — 18:15
2-Isa. 1:9
3-Isa. 8:11-16
4-Isa. 10:24-27
5-Mal. 3:16-17
6-~~Jas. 5:4~~

Illus — "Is Prayer Worthwhile?"

CONCLUSION:

A.-Meaning:

1-Sabaoth==Hosts==Armies
2-Jehovah Sabaoth==LORD of Armies
3-Warrior name of God as He wars for His own

B.-Useage:

1-BOTH heavenly & earthly armies are under His control
2-Revelation that in time of impending disaster, God's peoples hope is IN THEIR GOD
3-

C.-Lessons:

1-Reassurance that God is WITH His people
2-Reminder that God's power is AVAILABLE TO His people
3-Refreshment that God is a COMFORT TO His people
4-YEAH! ! !--He wars for us
--He wars with us
--But always for our good & for His glory.

D.- Distinctions:

1-Israel had armies + fought battles — Jehovah Sabaoth about 300 times
2-Church has no armies + does not engage in physical combat —
— Jehovah Sabaoth never used in connection w/ the Church
— Jehovah Sabaoth is distinctively related to ISRAEL !
— Isa. 1:1-24
— Isa 9:5-7
— Jer. 30:8
— Use of Mal. 3:7-12 To impose tithing on the Church is done a fatal blow by use of "Lord of Hosts" 4 times in this passage.

"MODEL FOR A MODERN MOTHER" 1 Sam. 1:1--2:11

INTRO: A.-Mother's Day History:

1-Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia, in 1908 conceived the idea of a SPECIAL DAY for mothers. She was asked by the Supt. of the S.S. in Virginia town in which her mother had long been a teacher, to arrange a MEMORIAL SERVICE.

2-She felt that this was an opportunity to remind people of neglected home ties, &also to show special appreciation of loving, unselfish mothers----both living and dead

3-May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation "designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day."

4-Observed continuously for 55 years

B.-Mother's Importance:

1-HOW GREAT is the influence of a mother! Countless famous men have attributed their success to the influence & early training of remarkable mother

2-Of Napoleon's mother, his biographer writes: "Nobody had any command over him except his mother, who found means, by a mixture of tenderness, severity & justice, to make him love, respect and obey her: from her he learned the virtue of obedience."

3-The mother of George Washington became a widow when George, the oldest of 5 children was only 11 years of age. Besides caring for a large household & managing extensive estates, she educated all of her children and guided them in their principles, conducts and habits, all with complete success

4-Lincoln's stepmother was a kindly Christian woman of refinement who made a forlorn Indiana cabin into a comfortable pioneer home. She taught her children what she knew of the Bible, and left an unforgetable image of herself written upon her famous stepson's heart.

5-Across the seas, in England, when John Wesley was thinking of establishing a home of his own, he asked his mother, Susanna Wesley, to write in detail how she brought up & educated her 19 children. Her sons & daughers have made up one of the most remarkable family groups in the history of the world. Their success has been attributed to their early home training.

6-Even farther in time and distance, we find HANNAH, Mother of SAMUEL.....

C.-Model For A Modern Mother:

1-Hannah's PATIENCE (1 Sam. 1:1-8)
2-Hannah's PRAYER (1:9-20)
3-Hannah's PLEDGE (1:11)
4-Hannah's PRESENTATION (1 :21-28)
5-Hannah's PRAISE (2:1-11)
6-PROP:--Model for mothers of today
--Mother for models of tomorrow

-Molder of men & nations & homes & churches for God's glory

I.-HANNAH'S PATIENCE (1:1-8):

A.-Her Husband:

1-Elkanah by name
2-Levite by tribe
3-Ephraimite by residence
4-"And he had two wives"
- --No Scriptural warrant for this
- --VIOLATION of the CREATION ORDER
- --"Therefore shall a man leave his father & his mother, & shall cleave unto his wife: & they shall be one flesh." (Gen. 2:24)
- --First to violate this was Lamech (Ge. 4:19) & BIGAMY was born

B.-Her Home:

1-Shared with Peninnah (the other wife
2-Peninnah had children
3-Hannah had no children
- --Prov. 30:15-16--"There are 3 things never satisfied, yea, four things say not, It is enough. The grave; and the barren womb.."
- --I Tim. 5:14--"I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully"

4-Two wives & the "CHILD QUESTION" was a source of considerable friction

C.-Her Heartbreak:

1-Had the love of her husband (1:5a)
2-"BUT the LORD had shut up her womb" (1:5b)
3-Double portions didn't satisfy her longing
4-So.....SHE WEPT
5-Elkanah didn't understand--
- --TYPICAL MALE
- --I:8
- --Can't reason with tears
- --Perceptive to ask, but he doesn't understand

6-"If at first you don't succeed — CRY, CRY, again"

II.-HANNAH'S PRAYER (1:9-20):

A.-Person Of Her Prayer (1:9-10):

1-Driven by adversity TO GOD, not away from Him
2-Knew where to take her petitions
3-Ps. 121:1-2--"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help? Mye help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven & earth."
4-Knew where her help would come from
5-1:10

B.-Persistence Of Her Prayer (1:11-12):

1-Prayed about her longing for a child
2-Vowed before God how she'd rear a child entrusted to her motherhood
3-Just WOULDN'T GIVE UP----"as she continued praying"

C.-Poured Out In Prayer (1:13-16):
1-Misjudged by old Eli, the High Priest
2-Jumped to an improper conclusion
3-Perhaps attributed the general morality of the day to her
4-1:15
5-Hers was a HEARTFELT DEVOTION, not a bottled concoction
6-Ps. 86:4--"Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul."
7-Defends herself----1:16

D.-Products Of Prayer (1:17-20):
1-Priestly blessing
2-Peace as you go
3-Promise of her petition
4-1:17
5-RESPONSE--Of voice--"Let thy handmaid find grace in thy sight"
--Of face--"..and her countenance was no more sad."
6-UPLIFT as she LEFT her burdens with the Lord
7-Worshipped with husband even prayers are as yet unfulfilled-----In faith
8-Conceived & bare a SON
9-"Samuel"="Asked of God"
--Significant name
--Advertised her product of prayer by that name
10-Drawn close to God thru this experience

III.-HANNAH'S PLEDGE (1:11):

A.-Promises To God:
1-Given to the LORD
2-Given for "ALL" the days of his life"
3-No razor on hair--NAZARITE
--Also, no contact with death
--Also, no use of wine
NB 4-Determination that her son would be DIFFERENT !!!.
5-She believed in claiming her boy for a godly life
--As a child
--As a teenager
--In his maturity
6-Didn't anticipate him "sowing wild oats" or straying
7-Put up her prayers as security for a godly son
8-Do you trust God in this fashion????

B.-Performance Before God:
1-Only had the child a short time--"the child was young"
2-Instilled truth & practice at mother's knee!!!
3-Claimed Prov. 22:6 in truth--"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."
4-TRAIN UP--By instruction----what's taught
--By example--------what's shown
--By discipline-----what's demanded
--By LOVE----------what's desired.....

--AND, remember it is a PROCESS !!!
--Children are like plants, requiring personalized & constant care----
--NEED TO BE BENT TO GODLINESS

5-"In the way he should go"--as seen in Mom & Dad

6-"When he is old, he will not depart from it"
--Doesn't say he'll COME BACK to it
--But that he will NEVER LEAVE it !!!

7-Hannah kept her word.....and so did God

8-ILLUS---When young Matthew Simpson tremblingly broke the news to his widowed mother that he felt called to preach, which would necessitate his leaving the home, she exclaimed with tears of joy: "O h, my son, I have prayed for this hour every day since you were born. At that time, we dedicated you to the Christian ministry."

