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McInteer Sermon Outlines - Chronicles, 1

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COULD YOU PRAY JABEZ'S PRAYER?

I Chron. 4:9-10

- I. Sometime for one to lift the words & work of another, it's:
 - A. Plagiarism, or
 - B. Perception.
- II. Believing we'd all be better off if we could emulate it, let's look at Jabez's prayer & ask, "Could I pray it?"
- III. 1st, the setting.
 - A. In the midst of a dry list of names.
 1. Read a few.
 2. Note no comments.
 3. One name makes its mark among a whole scene.
 4. In crowd of tombstones here's a pleasant diversion
 5. Rescues a family name from oblivion.
 - B. Meet Jabez.
 1. Know so little about him.
 2. Know the meaning of his name.
 - a.) "Pain" in Hebrew.
 - (1) Mother remembered his birth.
 - (2) Reversed the consonants & got a similar sound for pain.
 - (3) Thus, sorrow or height his name's meaning.
 - (4) Natural to record our sorrows & not our mercies
 - (5) Why sorrow? Don't know. "The fault, dear Brutus, lies not in our stars but in ourselves."
 - b.) Suppose his Mother's fears she sought to transfer to son.
 - (1) If so, they were not fulfilled.

(2) Some seek to perpetuate their sorrow - others forget childbirth pain.

(3) Speaks of pain of birth, not circumstances into which born.

(4) Pain not an original part of world God made.

3. More honorable than brethren.

a.) We are not told how he was more honorable.

1.) Lit. = a man of weight.

2.) Wt. due to character.

b.) We aren't even told who were his brethren.

(1) Know not parents.

(2) Know not age in which he lived.

4. He was a man of prayer.

a.) Evidently his habit.

b.) One recorded is earnest, full of desire, thorough

c.) Remarkable the honor God puts on prayers - of others we know only their names.

d.) Warned by his Mother, his own name, he's conscious of pain.

e.) Some in Scrp. we know only by their prayers.

IV. His Prayer.

A. Called on the God of Israel.

1. Eloihim.

2. Believed God alive.

3. His prayer a solemn vow.

4. Some that the curse of a name could be offset by a magical application (Gen. 35:18) - he did it by prayer.

5. Spread all your wants before God in prayer.

6. We are entirely dependent on Him even for smallest thing.

Phil. 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by

7. Had reality for providential blessing.

8. Called on God of Fathers who had wrought wonderful works - Covenant God.

B. Asks For Four Things.

1. Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed.

a.) O shows intensity.

b.) Urge petitions to the point of not accept denial.

c.) Spiritual blessings are the best bless.

2 Kings 13:29 *Not greater than brethren but = blessing to them.*

Ps. 81:10 "I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee

Heb. 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please

Isa. 45:22 "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the en

2. Enlarge my coast.

a.) Wanted more earthly blessings.

b.) wanted to prosper, be successful.

c.) We are our own enemies if we do not ask great things in the Sav. name.

d.) Coast = domain, border. *Greater fields of usefulness*

e.) Wanted a great blessing - dreamed big!

f.) Piety does not crush ambition. *What more can*

g.) Jesus prayed about bread & debts. *The church do?*

3. That thy hand might be c me.

a.) Go on w/o limit or fear. *Ps 121:1 "Except the Lord will"*

Deut. 33:7 "And this is the blessing of Judah: and he s

b.) Our suffering is soon over.

4. That thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me.

Ps 119:11 *Why would have I ~~not~~ hid up in my heart?*
a.) Keep from sin & trouble. *that I might not sin*
b.) We don't want evil to win.

Rom. 7:24 "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me?"

C. "And God granted him that which he requested."

1. Sorrowful was glad.
2. Some events that at 1st occasion most sorrow end c most blessings.
3. Lit. "God caused it to come."
4. Thrill to God's hearing.

Mk. 11:24 "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye shall say..."

5. Thus he disappointed his name.
6. Heaven disappoints human calculations.
7. Aid to memory, thus aid to faith.
8. No hesitancy or withholding on God's part.
9. **Whatever** touched his life he took it to God.
10. Prayer of inward & outward desires.

11. This prayed for

- a.) Blessing.
- b.) Prosperity.
- c.) Strength.
- d.) Safety.
- e.) Purity.

12. *1 Jn 5:14-15 and this is the boldness which we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us, and of we know that he heareth us, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of him.*

West End 7-1-79

*Lucas House 7-8-79
Holmes Rd., Memphis 9-23-79*

My life was a giant roller coaster speeding through slump after slump to "rededications" of my life to Christ. An extended exercise in frustration. A child of the kingdom living like a faithful member of the Christian world religion. Born to fly and hopping on the ground.

"Rise To Conquer" - By Larry Poland - pp.63-64

Someone said recently, "If you are not so close to Christ as you used to be, you had better check to see who moved."

"Rise To Conquer" - By Larry Poland - Page 77

Back sliding

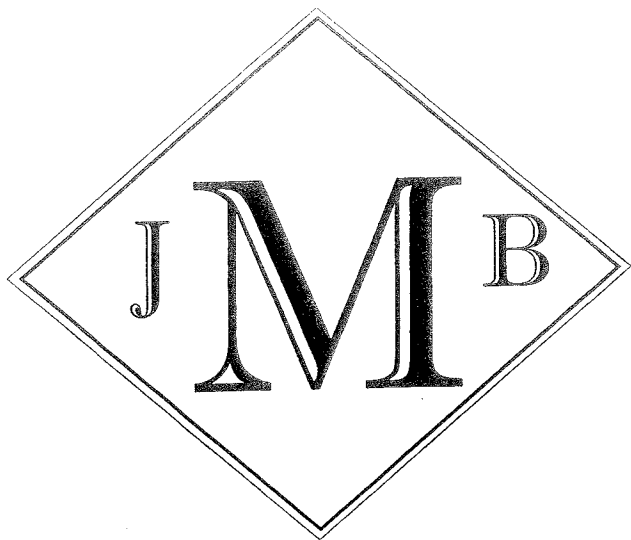
PLAIN TALK

ATALKATIVE young woman sat at dinner beside Sir Isaac Newton one day. "My dear Sir Isaac," she ventured, "how did you ever happen to discover the law of gravitation?" "By constantly thinking about it, madam," was the prompt reply of the great scientist.

