

Boldness in Our Walk

2 Samuel 23:8-17

Series: Topical

1. Introduction:

- a. We read in the New Testament of a Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11.
 - i. Here the Scripture shows us a picture of both men and women that forsook the comforts and needs of this world to identify themselves with Christ.
 - ii. This chapter, then, introduces us to the notion of suffering and loss for the sake of Christ.
- b. In the Old Testament we have a similar chapter though it is not as well known.
 - i. This chapter demonstrates to us the importance of boldness and determination in the midst of trouble and persecution.
 - ii. This chapter also demonstrates the type of boldness and courage that each Christian should have during the worst of storms.

2. Verse 8 - Josheb-basshebeth

- a. A trust in God allows the follower of God to defy the odds in any situation.
- b. Notice the bravery of this man to take on an entire army by himself without the help of any – what was going on in his mind?
- c. God rewards the courage of this man because no matter the odds, he refused to back down – as Christians the odds are stacked against us.
- d. We are in desperate need of these types of Christians.
 - i. Christians that will stand up to the worst of odds and stare the enemy down.

3. Verses 9-10 – Eleazar the Son of Dodo

- a. Notice that all the company of Israel quits the battle over fear.
 - i. As individual we must stand even if all around us flee.
- b. As long as he is with David, Eleazar stands his grounds.
 - i. He fights back to back with David – David a picture of Christ
 - ii. He does not abandon David the king like the rest do.
- c. His sword becomes an extension of who he is:
 - i. **Ephesians 6:17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

- ii. **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
 - d. They all return for the spoil but they remain nameless in the Chronicle of Scripture.
- 4. Verse 11-12 - Shammah, the son of Agee the Hararite
 - a. Shammah comes against the Philistines when the Philistines have encroached into Israel.
 - i. This land was known for its lentils, a sign of blessedness.
 - b. We read that the men of Israel fled and thus they gave their land, full of the blessings of the Lord, to their enemies.
 - c. But Shammah “took his stand in the midst of the plot and defended it and struck down the Philistines.”
 - i. As a man of God, Shammah took a stand when everyone else ran and acquiesced the blessing of the Lord.
 - 1. We need men and women that will take a stand and defend what God has given them, even if everyone else gives up and allows the enemy to take what is rightfully theirs.
 - ii. His stand was in the midst of the plot
 - 1. He stationed himself right in the middle as to defy the enemy to take what God had given him.
 - 2. The enemy cannot ignore him.
 - 3. Shammah has not allowed himself an exit plan.
 - 4. It’s as if he drew a circle around himself and said, “You can take the rest of the land given to you by the people of God but if you want this portion, you’ll have to kill me.”
 - iii. Because of this deep and abiding trust in the Lord the Scriptures read, “...and the LORD worked a great victory.”
- 5. Verses 13 -14
 - a. The three mightiest of the men of valor come to David as he is taking refuge from the philistines in a cave. The Philistines have set up a garrison in Bethlehem and are there for the purpose of killing David who had just been anointed king. They fear David and feel betrayed by David as David had at one point tricked them into thinking that he was defecting to their side.

6. Verse 15 – David’s longing

- a. David had fought a long campaign against his enemies and Saul. He is, by this time, feeling homesick and longs for a drink of water from his hometown well.

7. Verses 16-17 – The love of the Three

- a. When the three heard the longing of their king, they went to Bethlehem to draw water for him.
 - i. This demonstrates a great resolve and commitment to the king.
 - ii. It is imperative that we, who serve the King of kings, should have the same resolve.
 - iii. Whatever the King wants, the king gets.
- b. Broke through the camp of the philistines.
 - i. This is incredible, they risked their very lives for something as ordinary as water. They fought their way in and out. This was done for the sake of the king.
- c. David would not drink it but instead poured it to the Lord.
 - i. David realizes that the men risked their very lives to bless them so instead of drinking the water David makes the ordinary water into something extraordinary—a sacrifice to the Lord.
 - 1. In the hands of the King, the ordinary becomes extraordinary.

8. Benediction –

- a. **Romans 11:36-12:1** For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. (12:1) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.