G. Campbell Morgan says: "My dedication to the preaching of the Word was maternal. Mother never told it to the baby or the boy, but waited. When but 8 years old, I preached to my little sister & to her dolls arrayed in orderly form before me. My sermons were Bible stories which I had first heard from my Mother."

IV.-HANNAH'S PRESENTATION (1:21-28):

A.-In Worship (1:24-25):

1-Hannah care d for the child PERSONALLY in the early days--No transfer to "baby-sitters"

2-Weaning was late with Hebrew children

3-BOTH parents joined in presentation before the Lord, & so does the child--Large offerings brough
--Worship is costly
--Put their treasure in that which expressed their devotion

4-Young child is parted from parents

5-Willing to "ABANDON HIM TO GOD", without parental interference

6-HARD TO DO----as missionaries with children to schools, etc.

B.-In Wonder (1:26-28):

1-Wonder of recollection--1:26
--Testimony to God's faithfulness
--Child was prayed for
--Child was given by the Lord

2-Wonder of appreciation
--1:27
--Specific requests made
--Specific answers received
--Heart full of gratitude

3-Wonder of dedication--1:28
--"Lent" == "Returned"
--Dedication was permanent; "as long as he liveth"
--MUTUAL sharing of a worship experience.

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V.-HANNAH'S PRAISE (2:1-10):

A.-The Content:

1-Joy in the Lord--2:1-3
- --Rejoicing in the LORD Himself
- --Then, rejoicing in His benefits
- --"Neither is there any ROCK like our God."

2-Judgment of the Lord--2:4-8
- --Psalm of praise for privilege of motherhood
- --God is the One who rules life and resurrection
- --He lifts up & He brings low

3-Justice of the Lord
- --2:9-10
- --Able to KEEP
- --Real need for Hannah to have this confidence, for she's cast her son into God's hand
- --God will judge.....RIGHTEOUSLY

B.-The Contentment:

1-Expressed in devotion to the Lord
2-Expressed in dedication of her son
3-Husband----------NOT enough !!
4-Child----------Not ENOUGH !!
5-HER GOD.....HE is enough
6-1 Tim. 6:6--"But godliness with contentment is great gain."
7-Do you know--The Savior ??
- --The contentment He gives ??

NB

CONCLUSION: A.-Resume':

1-MODEL FOR MODERN MOTHERS:
- --PATIENCE in trying circumstances
- --PRAYER to God about problems
- --PLEDGE of self & family
- --PRESENTATION before God
- --PRAISE for His faithfulness

2-How about YOU ??

3-ILLUS--Wife and husband were believing Christians, and they worshipped in the Protestant Episcopal Church. From the dying mother's lips came a prayer, heard by the husband and other members of the family, that the new arrival might become a preacher of the gospel.

Her dying request was kept a secret, and only after Cyrus had become a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, and had received a definite call to devote his life the the gospel ministry was he told of this touching prayer which God so graciously answered. Cyrus I. Scofield remembered from his earliest childhood that his father read the Bible to him and to the family. Thus, a mother's prayer and a father's faithfulness in the Word, brought a man to faith and usefulness in the cause of Christ.

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B.-Poem-----Hattie Vose Hall:--"A Child's Immortal Soul:

A builder builded a temple:
He wrought it with care and skill--
Pillars and groins and arches,
All fashioned to do his will,
And men said as they saw its beauty,
"It shall never know decay.
Great is thy skill, O builder!
Thy fame shall endure for aye."

A mother builded a temple
With infinite loving care,
Planning each arch with patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.
None praised her unceasing efforts,
None knew of her wonderous plan,
For the temple the mother builded
Was unseen by the eye of man.

GONE is the builder's temple--
Crumbled into the dust.
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the mother builded
Will last wh ile the ages roll,
For that beautiful unseen temple,
Was a child's immortal soul."

C.-HOW IS THAT BUILDING DONE?:

1-Prov. 22:6--"Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart
from it."

2-And - much of the building is done by MOTHER!

Westbrae--5/11/69--O Worship The King----------407
Faith of our MOTHERS
My Faith Looks Up To Thee-----409

"Father.....Key To The Home" 1 Sam 2:12-3:14

Intro:

A.-Know Parents By Their Children
1-No home at all---regimented (like a military school)
2-House---Love, but no discipline
3-Home-----Love and discipline

B.-Children Mirror What They Are Taught:
1-Toward Man
2-Toward Self
3-Toward God

I.-EXAMPLE TO BE AVOIDED 1 Sam. 2:12--3:14

A.-Eli's Sons:
1-Knew not the Lord--2:12
2-Customs of men above the Word of God--2:13-14
3-Placed themselves above God in the eyes of the People--2:15
4-Impervious to suggestion; Used force & not love--2:16
5-Committed sexual sins at the House of God--2:22
6-Led the people into transgressions too--2:24
7-Refused instruction by their father--2:25
8-God's View----SIN WAS VERY GREAT---2:17
9-Death Sentence--2:34
10-Sin quenched spiritual knowledge--3:1
11-Source of problem----Eli — FATHER is a family's worst PROBLEM CHILD
-Fruitage of problem----Sons---3:13
12-Presumptuous sins---no possible sacrifice---3:14 & Heb.10:26-3

B.-Eli's Failure:
1-No word about Eli's good example
2-No word about any Biblical instruction — Reflection of failure is upon ELI
3-No word about any discipline thru the years
4-Eli's warning came TOO LATE----1 Sam. 2:25

II.-BIBLICAL FATHERS OF NOTE:

A.-Enoch:
1-Gen. 5:22 "And Enoch walked with God AFTER he begat Methuselah" — SALVATION
2-Child led him to walk with God

B.-Noah:
1-Gen. 7:7 — "And Noah went in, + his sons, + his wife + his sons wives with him, into the ark..."
2-Preached 120 years with no outside converts
3-But led ALL his family to know & follow God

C.-Abraham:
1-Gen. 18:19 — Not "Demand", but "Command"
2-"Command" whole household---stern standard
3-"after him"---he set the proper example
4-Led his sons to KEEP & DO.

D.-Lot:
1-Gen. 19 --whole chapter
2-Learned the commandments in Abraham's house
3-Forsook the separated position he had learned
4-Had 2 daughters & 2 sons-in-law in Sodom who were LOST
5-His 2 saved daughters had the morals of the world
6-Lack of self-discipline in Lot & lack of family discipline in the home.
7-ILLUS ----A man was 1 day teaching his little boy what manner of man it it was who was a Christian who really lives for Jesus Christ. When the lesson was finished, the father got the stab of his life, when the boy asked, "~~FATHER~~ Dad, HAVE I EVER SEEN A CHRISTIAN???"

III.-FATHER'S ROLE

A.-Head Of The Wife: Eph. 5:22-23 - "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife..."

1-She in subjection----His is the final responsibility
--Three exceptions---immoral or illegal acts. or contrary to the Word of God.
2-He in love with her----& showing it
3-Both in cooperative labor of love
--joint decisions where possible
--joint actions in all cases
--joint bank accounts
--Joint home duties
--real affection, consideration & love

B.-Head Of The Family: - Gen. 3:16 - Rule over Woman

1-In the eyes of the Lord--the man is RESPONSIBLE
---financially --Religiously
---governmentally --disciplinary issues
2-No "cutting down" of man or wife in the eyes of others
3-Respect & honor "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right

C.-Head Of Children---Eph. 6:4

1-Not to provoke them--by unfairness
--by unwarranted demands
2-Bring them up--reared & not raised
--nurture = discipline--Pr. 10:13; 13:24
--admonition = teaching--Pr. 22:6
--of the Lord--Facts, Person, Devotion
3-Involves STRICT DISCIPLINE - Obedience is expected - Col. 3:20
--so they know what to expect "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord."
--so they have a standard
--so they can progress forward
--so they are a credit to parents
--so they are a credit to God
--Grace is LEARNED---doesn't run in the blood stream

Concl: - Prov. 20:11 - "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, + whether it be right."