Average men, in great numbers, achieve distinction. Often talented men fail. We are reminded that Lord Kitchener, the idol of England, was one of the dullest boys who ever entered a school. Charles Darwin, the eminent naturalist, was so unpromising as a lad that his father prophesied that he would be a disgrace to the family.

These men overcame their handicaps; they were plodders, it may be, and not geniuses. But who have been the doers of important deeds? Geniuses? Yes, some of them; but not a majority, by any means.

Charlie Williams



I SLEW A LION IN A PIT ON A SNOWY DAY

I Chronicles 11:22-25

I. In David's army there were men of authority and standing.

A. He called them "mighty men."

B. There were three classes.

1. Highest--Jashobeam.

2. 2nd--Eleazar, son of Dodo

3. 3rd Shammah.

a. All the above were of the first class.

4. In the second class:

a. Abishai--Joab's brother--1st.

b. Benaiah--2nd.

c. Asahel--3rd, also Joab's brother.

5. 3rd Class were 30 men with Asahel as chief.

C. It is Benaiah we want to study please.

Read I Chron. 11:22-25.

2 Sam, 23:20

II. Meet Benaiah.

A. Father was Jehoiada, a priest.

1. Makes B. a Levite.

2. Here's a warrior priest.

a. We expect godliness.

b. Also need manliness--not loud course.

Can you stand alone? Resist doubt,

hearsay? Rebuke, warn, stand fast--

can you?

B. From Kabzell.

1. Town in Judah far South.

C. "Captain of the host"--"set over the guard

commander of bodyguard.

1. Over 24,000.

2. Lasted into Solomon's time.

3. Something justified this position.

a. "Valiant man."

b. "Who had done many mighty deeds".

c. Born well and lived well - he broke no hearts.

D. Those mighty deeds included first as named:

1. He slew two lion like men of Moab.

a. He had quality to do the hard things.

b. I saw steel made hard.

c. These men were Moabite heroes or champions word means.

d. His name means "Built by Jehovah." No wonder he took on the champs.

2. He slew a lion in a pit on a snowy day.

a. Winter drove him to make lair in tank or cistern near town.

b. Snow, winter, alone, pit and a lion intensifies anguish. Close quarters, no second place winner, no avoiding once battle joined.

c. Voluntarily placed his life in imminent peril for others --- succeed or perish --- cold benumbs man and increases fury of lion.

3. He slew one Egyptian 5 cubit.

a. 7 ft. 6 inches tall. He's stretch Lew

Alcindor. Goliath was 6 cubits and a spa

b. II Sam. 23:21 calls him a goodly man = handsome, worth looking at.

c. Carried a spear like a weavers beam -- heavy frame part. *baton chopstick*

d. Met him with ordinary staff and won.

4. "But attained not to the first three."

(v-25) *debate - which paper - Chved?*

a. Are we achieving as we should?

b. Or if second chair is our best are we content or are we jealous?

III. What Lessons Do We Learn?

A. Our first battle is with our self.

1. Do we conquer in private?

2. Do we know our weaknesses?

B. Do we fight for good causes?

C. Do we see we cannot avoid battles?

Phil. 1:28 "Nothing terrified by your adver

I Pet. 5:8 "Be sober, be vig., because

Jude 3 Contend earnestly

1. Do we doubt God's existance? Bob Olsen wanted to know why can't be Christian and not believe in divinity of Jesus?

2. Does passion ask mastery over reason?

3. Does greed cause us to keep money we should give?

4. Are we ignorant?

5. Do we keep our vices -- drunk?

a. Can a man go to heaven and smoke -- 10 years sooner!

D. Are we scared?

Judges 5:6 Reuben abode among the bleati

Killed by horses

2 Sam. 5:10 "David went on and grew great

1. Going and growing! *The Lord God of host was*

E. Do we disdain our safety? *with him*

Acts 20:24 "None of these things move

Acts 21:13 "I am ready not to be bound only

2 Tim. 4:16-17 "All forsook--the Lord stoc

F. Make best of reserves.

1. Staff vs spear.

G. Recall the Lord who lead to past victories

I Jn. 4:4 "Greater is he that is in you than

H. Reach your potential. *he that is in the world.*

1. Attain to your full capacity.

West End - 2/19/67

*note above
he is.*

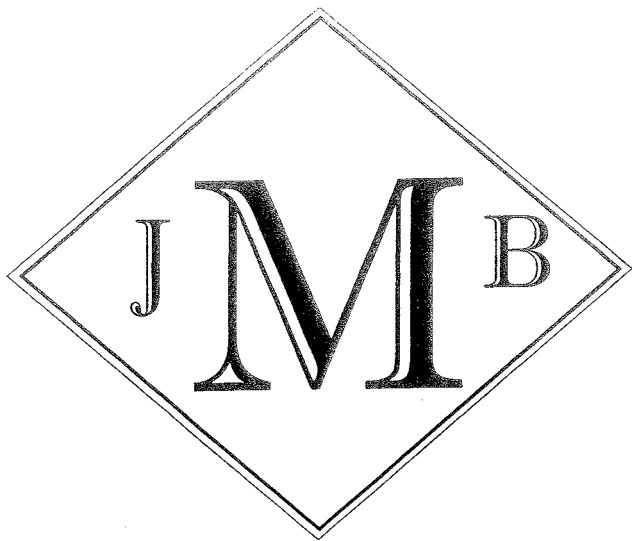
- Valdosta, Ga. School 13/9/67
- Market St, Athens, Ala. 8/31/67
- Muscumbia, Ala. - 9/28/67
- Schockoh, Ky. - 10/8/67
- A.C.C. Chapel - 10/31/67
- Stefford Kn 3/22/68
- Wyzbir OC 11/2 H/68
- Midland N.A. 5/9/68
- Ohio Valley College, Parkersburg, W. Va. 9-23-69

late him, we shall have his power and victory.

note **KILLED BY HONOR**

A preacher friend of mine in the Northwest tells me about John Kendrick. He was an early explorer of the coasts of Oregon and Washington and probably the first white man to sail through the Strait of Juan de Fuca. He was killed in a very tragic way while visiting the Hawaiian Islands. A British ship which was saluting him fired a shot that killed him.

