

I Kings 2:1-4

BE STRONG; SHOW THYSELF A MAN

- I. The idea.
 - A. This chapter records the charge David gave to Solomon a short while before his death.
 - B. Be strong and not discouraged at my death.
 - 1. The death of a leader like Moses or David (being left alone) is the occasion for fear and discouragement.
 - 2. Inner, spiritual strength is found in taking heart and being of good courage.
 - C. Show thyself a man, i.e., not a child spiritually.
- II. How be strong and show thyself a man?
 - A. The activity.
 - 1. "Keep the charge" is to watch the watch of Jehovah thy God.
 - 2. To "walk in His ways" refers to what God has clearly revealed, for they are all spelled out.
 - B. The action.
 - 1. The exercise of royal power is not to be arbitrary, for the king is not a law unto himself.
 - 2. God's statutes, commandments and judgments, i.e., God's laws, ceremonial, moral, and judicial.
 - 3. God's testimonies, for God's laws testify of His mind and declare what He would have done and observed.
- III. The fruit.
 - A. "That thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest," i.e., to have a prosperous and happy reign (cf. Deut. 29:9).
 - B. That God may continue His word of promise concerning David's children sitting continually on his throne (cf. Deut. 9:5).