A.-Measure up????? 1-Abraham or Lot?? 2-Enoch or Eli??

3-ILLUS--A boy said to his mother, "When I grow up I am going to be the kind of a Christian Father is. Nobody knows if he is a Christian or not by the way he acts."------That man was like the clock in a certain courthouse tower. It had no hands. It may have been working inside, but how was anyone to know it or be profited by it???

B.-Headship:
1-Of Wife
2-Of Family
3-Of Children

C.-Judged By Appearances:
1-What impression would people get of you by looking at your children??? What impression of your Father by looking at you?
2-What are you going to DO about it?????
3-What kind of a Father are you? What kind of a Father will you be?

MOSES FINAL WORD AS "FATHER" - Dt. 32:46-47

Gen. 18:19 - "For I know him (Abraham), that he will command his children + his household after him, + they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice + judgment..."

Faith Of Our Fathers
God Of Our Fathers

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

"THE OBEDIENCE OF LOVE" 1 Samuel 15:1-23
or
"EXPEDIENCE VS. OBEDIENCE"

Intro: A.-What Is Biblical LOVE?:

1-HOW is Biblical love manifested?

2-The answer to this question is sorely needed today. God's people are being given the impression by some Christian leaders that all doctrinal controversy, rebuke of error, and unflinching obedience to the Scriptural doctrine of separation is unkind and ungracious. PIOUS POSITIVISM is being equated with genuine, godly love.

3-Did ATHANASIUS, the early church leader, demonstrate Christian love when he stubbornly contested for the doctrine of the true deity of Christ? Did love motivate MARTIN LUTHER when he fought for doctrinal purity against the ecclesiastical powers of his day? Did JOHN WESLEY evidence love when he chose to preach on a graveyard tombstone rather than conform to the dictates of men? Was J. GRESHAM MACHEN filled with love when he lifted his powerful pen & voice against the spreading apostasy within the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. in 1929?

4-The modern nation of "love" that is prevalent in some circles today would brand all of these men as DISRUPTERS OF THE PEACE, strangers to genuine love for the brethren. It is no longer considered "fashionable" to contend sharply for the faith or to insist upon a clear-cut doctrinal position. IT IS CONSIDERED BAD TASTE to contend with error, or call attention to false teaching, or rebuke brethren who are drifting from their doctrinal moorings.

5-VANCE HAVNER writing on "The Forgetten Anathema" said: "Some Christians who once championed sound doctrine beat a retreat once in a while & from stratospheric heights announce that they do not 'stoop to controversy.' When a man contends for the faith in N.T. style, he does not stoop....Contending for the faith is not easy. It is not pleasant business. It has many perils. It is a thankless job. And it is highly unpopular in this age of moral fogs and spiritual twilights. It is a day of DIPLOMATS, not of PROPHETS. It is nicer to be an APPEASER than an OPPOSER. It is the day of Erasmus, not Luther; of Gamaliel, not Paul." (Sword of the Lord, Jan.7, 1955)

B.-Our Message:

1-An examination of the Scriptures will reveal that love is virile,and strong; not weak and sentimental.

2-Moreover, I hope we'll see that real love produces OBEDIENCE to God's REVEALED WORD

3-Outline:-I.-An O.T. Case
II.-The N.T. Confirmations

4-PROP:------To see what God expects as OUR REACTIONS to His Word.

I.-AN OLD TESTAMENT CASE---(1 Samuel 15:1-23):

A.-A Clear Command (15:1-3):

1-WHO was Amalek?
- --Descendants of Esau (Gen. 36:12)
- --Living in Edom & Petra
- --Wild & warlike people
- --Refused to let Israel pass unharmed thru their area on way to Canaan from Egypt
- --Battle between Joshua & Amalekites
- --Promises
  - ** Ex.17:16-"The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation"
  - ** Ex.17:14--"I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven"

2-Saul was given UNMISTAKABLE ORDERS (15:3)

3-"UTTERLY DESTROY ALL"--People
- --Possessions
- --Devotion to God of any object living or dead

4-No reason given in text

5-VENGEANCE is in God's hand & for His purposes

6-LANGE--"To spare the devoted thing was a grave offence; calling down the vengeance of God."

B.-A Definite Disobedience (15:4-9):

1-Complete victory--15:4-8
- --Ambush set
- --Kenites spared for past kindnesses
- --Military victory throughout the Amalekite territory (15:7)
- --People "utterly destroyed"
  - ** ALL of them
  - ** ALL the poorest cattle & flocks also

2-Incomplete obedience
- --15:9
- --"BUT"
- --Mutual responsibility; "Saul and the people"
- --"SPARED" ** Agag, the King of the Amalekites
  - **"The best of the sheep & of the oxen, & of the fatlings & the lambs"
  - ** "And all that was good"
  - ** Evaluation of a DEPRAVED INTELLECT
  - ** Telling God they knew better than He did; that they were wiser & more kind than God
- --"And would not utterly destroy them"
  - ** Action of the WILL
  - ** COVETOUSNESS of that which they viewed as "best" and "good"
  - ** Saul apparently thought God had made a MISTAKE

C.-A Pious Pose (15:10-21):

1-God's View--15:10-11
- --Repentance of God over Saul's moral change

--CHAFER--"God, though immutable, is not immobile. If He consistently pursues a righteous course, His attitude must be adapted to every moral change in man. God's unchanging holiness requires Him to treat the wicked differently from the righteous. When the righteous become wicked, His treatment of them must change. THE SUN IS NOT FICKLE because it melts wax, but hardens clay. The change is not in the sun, but in the objects it shines upon."(I,218)

--Source of GRIEF to Samuel, whose major concern was for God's honor

--Samuel made it a matter of PRAYER

2-Saul's view--15:12-13

--Parading King Agag before the people to gain their praise & built a monument to his victory at Carmel (in S. Judah)

--Professed to have TOTALLY OBEYED God's command

--Many speak pious words

--Many claim that their PARTIAL OBEDIENCE ought to fulfill what God has required

--Remember ** A half-truth is a WHOLE LIE
** And--Incomplete obedience is DISOBEDIENCE

3-Samuel's Question--15:14

--Incisive inquiry; CUTTING IRONY

--Tell-tale evidence of DISOBEDIENCE

--SIN will come out!!

--ILLUS---Tommy's mother made some chocolate pudding. She put it on the kitchen table to get cool. Before she left to do some shopping, she said: "Tommy, be a good boy. Be sure to leave the pudding alone!" Tommy said he would, & went on playing.

After a while Tommy looked at the chocolate pudding. It looked so good! He got a spoon out of the drawer to taste the pudding.

The pudding WAS VERY GOOD. Tommy took another taste, and another, and before he knew it, he'd eaten most of it.

Just as his head turned as he heard his mother come up on the front porch, he spied the CAT. He knew his mother would be displeased. He picked up the cat & pushed her feet & face into the chocolate pudding that was left & ran from the room, thinking: "NOW THE CAT WILL GET THE BLAME"

When Tommy's mother came into the kitchen, she saw what had happened. Tommy tried to pass the blame to the cat, but she firmly replied: "TOMMY, CATS DON"T EAT CHOCOLATE PUDDING WITH SPOONS. Look at the dirty spoon on the table. You go up to your room until I call you for your punishment."