This happens more times than we know and I suppose, if the truth were told, many a man has been destroyed by some honor. We get successful or we have attained a place of great respect. At all costs, we must protect this and, indeed, increase it if we can. Gradually, we find ourselves doing the wrong thing because we must not jeopardize our honor. After too many compromises and too much adjustment to the *status quo*, the main purpose is lost. If a man may take liberties with an Old Testament text, failure has slain its thousands, but or has slain its tens of thousands. men who may be able t



COME BACK O MEN OF ISSACHAR I Chron 12:32

I. Momentous times in Israel's history.

ASHell it be Saul or David? *came with perfect h.*

v-38 "All these men of war that could keep rank 1. 340-350,000 to Hebron, to end Saul's capricious rule.

- 2. 3 de. of eating & drinking.
- 3. Neighbor-breed on asses, cereal, mule, ox; meat, meal, cakes of fig's, reisons, wine, oil, ox & sheep abundant "for there was joy in Israel."

B. One tribe by Chronicler singled out for honor. v-32 "And the children of Issachar which were

- a) Central location, richland, picture of ass crouched between 2 burdens = toil & prosperity.
- b) Met test of times. *Gen. 49:14 base*

II. Can there be a more urgent time to call them

A. Governmental *5-11-73 200M 743 (2) (3) 31M*

- 1. Size clip *(1) 200M*
 - 2. Need clip
 - 3. Opportunity clip
2. 3 million in hotels, rooming house & institutions, 87% house holds urban, 1,600,000 separated due to marital, 1,900,000 due to military & job.

B. Morel. *3,500,000 25 work 22 lost 250M 136,986 yrs*

1. Alcohol clip *(4) Drivers - 11,500 K711 400,000 in jail*

C. Relicidius *C-173,790 1754 98 60 w/o 250% 2-1 450,000 200 ppl*

- 1. World council confusion (5)
- 2. Us - blank space on stationary, rubber stamp preacher's name - change so often, assassinate with pre, post, 2-millianist, modernist, institutional, cooperation, Sommerite *Literary 2001 yearly*
- 3. Clip on communications (7) *600 2100*
- 4. Frustrated P/c (8)

III. Give us Wisdom & Strength

- A. Not historical, scientific or speculative but practical - Clip on "Book 15 min" #12
B. Within our reach - how did it?

1. God

Ps 46:1-2 3-4 "God is our refuge & strength, a
Ps 121 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills
I Pet 3:12 "for the eyes of the Lord are over the ^{righteous}
Dan 6:23 "No manner of hurt was found upon
2) Didn't Kill lions but persevered, Clip #9

2. Christ

Phil 4:13 "I can do all things thru Christ
Eph 6:10 "finally my brethren, be strong in the

3. Bible

I Thess 4:18 "comfort one another with these words

4. Prayer

Jam 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him

5. Memories - Clip 10

I Cor 11:30 "for this cause many are weak

1. Observe, converse, read, experience, etc

2. Men of Sperts Clip "

Grace 6/26/55

Woolman Ky 9/25/55

Mullinville 10/26/55

Pinebluff 11/13/55

Rosebud 12/3/55

Isabel 3/18/56

Green Hills 4/24/56

Sitka 8/12/56

Woolman Chapel 9/27/57

West End 9/18/57

Utter 5/1/57

The greatest weakness
our opponents is that they
are professed materialists.

They have forcibly extended
their rule over some 800
million people, a 1/3 of the
people of the world.
Pg 9

Our institutions of freedom
will not survive unless
they are constantly
replenished by the faith that
gave them birth.
Pg 3

Faith of our Parties
Address John F. Dulles

1st Pres ch

Wash DC
10/11/58

More people will go to bed hungry in the world tonight than will go to bed well fed. There was very little more food produced in 1954 than in 1938, but some 200 million more people to be fed. —Norris E. Dodd, *Sabbath Recorder*.

(3)

We are told that there are 31 million children in the public schools of America. How many is that? If all of the children of America were to march from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean and back again in columns of four, each column of four an arm's length from the one preceding it, the first children would have made the entire trip and returned to the Atlantic before the last of the children would have started the nationwide trek.—*Sunshine Magazine*.

☆ Too many men, whom God made the head of the house, are turning those duties over to their wives. Why? ☆

EXCERPTS FROM LAST SUNDAY MORNINGS SERMON

Senator Estes Kefauver has stated that crime decreased 54% during the first decade of Prohibition. See "Christian Century" Feb. 28, 1951.

Alcoholics lose an average of 25 working days a year in America or a total of 50 million working days. This amounts to a loss in production of what amounts to 136,986 years of time. See Editorial, Dallas News April 27, 1951.

Drunken drivers kill more people annually than all the criminals in this country --- 11,500 annually. About 400,000 more are injured by drinking drivers. The National Safety Council says 1 of every six drivers involved in fatal accidents "had been drinking." See: This Week Magazine in Dallas News, March 23, 1952.

The 18th amendment closed 177,790 saloons and 1,754 brewerys. Note the result: The general death rate decreased 42% the first ten years of prohibition. Insanity decreased 66%. Ninety-seven of the 98 Keely Cure Clinics for alcoholics closed. All 60 of the Neal Cure Clinics for alcoholics closed.

What happened after the repeal of prohibition after 1933?

Drunkenness increased 350% in two years in 225 cities around the U. S. St. Louis hospitals showed a 400% increase in alcoholics as patients. Soon there were 3 women dispensing liquor to every one who was attending college. Liquor was sold in 450,000 legal establishments within five years of the repeal.

Dr. Haven Emerson, of the N. Y. Pub. Health Adm. said alcohol is not a medicine, it is a "narcotic."

With Garrison Journal

In 1800 there has been more developments
to allow the means of communication than all the years
of time since together.

Thus the means of sending & receiving communication per
minute from the fastest means increase the chance to
do good.

~~Controlled by~~

We have more gadgets to increase communication
than we have the ideas to send. There was said "What if
the people of NY have nothing to say to the people of Calif"
when some lone man explained what was a telegraph device
with allusions.

Reporter hand

Real Through Worship

tainment of the True Spirit of Worship
 olves So Much More than Formal Acts

ogy, School
 ersity

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 a congre-
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 h White-
 undoubt-
 a group
 ther is a
 gregation.
 very hu-
 God. God
 neur best,
 Him in a
 rom His
 h prayer
 eternity.
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 for with-
 To learn
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 erious to

us, and also to find mysterious to us
 what seems only meaningful. Every
 life experiences both meaning and mys-
 tery. No life can avoid living with both
 of them. Whoever combines them in
 the right way discovers both light and
 depth. Meaning gives light; mystery,
 depth.