WE CAN NEVER HIDE OUR DISOBEDIENCE from God.

4-Saul's Cover-Up--15:15

--"REASONS" can always be advanced to "cover up" our disobedience

--They can even sometimes be made to sound plausible
** "The people spared"--OTHERS did it
** "The best..to sacrifice"--RELIGIOUS motive

** "The rest...we destroyed"--OBEYED in most things, but not all
** Something like a husband professing to love his wife by saying: "I'm faithful to you six days out of every week"

--MATHEW HENRY--"Those that are willing to justify themselves are commonly very forward to condemn others & to lay the blame upon any rather than take it upon themselves...Nor will good intention justify a bad action." (P. 361, Vol. 2)

--STOPPED short by Samuel--15:16-19

--15:20-21 ** Professes obedience
** But passes the buck to the people
** People couldn't have done this against the King's will
** Fails to discern that a leader is responsible for the action of his followers
** ILLUS--President Nixon in Friday night's News Conference, when he took SOLE RESPONSIBILITY for US forces going into Cambodia

5-So, we see a PIOUS POSE to justify his lack of obedience to the whole & clear command of God. Saul tried to claim his disobedience to God's Word was clear evidence of his devotion to God-------SPECIOUS REASONING

6-LOCKYER--"No man among Bible men had so many chances thrust upon him to make a success of life, & no man ever so missed them. Saul not only missed great opportunities, he deliberately abused them. His sun rose in splendor, but set in a tragic night. The downgrade of his life is the old familiar story of pride, egotism, and the abuse of power leading to moral degradation & ruin." (P. 294--"All The Men Of The Bible)

15:22-23

D.-A Principle Presented (15:22-23):

1-Tremendous answer by Samuel--WORTH MEMORIZING
--Must be read in the light of an earlier instruction from God thru Samuel
--1 Samuel 12:14-15 (READ TOGETHER)
--PRIOR WARNING had been given

2-Theme--"To obey is better than sacrifice & to hearken than the fat of rams
--OBEDIENCE is the mother-grace, the parent of all virtues
--Theo. Epp--"There is no greater sin man can commit than that of DISOBEDIENCE to God." (G.N.B., Dec. 1968)
--Micah 6:6-8 (READ)
--Practical obedience is better than outward form or ceremony
--Can't claim: "I'm violating Scriptural principles in order to win more souls to Christ."
--That's DISOBEDIENCE to God's Word
--Jn. 12:42-43
--FAITH obeys even when reason points out the advantages of disobedience.

3-Explanation--15:23
--Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft==Having

allegiance with Demon spirits
--Stubbornness is as iniquity & idolatry == Self-will supercedes God's will & sets up a false idol of worship
--Rejected the Word
** That was SAUL'S SIN
** Led to God rejecting Saul as Israel's King
** Disobedience cost him his opportunity to serve God acceptably
** 1 Cor. 9:27
--Led to Saul's living a LIFE OF FAILURE

4-Saul's SINS--Incomplete obedience (15:9,24)
--Allowing people to influence his decisions (15:9, 15, 21, 24)
--Rebellion of heart (15:23)--RELIGIOUS REASONS advanced for his disobedience
--Rejection of God's Word (15:23)
--GOD HOLDS SAUL RESPONSIBLE !!
--ILLUS--I recall hearing a friend tell of his pre-school daughter coming into his study & pulling a Commentary off the shelf & beginning to turn the pages. As he left the room for a moment, he warned her not to tear the book while Daddy was gone.

As my friend returned a few minutes later, he was greeted with the tell-tale "RIP", "RIP" of pages. As he turned the corner & saw his daughter on the floor with pages all about her, she spotted him and looked up with her warm brown eyes & said: "DADDY, I LOVE YOU".

Needless to say, the expression of love did her no good. She had disobeyed her Father & she had to take the consequences. LOVE THAT DISOBEYS IS NOT TRUE LOVE.

5-THE POINT--Love for self produces DISOBEDIENCE
--Love for God produces obedience
--Boils down to a life of expedience or of obedience
--God's commands never exceed His expectations

II.-THE NEW TESTAMENT CONFIRMATION:

A.-Confirmation From Jesus:

1-The expression of godly love FOR Christ is found in obedience TO Christ
2-Jesus made this point VERY CLEAR
3-John 14:15, 21, 23
4-Love is expressed
--By having Christ's commandments
--By keeping Christ's commandments
--Not by ministering physically to Jesus today, but by OBEDIENCE
--"Keep"=="Treasure like a priceless heirloom"
5-One old commentator: "All sentimental talking & singing about love is vain, unless by grace, we show a truthful obedience, the profession of affection is worse than affectation. LOVE IS PRACTICAL, or it is not love at all."
6-The warning of Christ against the unequal yoke of believers with unbelievers is clear in Scripture. Any

attempt to circumvent this command under the guise of Christian love simply reveals ignorance of Divine revelation.

7-ALEXANDER MACLAREN:--"Love to Him that does not keep His commandments is either spurious or dangerously feeble."

8-SEE, then, that Jesus underscores the obedience of love

B.-Confirmation From John:

1-Called the "Apostle of LOVE", but he's also the Apostle of OBEDIENCE !!

2-Love and obedience compliment one another

3-2 John 6--DEFINITION of love is given here
- --Not sticky, seet sentimentalism
- --Not rationalized compromise with untruth or unsaved
- --But steadfast adherance to the present walk that is CONTROLLED BY GOD'S COMMANDMENTS
- --That is love; "keep on walking according to His commandments"

4-ILLUS--A number of years ago a Bible teacher, now widely known, was asked to participate in a service which would be held in an EVANGELICAL CHURCH, but in which several noted MODERNISTS would participate. In a letter to a close friend he said in part:

"I cannot afford to be publicly associated on any platform with men of this sort. These men do not believe the things we believe. They do not stand for the things we are standing for here at _____ Church. They are not holding up Jesus Christ as the only Savior from sin, and the only begotten Son of God. I know the Pastor of the Church where these meetings are to be held is a true believer....but the presence of men who are liberals makes it impossible for me to accept the invitation."

In his earlier years this Bible teacher took a strong stand against cooperation with liberals. In his later years, in a speech before a great crowd of hearers, this same able and good man REPUDIATED the very principle which he had so nobly espoused many years ago, & told the audience in heated words that it was perfectly all right for evangelicals to cooperate with liberals as long as they did not compromise their message.

That man STARTED WELL, but the mounting pressures in the heat of battle came and he failed to "keep on walking according to His commandments."

5-Notice again, the word "HIS commandments"
- -Love's allegiance is SINGLE
- -Not shifting according to the times or patterns of what is popular
- --Not drifting with the theological currents of the day
- --Not climbing on the popular bandwagons & programs of our locale
- --BUT our authoritative commands must come from Christ, our COMMANDER
- -Love is occupied with HIM and with HIS COMMANDMENTS; nothing else

6-ILLUS --On a cold, bitter, wintry night in New York City a commuter train conductor was receiving tickets at the gate. In line of duty he had to stop rushing passengers & demand their ticket. This meant taking off warm gloves & exposing hands to the cold, biting wind; a process calculated to sharpen tempers and tongues.

Several uncomplimentary remarks were hurled at the conductor. A friend, seeing his plight, remarked, "You're not a very popular man tonight, are you?

The conductor smiled, pointed to the lighted windows of the general offices of the railroad for which he worked, & replied: "I ONLY WANT TO BE POPULAR UP THERE."

Obedience to orders---not to crowds, fame, or apparent success---makes a man of God "POPULAR UP THERE"

C.-Confirmation From Paul:

1-Greatest doctrinal writer of all time; Love must be ORTHODOX also

2-One noted man who said: "The badge of Christian discipleship is not orthodoxy, but love."

--Makes it sound as if love & orthodoxy could be separate

--Seems to say that if you're loving, then you're "ABOVE" a stand on doctrinal issues

--Tendency today is to by-pass specifics

--Labels are biting & bitter
- ** "Narrow"
- ** "Divisive"
- ** "Intolerant"
- ** "Bigoted"
- ** "Suspicious"
- ** "Leaven of Pharisaism"
- ** "Witch-hunting"

3-Let us ask the Question: "CAN LOVE be considered apart from the TRUTH?"

--1 Cor. 13:6--"Love rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;"

--Eph. 4:15--"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ:"

--2 Tim. 1:13--"Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love, which is in Christ Jesus."

--These show that orthodoxy and love are not to be separated

--However, today we see many who are anxious to receive into full "christian" fellowship those who DENY basic doctrines; those who REJECT the "form of sound words"

--Some accuse us of being theological hair-splitters who aren't intereste d in evangelism

--YET PAUL admonishes us to "hold fast", or be militants for the faith

4-CHARLES ERDMAN--"The need of such commandments has never ceased. In all ages of the Church, the gospel has been endangered both by false friends and by open enemies."

5-Indeed it sometimes appears we are living in a day when false friends of the gospel are more dangerous than its open enemies.

CONCLUSION:

A.-Our Thesis:

1-1 Sam. 15 shows that Love for God is expected to produce OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD, and that a lack of obedience evidences a love for one's own desires above the love of God

2-Jesus, John and Paul confirm this truth in the N.T.

3-LOVE is exhibited by OBEDIENCE to God's Word

B.-Our Course Of Action:

1-Paul's PRAYER--Phs. 1:8-10

--LOVE is to abound in the Philippian believers' lives

--HOW ??

** "in all judgment"-- "in all discernment"

** "in approving things that are excellent"

--Clear, then, that LOVE DISCERNS what is good and what is evil.

2-Paul's PRACTICE

--Gal. 2:11-14

--Peter defected and "was to be blamed"

--Paul rebuked him before all for it

--That is not LACK OF LOVE, but an evidence of LOVE

--Peter took it.....and profited by it

--Peter later praises "our beloved brother Paul" (2 Pet. 3:15)

--So, LOVE REBUKES error when it arises, as we also saw in Samuel rebuking Saul

3-Our Performance:

--(1) Obedience to the revealed Word (Isa. 8:20)

--(2) Self-education on denials of the faith and fuzzy compromises which are so prevalent; BEWARE of the "gray zone"

--(3) STAND for Christ----Both in Love and in Truth

--(4) Refuse to be involved in an unequal yoke

WESTBRAE--5/10/70--# 403 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
402 "Trust And Obey"

"HOW TO BE A SUCCESS" — 1 Samuel 16:1-13

(Primarily a YOUTH message) — 1 Cor. 10:31--11:1

INTRO: A.-Camp Determinations:

1-Jr. Hi & Sr. Highers just back from camp

2-MOUNTAIN TOP experience for many

3-"THINGS ARE GOING TO BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR. I've met the Lord in a new way & though I've really let Him down at school, at home and at Church this last year, I now intend to serve Him with all of my heart."

4-Perhaps those are echoing words
- --From closing campfire service
- --From your personal, private prayer experience
- --From years gone by for some of you older ones

B.-But There's A Problem:

1-Those are feelings & words much like we've said & heard OVER & OVER & OVER & OVER again!

2-Something has happened in the past to our good intentions----Nothing deliberate
- --Just the rush of activities, homework & seeing friends at school again
- --And the Lord ended up AT THE EDGE of your life, instead of being AT THE CENTER !!

3-Chances are you felt bad about it

4-But you reasoned that you weren't the only one who spoke glowingly and performed poorly

5-Seemed INEVITABLE when you got back into the regular routine.....but...

C.-It Doesn't Have To Be That Way:

1-Your walk with the Lord and your spiritual glow can be as real all through the year as it was at the height of camp or at the peak of a revival meeting

2-H O W ??--
- (a) Take a frank inventory of your life WHERE YOU ARE
- (b) Follow 3 simple principles summarized in Matt. 25:21-- His lord said unto him, 'Well done, thou good & faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord
- (c) Check yourself on 3 practicalities

3-SUCCESS is never an accident
- --Success comes to those who obey God-ordained principles
- --See that in any of the successful people in the Bible
- --Not talking about $UCCE$$

--Let's use DAVID as an example of these principles of God that produce success.
** Shepherd to King
** Prepared in obscurity
** Displayed in public
--Success is enjoyed because of PRE-paration

I.-THREE PRINCIPLES OF SUCCESS:

A.-Start As A Servant Before Becoming A Ruler:

1-Many want to start at the TOP today

2-David started as a servant
--That's always been God's pattern
--Other examples
** Joseph as a slave in Egypt
** Moses as a sheep herder in Midian
** Joshua as Moses' personal valet
** Samuel as a keeper of furniture in the Tabernacle
--David knew what it was to start at the BOTTOM
** His brothers went to war in Saul's army
** David was at home with the sheep
** W H Y ??---Because he was obeying his father!
** I wonder what would have happened to Israel if Jesse had let David do everything his older brothers did.
** TOO BAD when young people think they're too good or too busy to do things at home
--David knew how to RESPECT & OBEY his father
** Right attitude in his heart
** Prepared him for success as an Adult

3-When Samuel came to Bethlehem to choose a King:
--Jesse's sons marched in
--Each expected that HE was to be "the one"
--David stayed with the sheep
--David was not a TEENAGE CELEBRITY
** He'd killed a bear & a lion
** But he kept quiet about it
** He was Saul's musician
** But his head wasn't turned
** No "LITTLE DAVID FAN CLUB"
** No story of "I Was A Teenage Harpist"
--Rather, you find David as a servant faithfully doing the job he's been given with the sheep

4-Exhibiting --RESPECT for his elders
--OBEDIENCE to fulfill the tasks assigned

5-PRINCIPLE # 1--We start by being servants
--When God sees we can be trusted as servants He may make us rulers.

6-Application to you--RESPECT for elders & leaders???
--OBEDIENCE to fulfill tasks assigned???

B.-Start With A Few Things Before God Trusts You With Many:

1-Most of our generation thinks that life is made up of THINGS--T V sets
--Transistor radios
--Clothes

--Cars
--Credit cards
--Hundreds more
--THE MORE THE MERRIER

2-Forget the principle Jesus set forth in Luke 12:15--"Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

3-Let's look again at David:
--It's amazing how much David didn't have, and yet he was happy
--Faithful with the few things he did have
--Prepared him to be able to receive many more things later.

4-Example--Few sheep as a teen shepherd
--Entire nation as an "adult shepherd"
--Killed a lion & a bear in private
--Killed a giant in public
--Sang to himself, the sheep & God in the fields
--Sang for all ages in the Book of Psalms
--Delivered bread & cheese to brothers at camp
--Delivered millions of dollars worth of materials to Solomon with which to build the Temple

5-PRINCIPLE # 2--The way you use your "FEW THINGS" today & your God-given opportunities today is going to determine how much God will put in your hands tomorrow!! AS NOW, SO THEN!