Even animals live by meaning. On
 its lowest level meaning is consistent
 response to stimuli. White mice may
 be trained to enter a certain door for
 food when a bell rings. But ring the
 bell and close the door! Then vary the
 signals until the mice do not know
 whether or not the door is to be open-
 ed. After a while the mice begin to
 show signs of nerves! Meaning to the
 mice is a certain behavior connected
 with certain signals.

The story is told of a farmer whose
 pig kept getting out of the pen into
 the cornfield. Time and time again the
 farmer examined the pen, found no
 break in the fence, and yet the pig kept
 getting out. Finally the farmer lay in
 wait by the pen until he saw the pig
 burrow deep into a corner and escape
 through a hollow log. Having captured
 him again, the farmer thought he
 would have some fun at the expense of
 the troublesome pig. He extended the
 fence beyond the outlet of the log and

s new book.
 Selection of
 pyright 1955
 mission.

STRENGTH FOR THE DAY -

9
The wisest man who lived before Jesus came into this world wrote among his proverbs, "If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small." (Prov. 24:10). None of us can hope to long escape the days of adversity. Sooner or later sickness, accident, domestic or financial difficulties invade the serenity of the most well regulated home. It is not everyone who can weather these storms and retain implicit faith in the God of Heaven. The death of a child has been known to embitter a father who could not understand why his child should be the one taken by the Reaper that could not be "content with the bearded grain." Nor could that gold star mother understand why, of all the hundreds of thousands of other boys, hers had to be the one who walked into the path of a bursting shell. Adversity knows no favorites, and God's people are not exempt from the whims and capricious workings of misfortune. We may "put far away the evil day" but that day seems to come.

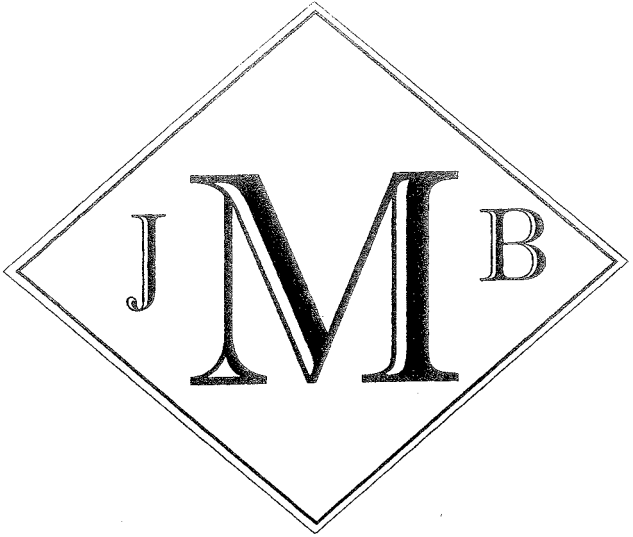
Knowing that into each life must come days of grief and heaviness, it is important that we learn how to absorb the shock that accompanies these tragic days lest we faint in the day of adversity. The banker boasts of his resources. The business man plans his security with a well balanced account. The working man leans on his social security in the event of the proverbial rainy day. Surely God has not left the Christian without sufficient sources of strength to keep him from falling before the impact of misfortune. From whence cometh this strength?

days of temptation. The lad who is tempted to use tobacco remembers that he promised mother he would never touch it, and refrains from it. The girl who is tempted to evil recalls the advice and prayers of a godly mother and refuses to bring shame upon herself. The love and chastity of a devoted wife keeps a tempted husband from shame when he calls to mind the purity and devotion of his wife. Memory is a wonderful well, from which comes a thousand drinks of soul preserving water. Jesus knew the power of a memorial, hence His advice, "Do this in memory of Me." Paul later told the church at Corinth that because they were not keeping the Lord's supper as they ought, that "For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep." (1 Cor. 11:30).

There is an old story about the King of ancient Sparta. A stranger visiting his rugged kingdom for the first time was surprised to find that Sparta was not protected by any walls. "Where are the walls of Sparta?" the stranger asked the king. The monarch took the stranger by the arm and led him to a window of the palace which looked out over a parade ground. There in strictest discipline stood rank on rank of Spartan soldiers. "There are the walls of Sparta," said the king. "Ten thousand loyal men, and every one a brick."

Loss of a sale was a heart-rending calamity to the old general storekeeper who was also the community's postmaster. He had no helper and when he had to meet the mail train, he was tormented by thoughts of tourists stopping for gas and soft drinks, and finding him gone. Finally, he hit upon a comforting solution.

He printed a sign in bold, red letters which proclaimed, during his absences: "Back in 15 minutes—Already been gone 10."



TEAMED FOR TRIUMPH

I Chron. 12:23-40

I. If a camel looks like it was put together by a Committee, then a horse looks like it was put together by a team.

A. To see teamwork is to see:

1. Enlargement.
2. Efficiency.
3. Endearment.
4. Accomplishment. *Events*

B. Perhaps we can't see it any better than David at Hebron.

II. Background.

A. Saul has chased him.

B. Saul is thru.

C. David is marshalling his forces for ascension to the throne.

1. We'll skip the rather sorted story at Ziklag.

2. We'll see what came to him in Hebron.

3. The Chronicler orderly names the tribal contribution. 1st southern tribes, then those north, & finally those East.

4. I'm persuaded that this chapter has the basic ingredients of great teamwork.

5. This acct. peculiar to Chron.

III. Principles that make for mutual accomplishment.

A. We must have a leader we respect.

I Chron. 12:23 "These are the no. that came

1. David was their man.

2. He'd earned his spurs - w/o doubt he was loved and adored.

3. Today we have elders, preachers, team leaders, but above all we have Jesus.
- B. We must have a purpose in and on which we can agree "of one heart" V. 38. *Perfect heart*
1. They had it: "to make David King" (V. 38) (V. 31).
 - a.) Said it V. 23 "to turn the Kingdom of Saul to him."
 - b.) Lit. "to bring it round out of the direct line of natural heredity."
 - c.) No longer of Saul & the tribe of Benjamin but David & tribe of Judah.
 2. We have a purpose - big enough to be worth life, love, limb; Jesus & His church.
- C. We must know our purpose is right. *V 23*
1. Theirs was "according to the word of the Lord."
 - a.) Literally, "mouth of the Lord." That's where His word comes from.
 - b.) Not of man's origin but of the Lord.
 2. We know we are right if word commends & commands.
- D. We must have room for diversified talent, that utilizes the moment w/o postponement.
1. There were tributes aplenty.
 - a.) Judah "ready armed for war."
 - b.) Simeon "mighty men of valour."
 - c.) Benjamin "the kindred of Saul."
 - (1) As they came earlier, David questioned their loyalty - could they leave their kinfolk - Read I Chron. 12:16-18 - "thy God helpeth thee."

- (2) Some staked all they had on David's call - even Saul's brethren.
- (3) Multitude tried to keep house for Saul - the courageous minority of 3000 came (v. 29). They jealously guarded the interest of the royal throne.

d.) Ephraim - mighty men of valor, famous.

e.) Issachar.

(1) Smallest no. 200. Size makes no difference.

(2) Yet so valuable - understood times to know what Israel ought to do.

(3) Brethren at their command.

(4) Their abilities:

(a) Knew what was right & pursued it.

(b) Know how to rule.

(c) Carefully examined all evidence & saw it was best to have David - great example.

(d) Political sagacity theirs.

(e) Times often affect our conduct.

(f) We change with things round about us.

(g) They knew civil, social, personal correctness.

Ecc. 2:14 "The wise man's eyes are in his head; but th

Prov. 22:3 "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hid

f.) Jesus that for us.

1.) One time He'd speak plainly, then in parables.

2.) One time silent, another he made the good confession.

3.) Old & new wine bottles, pearls before swine, folly according to his folly or not according to his folly.

4.) Our qt. - how to apply the principles.

5.) Let them be fixed & unerring.

6.) Wisdom - harmless as doves - wise as serpents.

7.) Christ true David to whom all bow.

Isa. 45:23-25 Read.

Hosea 3:5 "afterward shall the C.

8.) Pray for wisdom.

James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of

g.) Zebulum - "experts in war with all,
instruments of war - keep rank, not of double
heart."

1.) Rank - more disciplined than the rest.

2.) Think one thing and say nother - double
minded.

h.) Naphtali - with shield & spear."

1.) Two kinds of spears.

2.) One to throw & one to thrust.

3.) Needed all varieties.

i.) We need the multiplied talents of all.

1.) No jealousy.

2.) No "put down" of other either by numbers
(large or small) or skill.

E. We need to openly state our unity.

V. 38 (Read)

1. No doubt what they came to do - so they said
it over again. All highly affected to David.
It was unanimous desire for his elevation.
300,000 there showing strength.

2. No doubt about our assignments & purpose.

- F. We need to celebrate our purposes - "they came eating & drinking."
1. Some came bringing provisions.
 2. Talents & training make you valuable - someone has to put the banquet together.
 3. Earlier saw closest to Hebron brot fewest men - could rally others quickly, so perhaps no need.
 4. Provided lavishly to honor the occasion.
 5. Note tho they came armed - ready to go to war!
- G. We need to expect good things - victory & joy.
1. "For there was joy in Israel" (V. 40).
 2. It comes when we do our part.
 3. We need to be happy c the provisions God's made for our souls.

IV. Thus our principles of team effort:

- A. Respected leader
- B. Unified Purpose
- C. Honorable & Proper Aim
- D. Promptly use diversified talent
- E. Openly state our unity
- F. Celebrate our cause festively
- G. Expect & experience good things

(7)

Hillsboro Church Visitation Teams 9-18-84
 Hohenwald, TN - Leadership Dinner - 11/30/84
 Little Rock, AR - 12/4/84

to survive at all without the function performed by the skin.

(The young desperately crave physical affection. Howard Maxwell of Los Angeles is a man in tune with his times. So when his four-year old daughter Melinda acquired a fixation for "The Three Little Pigs" and demanded that he read it to her night after night, Mr. Maxwell, very pleased with himself, tape-recorded the story. When Melinda next asked for it, he simply switched on the playback. This worked for a couple of nights, but then one evening Melinda pushed the storybook at her father.

("Now, hōney," he said, "you know how to turn on the recorder."

("Yes," said Melinda, "but I can't sit on its lap."

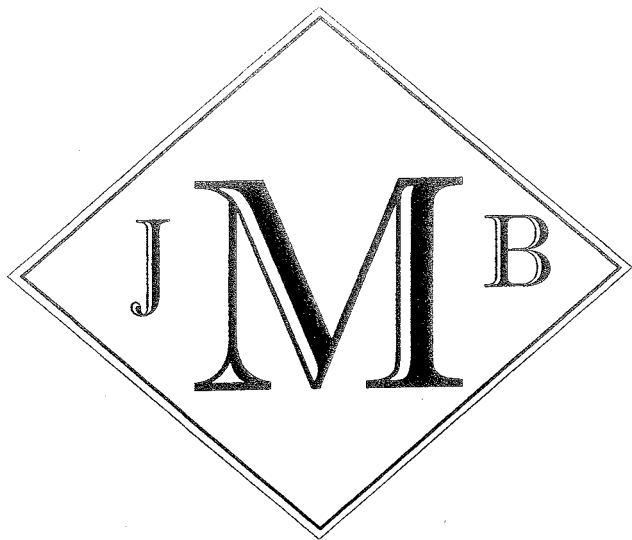
(Following Jesus in his contacts with the peasant people of Palestine, one sees him touching again and again. He "stretched out his hand and touched" the leper, for instance (Matt⁸8:3). When Peter's mother-in-law was sick, Jesus "touched her hand, and the fever left her" (Matt⁸8:15), and when mothers brought their little children to him, "he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them" (Mark 10:16).

A few years ago a group of young medical students were training in the children's ward of a large eastern hospital. One particular student seemed especially loved by the children. They always greeted him with joy.

The others could not understand why. Finally they detailed one of their number to follow him and find out what it was about him that attracted the children.

The observer detected nothing until night, when the young medic made his last round. Then the mystery was solved. He kissed every child good-night.