6-Applications--Jobs at home
--Assignments at school
--Earnings & allowances
--Abilities, time, talents, spiritual gifts
--WASTE them...or...INVEST THEM

C.-Start With Work Before You Discover Joy:

1-"WORK" has become a dirty word in our generation
--Hippies were turned off from it
--Many men are eager for retirement
--Most just endure it as a means of making a living

2-Many want happiness without work, and it doesn't come that way!!
--Enjoyments in your teen years
--"Fun times" as both kids & adults

3-BUT you're going to have to accept the responsibilities
---THE WORK & THE DISCIPLINE today if you expect to be anything tomorrow

4-WORK is what gives meaning to life!!
--Ted Engstrom--"The man whose philosophy is that anything worth doing is worth doing well is more contented with his job."(P.14, Managing Your Time)
--Paul Tournier--"The meaning of man's work is the satisfaction of the instinct for adventure that God has implanted in his heart." (Quoted by Engstrom, P. 15)
--Bruce Larson--Face the issue squarely: "If you are miserable or bored in your work...or

dread going to it...then God is speaking to you. Either He wants you to change the job you are in --or--more likely--He wants to change YOU."
(Dare To Live Now, P.)

--"The most miserable people alive are the ones who have nothing to do." (Unknown)

5-Let's look at David again:

--Many a weary hour & day & week & month watching his father's sheep

--But his FAITHFULNESS to the WORK assigned him won him satisfaction & happiness

--Ps. 78:70-72 (READ)

--Master--Key to David's life in 78:72

** "Integrity"=="singleness"

** Not a double-purpose heart in David

** His heart was united in 1 thing;; FAITHFULNESS IN THE WORK GOD PUT BEFORE HIM

--Faithfulness as a servant

--Promoted to be a ruler

--Faithful in a few things

--Entrusted with many opportunities

--Produced JOY in his life

6-PRINCIPLE # 3--WORK is essential to have joy in one's life

7-Application:

--In the home

--In the school

--In the place of employment

--In God's house

--You can't have the JOY OF ACCOMPLISHMENT without WORK

--You've got to get in & get involved to be able to get blessed!!!

D.-A Case In Contrast:

1-Another Young Man in the Bible

--Failures are as famous as David's successes

--THE PRODIGAL SON

--Wanted the BEST out of life

** Without being a servant

** Without starting with a few things

** Without work to produce his joy

--Ended up in the pigpen

2-He wanted to "live high ON the hog", but ended up "living WITH the hogs"

3-Why was the Prodigal Son a failure instead of a success??

--Followed SATAN'S PRINCIPLES instead of God's

--Started out as a ruler with a host of friends

--Ended up as a servant starving in a field

--Started out with many things thru his father's wealth given him

--Ended up with nothing

--Started out with happiness ("No more work for me")

--Ended up with misery, homesickness & hunger

4-That is...

...until "HE CAME UNTO HIMSELF"

5-While there's life remaining, there's always hope!!!

--Come to yourself ADMITTING
--Come to the Savior CONFESSING & BELIEVING
--Prov. 4:18--"But the path of the just is as a shining light, that shineth more & more unto the perfect day."
--David followed these 3 God-given principles & was SUCCESSFUL.
--The same rewarding future can be yours also!!

① Start as a SERVANT
② Start with a FEW THINGS
③ Start with WORK!

II.-THREE PRACTICALITIES OF SUCCESS:

A.-Check Your Motivations:

1-Motives are the REASONS that guide your actions
2-Most of our evaluation
--Is looking on the OUTSIDE
--Just like the world does
--What's UNDERNEATH is really what is important!!
3-Real test--Not what a person says
--Not what a person does
--But WHY he does or says it
--CHRIST must be involved in everything we do!!
--1 Cor. 10:31--11:1
4-Our Perspective--School area
--Home area
--Business area
--Church area
--Personal life
--Devotional life
--NOT COMPARTMENTS
--But parts of an integrated whole

Phil. 4:9

5-Some things we CANNOT DO, so just leave them out of your life-style — POSTERIORITIES
6-Other things we CAN DO, and we ought to do them to the best of the ability God gives us & for His glory — PRIORITIES
7-Remember--Your first job isn't to win that office, make the first team, get that hornor or win that promotion
--Your first job is TO SERVE JESUS CHRIST
--Whatever place in life you have (exalted or obscure), God put you there to honor Him

B.-Check Your Preparation:

1-One of the biggest reasons we fall flat spiritually is simply from lack of strength----NO FOOD
--Instant foods available today
--But you can't eat enough on Sunday to tide you through the week
--Yet many people try it
--They try to get enough inspiration from S.S. and Church to tide them thru the next 7 days
--And they suffer from MALNUTRITION
2-Your christian life will be just as casual & haphazard as you make it by your devotional life

--Need preparation for the day in the Word
--EVERY DAY !!
--Devotions are "a must"
--Discipline yourself in this for your own good

3-Why are folks slipshod in devotions???
--Haven't learned HOW to read the Bible
--In studying for a history test you look for** Names
** Dates
** Places
** Events
--In reading God's Word, you need to look for
** Promises to enjoy
** Warnings to heed
** Good news to share
--Don't skim!!!
--Read to find specific truths....and you'll find them
--Then PRAY IN the truths you've found

4-God is eager to meet with you and to pour out to you all of the resources of heaven in answer to promises claimed and asked for.

C.-Check Your Dedication:

1-This means ACTION, if you really believe what you say you do!

2-One of the mysteries of Christianity
--That God has chosen to limit Himself
--Uses saved people to touch others
--We know it is true
--Those in your circle; Guys & gals you like
** In your school
** In your neighborhood
** On your job
**In your social circle
--THEY'LL NEVER MEET THE SAVIOR...
--Unless.....God can use you to arrange the introduction

3-There's no greater joy--Praying for a friend
--Sharing the good news
--Talking to answer their questions
--Seeing them WON TO CHRIST

4-If you really want to get more out of your Christian faith:
--Be regular in participation yourself
--And bring along a friend who needs to know the Lord
--You won't have to the job alone
--OTHERS will help you
--But all the helpers can't do the job WITHOUT YOU!!
--It all starts WITH YOUR CONCERN

5-Program of dedication--(a) Pick a friend who's not saved as your spiritual project
(b) Pray daily for them to be saved
(c) Watch for your chance to tell that friend of your faith in Jesus
(d) Invite them to come with you
(e) Urge them to decide for Christ personally

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

CONCLUSION:

A.-Success Problems:

1-Not likely to be easy
2-Some hardships & discouragements
3-Pressures to CONFORM to the group
4-Success requires that you TAKE A STAND

B.-Success Principles: + don't outgrow it!

1-Start as a SERVANT
2-Start with a FEW THINGS
3-Start with WORK as the means of your JOY

C.-Success Practicalities:

1-Motivation-------Serving CHRIST first
2-Preparation------Start in the Word & with prayer
3-Dedication-------Determine to share your faith

D.-There's The Plan:

* 1-God doesn't want you to "flunk out" spiritually
2-He's made available--His strength
--His power
--His wisdom
--His guidance
--His grace
3-So this can be your greatest year ever!!

4-Things CAN BE DIFFERENT.....

..It's up to you!!!
to plug in to God's power + plan for your life

Westbrae--8/18/74--#154--"My Savior" (226)
Daniels M.B. Ch. 5/7/78--#456--"Dare To Be A Daniel" (363)
--#173--"Give Of Your LIFE To The Master" (369)

GROWING TOMORROW'S LEADER 1 Sam. 16:1-13

Intro: A.-Complex World of Today:
1-Industrialization
2-Urbanization
3-Specialization
4-Pressure of our times

B.-Effects On Today's Life:
1-Feeling of inadequacy
2-Breakdown of the home
3-Leisure without purpose
4-Decline of morality
5-Increase of crime
6-Weekends with family, friends, fun & foolishness, instead of in the house of God where we belong on God's day!

C.-Solution By Cooperation:
1-Divine intervention in individual lives
--Salvation
--Spiritual vigor
2-Strengthening of homes
3-Applying in school
4-Enlarging in church
5-ALL are needed
6-GOAL-----Lk. 2:52--"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and favour with God and man."

I.-A CASE IN POINT---1 Sam. 16:1-13:

A.-The Times:
1-Theocracy rejected by Israel
2-King Saul--anointed
--victorious in battle
--Pride in self & not in God enters in
--Unlawfully intruded into the Priest's office
--Rejected from perpetual Kingship
--Compromised by incomplete obedience
--Rejected from being King for the rejection of the Word of the Lord.

B.-The Search For A New King--16:1-11:
1-Because of sin in Saul--16:1
2-Samuel commissioned to anoint a new king--16:2-4
--fear for life by Samuel--16:2
--guidance is step by step--16:2-4
--obedience is essential--16:4
3-Outward pretext covered real purpose--16:5
4-Choice Of New King--16:6-11
--not Eliab, the eldest--16:6
--not acc. to human standards--16:7
--not the prominent sons--16:8-10
--God chooses the small, insignificant & unnoticed one
--1 Cor. 1: 25-29

(681)

C.-The Anointing Of The New King--16:12-13:

1-David was youngest son
2-David was about 15 years old
3-David was strong & ruddy
4-David was of healfhful appearance
5-David was an unspoiled youth
6-David had LEARNED to take orders, & thus EARNED the right to give them
7-David was God's choice---"...this is he"
8-David was nointed
9-David was empowered

II.-A PARALLEL CASE TODAY----CHRISTIAN SERVICE BRIGADE:

A.-The Times:

1-Tragic
2-Confused
3-Spiritual declension
4-Oh, let's not take the time to catalogue the "status quo"

B.-The Program For Finding God's Leader For Tomorrow:

1-Not a magic formula, but hard & long work
2-Other programs are tried by some--as BOY SCOUTS OF AMERIC
3-Superiority of CSB:
--CSB is a movement that began with 1 club in 1937 & by last year had grown to 1,400 chartered groups. The purpose of the program from the beginning has been winning and training boys for Christ. As a service organization, Brigade works with local fundamental churches, reaching boys thru dedicated men.
--Boy-Geared***Attract them
***Hold them thru the critical adolescence
--Christ-Centered***Well rounded life
***Challenge & training for leadership
--Church-Related***This is OUR program
***Contributes a generation of leaders
4-Five Basic "MUSTS" for a Christian leader of boys:
*A deep love for Christ and for boys. The great & all important motive for a man's leadership in CSB must always be his love for the Lord Jesus Christ. Love for Christ gives purpose and vision, and it will be manifested by a deep love for the boys themselves. Genuine love for the boys will keep the leader going when thing get tough & obstacles arise.

A sound appreciation of the job to be done. The responsibility of leadership, if worth taking, is ~~ta~~ worth taking seriously. Leadership among boys involves a responsibility far beyond the leading of meetings or planning of programs. His ~~is~~ the responsibility of boy ---boys with souls and lives.

*A firm foundation in the Word of God. No man is basically adequate for the spiritual requirements of dealing with boys apart from the Word of God illumined by the Holy Spirit. Understanding the Bible in order to make it real to boys is one of the leaders prime responsibilities.

*A sincere application of every talent to the job. An abundance of talents is not essential to good leadership. The dedication of every talent to full use is essential.

*A consistent testimony in daily living. The local church Brigade leader is an EXAMPLE of Christian living for the boys in his group. What he says and does in presenting the Brigade program and in meeting with his fellows is all PREFACED by what his LIFE says & does. The leader must be what the boys are to become.

The leaders' life should be positive. A hesitant, uncertain Christian testimony will greatly undermine the effectiveness of the Gospel appeal to boys. The Christian leader should be certain of his own relation to Christ and be happy about it.

The leader's life should be without question. The serious responsibility of shaping lives demands the highest standards of consistent personal conduct. A Christian leader of boys cannot be too careful. His personal habits must be such that the boys who listen to him at the Brigade meeting on Wednesday, can observe him on Thursday without losing respect for his testimony.

5-The Seven Specific Standards For Brigade Leadership:
1-He must be a born-again christian
2-He must be a man
3-He must be mature
4-He must subscribe to the Brigade Standard of Faith
5-He must declare his purpose in undertaking the work of leadership in Brigade among Boys
6-He must live a consistent daily Christian life
7-He must be willing to prepare himself for leadership.

6-THUS; the pretext of a "boy's club" covers:
--fun
--salvation
--development
--future leadership

C.-The Ingredients For Growing Tomorrow's Leadership:
1-Program--Action approach
--Achievement challenge
--Man-boy contact
2-Brigade Watchword: "Now we trust in God to keep us Bright and Keen for Christ; Because we love Him; Because we want to serve Him; until we see Him face to face."

3-Seven points of Valor for the Brigadeer:
--Honor
--Courage
--Chivalry
--Purity
--Loyalty
--Obedience
--Dedication

4-This leads to progression in achievement

5-This leads to those prepared as tomorrow's leaders:
--not according to outward appearance only
--but according to spiritual standards.

Concl: A.-Christian Service Brigade:
1-Contribution to tomorrow's leadership
2-Ministers to all who are willing
3-Prepares all for something
4-"OUR" program
5-Our hope for the future among the boys.

B.-Needs:
1-More boy-power
2-More prayer power
3-More man power--to work regularly
--to work occasionally
--to bring boys

C.-Presentation of Certificates

D.-What will your response as a congregation be?

"How To Be Lost Forever" 2 Sam. 3:27-36

Intro: A.-What is "LOST"
1-Dead in sins
2-Separated from God
3-No relation to Christ
4-No help for time; No hope for eternity
5-Headed for eternal doom
6-Not, cessation of existence — Eccles. 3:11

B.-NOW or LATER---Time element of being lost:
1-There is no "will be" in being lost
2-Not a matter of some day "I'll be lost".---Lost ALREADY
Born that way
3-Sentence to be confirmed, yet true already. Jn. 3:18, 36

C.-Choice:
1-Lost or found
2-Death or life
3-Judgment or peace
4-Hell or heaven
5-Satan or the Savior
6-Jn. 5:40; 8:24
7-No exchange of place---2 Sam. 18:33

"Ye will not come to Me that ye might have life."
"If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins"
"Would God I had died for Absolam"
WEST
Ways of Being Lost

I.-NEGLECT OF SALVATION
A.-Case of Abner---2 Sam. 3:27-36
1-City of Hebron--City of refuge — Nu. 35:6
2-Crime of Abner--Manslaughter
3-NEAR the place of protection---yet outside
---Mark 12:34
4-Total safety inside; No safety outside

B.-Joab's deed:
1-Foul----yes; but so is Satan's
2-Death dealing

C.-Verdict:
1-"Died Abner as the fool dieth"
2-Neglect cost life

II.-PROCRASTINATION OVER SALVATION:
A.-Paul Before Felix:
1-True message delivered---Acts 24:25
2-Conviction on the surface-

B.-Felix' Reaction:
1-Go thy way for this time---not now, but maybe later
2-Convenient time---after my life fling
3-I will call---good intentions
4-Mercenary----yet neglected the greatest gift of all time
5-Procrastination---MANNANA

III.-DOUBT OVER SALVATION:
A.-Weakness of Festus---25:9
1-A Judge, yet swayed not by facts, but by influence
2-Pleased the Jews rather than seeking Justice

B.-Knew the Facts: 25:17-20
1-Sat in Judgment; Heard the accusations
2-Heard Paul's defense of TRUE DOCTRINE
3-Knew the issue of a RESURRECTED CHRIST & the implications--
Acts 13:38-39

C.-Reaction Of Festus:
1-Doubt--25:20---Polite unbelief in the face of FACTS***
2-Illus---A man in India was told that in England the surface of a pond would become so firm that a horse could walk or run on it without sinking. This man, though a scholar, had never seen ice. To him it was unreasonable that water could become so hard. He would not believe such a story. He DOUBTED simply because it was outside his experience-------Experience is often very limited & cannot teach us what to believe.....Requires FAITH
3-Issues in Ridicule--26:24
4-Doubt is never willing to take only itself to Hell---Has to have company.