Ashley Montagu has written a long and scholarly book on the art of touching. He demonstrates that the skin, once regarded as little more than a simple body covering, is actually our most powerful sense organ. More than half a million sensory fibers flow from the skin through the spinal cord to the brain. As a sensory system it is the most important organ of the body. A human being can function blind and deaf and completely lacking the senses of smell and taste, but it is impossible



AFTER THE DUE ORDER

I Chron. 15:13

- I. There are times when necessity demands a sermon be presented.
 - A. Gospel Meetings - preach baptism.
 - B. VBS - glory of a child.
 - C. Elder selection - qualifications.
 - D. Climate in church - what is it?
- II. The demands of the day - call for our adherence to the Scriptures.
 - A. Rise of community churches--steal many N.T. ideas.
 - B. Error in local congregations with the use of instruments.
 - C. Weakness on the woman's role.
- III. Not only were we known as people of the Book, but also people of strict adherence to commands, precepts and examples in the Scripture.
 - A. Reasons for this sermon.
 - B. I ask you to remember two 13's.
 1. Chapter 13 of I Chron.
 2. Verse 13 of I Chron. 15.
 3. All of it the punishments and the blessings of violation on adherence to the Due Order.
- IV. Go with me to I Chron. 13
 - A. David has come to power.
 1. I Sam. he's been in Judah.
 2. II Sam. he comes to victory in Jerusalem.
 - a) City of David.
 - b) United Kingdom

- B. One thing is missing--the ark of the covenant not in the capital city. Exo. 25:10-22
- C. Rightfully David does something about it.
1. Consults with captains of thousands, hundreds, every leader (v-1).
 2. Read his decree (v 2-3) and people's response (v-4).
 3. Advantages of:
 - a) Unity
 - b) Great purpose
 - c) Imparted strength
 - d) Spiritual advancement
- D. The Plan of Movement (v-7 on)
1. New cart for ark.
 2. Two priests to attend.
 3. Rich enthusiasm in the movement.
 4. Involvement of many.
 5. Don't look, don't touch.
 6. Ahio at head; Uzza at side.
 7. Ark to be covered--Nu. 4:15.
- E. They come to Threshing floor of Chidon.
1. Oxen stumble.
 2. Uzza steadies the ark.
 3. Uzza smitten by God, died--
Nu. 4:15 TOUCH NOT.
 4. Shocking event in the parade.
- F. David displeased.
1. I read the story, first felt the same way.
 2. After all the man meant well.

3. Can Heaven be guilty of rashness--
God's name in ark.

4. David "afraid of God" (v-12)
and puzzled.

v-12 "And David was afraid of God that day"

5. Didn't make it to Jerusalem but
to Obededom for 3 months of
prosperity.

V. David want to try--Properly!

Chapter 15

A. Now our second 13.

v-13 "Because ye did it not at the 1st"

B. God's method is always right--why
tamper with it?

1. Baptism is a burial.

2. The N.T. music is accapella.

3. The words and why of worship
is proper.

E. They got in trouble because "we
sought him not after the due order."

D. What was that?

v-1 David had houses--God a tent
(so he has to be merciful to us).

v-2 Only Levites carry ark on
shoulders via rod through rings.

v-3 Men minister--not cart with
animals that stumble.

v-13 Violated God's order--not after
due order--a cardinal mistake.

v-13 Who devises: God or man?

1. Not by numbers & will of man.

2. Not by speed of movement or
innovation.

3. Not by impressive ceremony but simply by God's plan.
4. Not by human ingenuity but by the Scriptures.

v 13-15 READ

5. Not by that "which was right in the eyes of the people" (2 Chron.13:4) but "as Moses commanded according to the work of the Lord".
- E. This time they met with success (1 Chron. 16:1-3 READ).

VI. What Do We Learn?

- A. Before We Do Anything--search the Scriptures.
- B. God has given specific instructions.
- C. Restoration brings great joy.
- D. 1st Irreverence, then Dread, Finally Reverence & Obedience--Joy.
- E. The Judge of all the earth cannot but do right.
- F. Do not (for 70 years) neglect worship.
- G. Best of men can be wrong--Jesus is the Way, Truth, Life.
- H. There is a subtle evil as men grow deaf to strict rightness and allow a rising of neglect to thus saith the Lord.
- I. There's a way that's right and cannot be wrong.

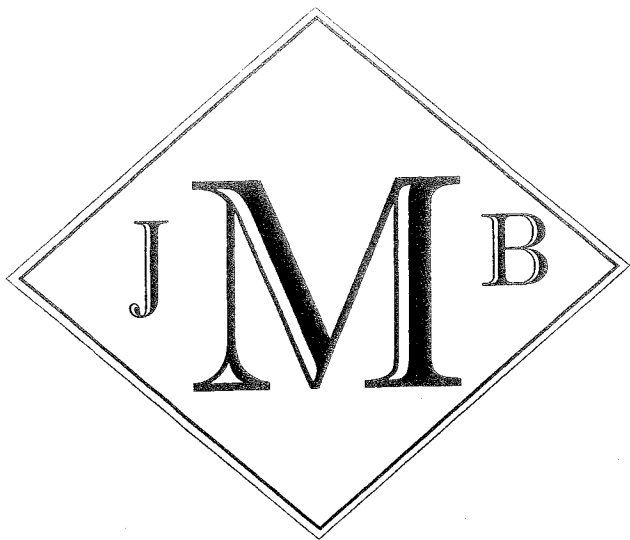
Old Union (173rd anniversary) - 3/25/07 (BC)
 New Haven, IN - 4/22/07

Berry's Chapel - 6/13/07

Walter Hill - 6/15/07

Faulkner Univ. Lectureship - 3/5/08

Montgomery, AL



A KING'S FINAL CHAPTER

I Chron. 29:1-9

- I. The end of most anything is moving.
 - A. How would you use your last day?
 - B. I can tell you how David did and thus immeasurably blessed society.
 - C. Our text is I Chron. 29:1-10.
 - II. It's the Last Great Assembly and in it for 2nd time Solomon will be appointed King.
 - A. David spoke to all the congregation.
 1. Never lost his touch for everybody; felt at ease with all ages.
 2. Important that all - not some few be there.
 - B. Reigns Passed to Youth.
 1. Solomon, my Son.
 - a) Address comes before Solomon is endowed with wisdom.
 - b) To be sure David had other sons.
 2. Young and Tender
 - a) David is 70 (Josephus) or 71 (via Bible calculations).
 - b) Age feels anxiety toward youth.
- I Chron. 22:5
- c) But nervousness over youth does not paralyze; he will entrust Solomon with a task.
 - (1) Some aren't - tennis champ so neurotic his racket became unstrung.
 - d) David will be thoughtful, provident, careful tho.
 - e) Example of 7 teaspoons sugar - stir.

3. It is the Lord that has chosen Solomon.
 - a) God chose - not partiality of David.
 - b) We must have confidence in God's choice - He did not intend for me to run it forever.
 - c) We must support God's choice.
 - d) We will see all Solomon's brothers pledge allegiance.
 - e) Important we see there is divine authority for youthful service - God has the combo - tender worker & great work!
 - f) Youth can adapt and capably do the job.
 - g) Underline - God made this choice.
 - h) David joins God in calling on Solomon to build the temple.
 - (1) Task denied David yet no resentment.
 - (2) He will fully cooperate.
4. But he makes sure Solomon understands the assignment:

Palace - for God, not man.

 - a) Priority must be established.
 - b) It is God's house - not man's - so put what He wants in it.
 - c) There is no more miserable human being than one in whom nothing is habitual but indecision.

(William James)

d) The great thing in the world is not so much where we stand but the direction we are moving.

(O. W. Holmes)

e) Palace (temple) used 3X.

III. David Reviews His Participation

A. Prepared with all my might.

1. Realizes he is an example to man.
 - a) Can't build it but I support the project.
 - b) I can't build but I can accumulate - I'll do part of it!
 - c) I won't see it but others will and it will be a blessing to my people after I am gone.
 - d) Whatever draws them closer to God I'll support.
2. Prepares with all my might.
 - a) If worth doing, worth doing well.
 - b) Life needs a dream goal.
"Overlay the walls" (v-4).
 - c) Note his eagerness.
 - e) George B. Shaw quote.
3. Cites things: gold, silver, brass, iron, wood, stones - onyx, set, glistening, divers colors, precious, marble - all in abundance.
 - a) Treasures galore.
 - b) Hard to tell what all this means.
 - (1) One word is same used for eye shadow (Jer. 4:30), dark cement for setting stones (Isa. 54:11) ruby maybe, or stones of the breastplate to go in the Temple wall.

- (2) Perhaps he showed stone color.
 - (3) He'll royally "besmear" the walls.
 - (4) Some say 6 stones designated.
 - (5) Note some items are precious (gold) and some practical (iron).
- c) He personally gave.
- (1) 3,000 talents of gold
7,000 talents of silver
 - (2) 10,000 talents = 377.5 Tons
- d) "Of my own proper good".
- (1) Is God's call our most arresting one?
 - (2) Are we afraid of the future if we share in old age?
 - (3) Do we zoom in on one great thing to do & steadily pursue?
 - (4) Do we tell others our dream?
 - (5) Do we make an appeal to others to join us?
 - (6) David doesn't put all the burden on others - he carries his load, this man after God's own heart.
 - (7) Do we hoard our acquisitions?
 - (8) His immense gifts show his wholehearted dedication to task before him.
 - (9) Do we have anything separate from God?

B. His Appeal to Others. "Who then is willing?"

1. Don't underestimate your effectiveness.
2. Lit. "fill his hand" - give voluntarily.
Serve him only, liberally and strongly.
Also was priest induced.
3. This day!
 - a) Not too easily.
 - b) Tomorrow is too late.
 - c) Age has no time to lose.
 - d) God asks for our now!
4. Chief of the fathers, princes of the tribes, captains of the thousands, Rulers of the Kings work responded.
 - a) He went after the big men.
 - b) Gave 679 1/2 T. Bronze
377.5 T. silver and iron
188 T. gold
 - c) David a model, example.
 - d) Wants many to share.
5. Offered willingly.
 - a) Giving is contagious.
 - b) When heart is willing goals are easily met.
6. People rejoiced - Perfect heart
David rejoiced with great joy.
 - a) Generosity - perfect heart -
joy the composite of the faithful.
 - b) Let man see the call of Heaven
and respond.

IV. Our Building Program

A. In Jesus?

Isa. 28:16

Eph. 2:20

B. Living stone - more precious

I. Pet. 2:4-5

C. Architect is God not Bezaleel or Aholiab.

Heb. 11:10

Eph. 2:10

D. God quarries the stone.

E. We are his temple.

Eph. 2:22

2 Cor. 3:18

F. Our temple is always - don't know where old one was.

Rev. 21:3-4

G. Do we have kindred goals to construct?

2 Cor. 8:5

Rom. 12:1

1 Cor. 3:16-17

4:19

V. We salute the aged David as one

A. I'm King - I'm somebody.

B. I'm Open - addressed all congregation.

C. I'm for Youth - turned reigns to Solomon.

D. I'm Faithful - God alone Supreme.

E. I've Purposed & Achieved.

1. Put gold where it belongs.

2. Gave glory to God.

3. Personally shared.

4. Sought & obtained services of others even chiefs.

F. I've expressed my emotions & shown my heart.

G. I've unashamedly praised God.

Quotable Speakers

How To Develop Your Present Self by Cavett Robert

A father, after observing his five-year-old daughter put her seventh teaspoon full of sugar in her weak tea, could restrain himself no longer.

"Darling," he said as he grabbed her hand; "don't you think that will make your tea too sweet?"

"No, Daddy," she responded sweetly with her impish smile, "not if you don't stir it."

How many of us already have within ourselves those qualities that give happiness and success to life which only need to be stirred? I'm sure you agree with me that it is most regrettable and even tragic to let talent go undeveloped—to live with unfulfilled ambitions, unrealized dreams, doors of opportunity that remain unopened so long that the hinges are actually rusted.

Success and happiness in life for us all lie not so much in putting in additional sugar as in stirring the sugar which is already there.

Shortly before George Bernard Shaw died, someone approached him in this manner: "Mr. Shaw, you have known all the great men and women of your time—the artists, the writers, the political giants. You have an entree into royalty, you've wined and dined with those who have shaped the destiny of the world

during your generation. Now, if you could be born again and relive your life as anyone of your choice, who would it be?"