IV.-LACK OF POSITIVE CONVICTION ON SALVATION:

A.-Agrippa:
1-Knew the historical facts of Christianity
2-Knew & Believed all the Jewish Scriptures
3-Heard Festus' report of Paul's message.
4-Heard Paul's Personal testimony & reasoning from the Script.

B.-Reaction of Agrippa:
1- A.V.--"Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian"
2-Darby--"In a little".. ---"In this little time you bring me to the verge.."
3-Invitation---"Be as I am"---except for chains
4-"They were gone aside"--26:31

C.-The Situation:
1-Knew the facts & the promises of the Scripture
2-Knew the truth & was at a point of decision
3-Lacked the positive conviction to take a stand
4-Turned aside

V.-REJECTION OF SALVATION

A.-John 6:63-66
1-Words of Christ show & give life
2-Some "Believe not"----Mk. 16:16
3-Many "went back"

"He that believeth not shall be damned"

B.-Can "Go Along" awhile:
1-When fed & entertained
2-When healed & taught to tickle their fancies

C.-BUT, when confronted:
1--With the requirement of believing
2-With the unprofitableness of the flesh
3-With the Words of Life by the Living Word,
4-THEN REJECTION.....

Concl: A.-How To Be Lost Forever:
1-Neglect of Salvation
2-Procrastination over Salvation
3-Doubt over Salvation in the face of facts
4-Lack of Conviction on Salvation
5-Rejection of Salvation
6-All are equally effective----YOU ARE LOST NOW

B.-God's warning:
1-Jn. 8:24-"If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."
2-2 Th. 1:8-"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."
3-Heb. 2:3-"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salv.

C.-Not too late---Be saved NOW--2 Cor. 6:2

SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF GODLINESS — 2 Sam. 23:1-17
1 Cor. 16:13-14

INTRO: David's "Last Will & Testament"

I.-PROPHETIC UTTERANCES----23:1-7:

A.-The Servant (23:1):

1-Terms--"Son of Jesse"--ORIGIN
--"Man raised up"--FAVOR
--"Anointed of God"--SERVICE
--"Sweet psalmist"--COMMUNION

2-Note David's omissions--King
--Warrior
--Adulterer
--Murderer

7:8--"Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep to be ruler over my people, over Israel:"

3-Relationship is stressed

4-What is your relationship??--Humble believer
--Boisterous rejector
--Indifferent procrastinator

B.-The Standard--(23:2):

1-The SPIRIT---Who spoke
2-The WORD-----What was spoken
3-Proper BALANCE needed
--Overemphasize the Spirit--EMOTIONALISM
--Overemphasize the Word----DRY PHARISEEISM
--Proper prominence needed
4-Foundation of all we believe-----The Word
Power of all we do----------The Spirit
5-Dare not neglect either

2 Cor. 3:6 "The letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life"

C.-The Sovereign (23:3-7):

1-He is Christ
2-Perfect Ruler--Just
--Ruling in the fear of God
--Benevolent Despot--Rev. 6:10--"And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, Holy & true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"
3-Messianic King--7:10-16
--Blessings are to come--23:4
4-Human failure--"Although my house be not so with God"
--David didn't "measure up"
--Neither did his progeny
5-Divine faithfulness--"He hath made"**"I will" 7 times in 2 Sam. 7
--"Everlasting Covenant"
--"Ordered"=="As in a carefully drawn legal document"

--"Sure"
--ALL his hope is in God

6-Swift judgment & doom on God's enemies (23:6-7)

II.-PRECIOUS UNDERTAKINGS--------23:8-17:

A.-The Strength (23:8):

1-Followers of David--1 Sam. 22:1-2
2-Became followers of David's example & courage
3-Warfare is a part of life & a necessary precursor to VICTOR
4-23:8--"he slew"
--he & those who were his soldiers
--1 Cor. 16:13--"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, qui
ye like men, be strong."
--Eph. 6:10--"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the
Lord, and in the power of his might."
5-We can do much to strengthen others-----ENCOURAGEMENT!
6-1 Sam. 23:16--"And Jonathan Saul's son arose, & went to
David into the wood, and strengthened his
hand in God."

B.-The Sword (23:9-10:

1-Others fled
2-One man--& Probably his soldiers--stayed put
3-Smote Philistines unto weariness
--Gal. 6:9--"And let us not be weary in well doing:
for in due season we shall reap, if we
faint not."
4-Hand clave to the SWORD
--Eph. 6:17--"And take the helmet of salvation, & the
sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God
--Heb. 4:12
--Mt. 4:4
5-VICTORY was given--from God
--His is the praise
--Rom. 8:31--"What shall we then say to
these things? If God be for us, who can
be against us?"
6-If we want victory, let us be sure to keep the SWORD in han

C.-The Stand (23:11-12):

1-Philistines were "round about" & "gathered"
2-Field of Lentils--Chronicles adds "barley"
--Doubtless both were sown there
--People fled
--Shouldn't we all flee?
--Defend such inconsequential things as
black-eyed peas & barley?
--If you don't defend the small thing
when will you draw the line at what
is BIG ENOUGH TO DEFEND?
3-Shammah--stood
--defended it
--1 Cor. 15:58--

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stead-
fast, unmovable, always abounding in the work
of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that

4-Victory was gained
--Phs. 1:17--"...knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel"
--Phs. 4:1--"Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved."
--The LORD'S VICTORY-----Glory in HIM !

5-Must stand
Must fight
.....to have victory.

D.-The Sacrifice (23:13-17):
1-Desire of David--23:13-15
2-Devotion of Men--23:16 á
--Value their Prince, so they were willing to run risks & endure hardships "FOR HIM"
--Little fear for the Philistines
--Needful to have such devoted men
**1 Sam. 10:26--"And Saul also went home to Gibeah; & there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched."
**Ezra 7:28--"...And I was strengthened as the hand of the Lord my God was upon me, and I gathered out of Israel chief men to go up with me."

3-Dedication To God--23:16b, 17
--Water poured out unto the Lord
--REASON**Not in thanksgiving for preservation of these heroes
**Not as a prayer for forgiveness of his fault in sending them into deadly peril
**BUT AS AN OFFERING to the Lord, to whom alone it ought to belong, since it was too costly for David
**because these men had risked their lives & blood
--Libation of a "drink offering"
--2 Tim. 4:6-8
--AM I POURED OUT for God?

CONCLUSION:

A.-Seven Principles Recaptitulated:
1-The Servant
2-The Standard
3-The Sovereign
4-The Strength
5-The Sword
6-The Stand
7-The Sacrifice

B.-Warnings To Listeners:
1-Believer--Wandering??
--Backsliding??
--Half-hearted??
--Fleeing??
--Uncommitted??
--No POWER ??
--No JOY ??

2-Unbeliever--Not humble
--Not a "servant"
--Not a "SON"

3-WHERE DO YOU STAND?------Fearless? or Faithless?
--Enduring? or Refusing ?
--Standing? or Fleeing?

4-Rom. 10:9-10--"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Westbrae 6/27/65

HYMNS:--Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
--Great Is Thy Faithfulness
--Lead Me To Calvary