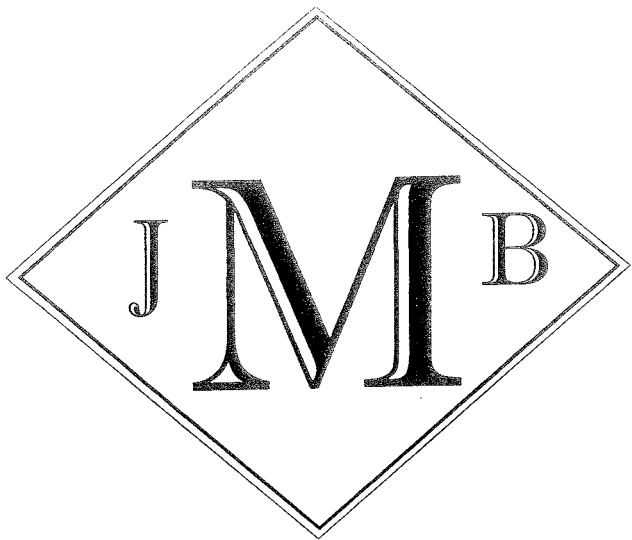
Without a moment's hesitation, Mr. Shaw said, "If I could relive my life in the role of any person I desired, I would want to be the man George Bernard Shaw could have been, but wasn't."

Here is a man, who, by all ordinary standards of performance, was among the greatest. Yet he was dissatisfied. He realized how much more he could have done.

Everyone of us has the duty to search humbly and prayerfully for a place in which we can fit in the divine pattern of things. But some would rather settle in that old rut called "security" than find their own rainbow. Desire for security can be a kind of cancerous sore infested with fear of future, a jailor of progress, the chains and shackles that holds us back from our dreams and ambitions.

Yes, in our pilgrimage of life toward the great city of our dreams and ambitions, first of all let's not be satisfied to let the great reservoirs within us go untapped—let's not permit the great sleeping forces within us to remain asleep. If we don't already have the gifts of dissatisfaction and divine discontent, let's develop these qualities now. And, above all else, let's "stir the sugar" which is already there.

—Program



MAGNIFICENT GOD CONTRAST WITH PUNY MAN
I Chron. 29:10-19

- I. Oftentimes to appreciate something we measure it by contrast "comparison".
 - A. Ant & Elephant
 - B. Car lights & Sun
 - C. Our house & Biltmore
- II. Never more graphic than the contrast of God & Man.
 - A. 1st we see God.
 - B. Then we study man.
- III. The God to Whom David Prays.
 - A. Setting
 1. Solomon's 2nd installation as King.
 2. Death of David.
 - B. His Prayer
 1. Note the time of it - 2 great occasions; inauguration & death.
 2. It's before all - plus 1 in purpose.
 3. It has 3 parts.
 - a) Praise 10-12
 - b) Thanks 13-16
 - c) Supplication 17-19
 4. Each section starts with "Blessed are you, Yahweh"
 - C. His Praise of God
 1. Our Father Forever & Ever
 2. Greatness
 3. Power
 - a) Eminence means permancy.
 - b) God rules.
 - c) Manly strength.
 - d) J. P. Sanders named Power.
 4. Glory

5. Victory
 - a) God is victor.
 - b) How little are our accomplishments.
6. Majesty
 - a) Everything is ascribed to Him.
 - b) He is incomparable.
 - c) But we aren't through.

D. Praise moves to next attributes.

1. All that is in the Heaven.
2. All in the earth.
(Remember he gave all power to Jesus).
3. The Kingdom.
4. Exalted as head above all.
5. Riches.
6. Honor.
7. Reigns - Power & Might.
8. Makes great.
9. Gives strength.

E. Can you name 15 more amazing attributes - yet the N.T. does.

1. Love
2. Salvation
3. Mercy
4. Grace
5. All good thing served to name a few.

F. Naturally we:

1. Thank and
2. Praise

IV. This Moves Us to Contrast Ourselves.

V-14 "But who am I?"

- A. 1st David thanks God for the ability to give.

1. Did it willingly.
2. Did it extensively - in the millions.
3. If talent weighs 125# how much is 5000 talents of Gold?
4. Said in v-16 came from God and was his anyhow - this should color our giving.

Deut. 8:18

James 1:17

B. Now David describes self:

1. Stranger
 - a) Calls us pilgrims, w/o hope, sojourners.
 - b) More pious we are as we praise God more humble are we.
 - c) His gifts did not lead him to think God owed him anything.
 - d) David knows the proper state of man.
2. W/o Hope, Sojourners.
 - a) No hope of permanency here.
 - b) See our sense of littleness.
3. Our days are a shadow.
 - a) Shadow of cloud passing over a field does not last long.
 - b) Life is short.

Ps. 102:11

Ps. 95:9

James 4:14

- c) We really have no time to lose in pursuing our journey.
- d) We are creatures of a day.
(E. Carter showed me massive wall plate - all dead and bldg. gone!)

- e) Brevity of life even distresses good folk.
- 4. None abide (Expectation is margin).
 - a) Generations pass and are known no more.
 - b) Here we have no continuing city.
 - c) Be moderate in your regard for earthly things.
 - d) Set your affections on things above.
 - e) Keep your eye fixed on Heaven.

Acts. 20:24

C. Now he returns to an action of God.

- 1. Tried the hearts.
 - a) Knows our thoughts.
 - b) All open.

Prov. 21:2

15:3

7:9

Job 42:2

Heb. 4:12

- 2. Pleasure in uprightness.

Ps. 51:6

78:37

Hos. 10:2

- a) What's the condition of our heart before Him?
- b) Constantly we should act to God - not man.
- c) Uprightness - of a straight road.
- 3. Provided what we willingly gave.
 - a) David a good example.
 - b) Do we have joy in giving?

Heb. 6:10

Phil 4:17

Prov. 19:17

- c) Only way to keep your wealth is to give it.
 - d) Merit of it rests with the fact given willingly.
4. Keep Thoughts
- a) What are our aims?
 - b) David sought not applause but to praise God.
 - c) Watch thoughts - great consequences come from them.
 - d) We have a most important mission- on our way Home!
5. Closes prayer with Solomon in heart (v-19).
- a) Be honest.
 - b) Future be secure thus for his country.
 - c) Stay in line with the truth.
 - d) Trust 1st
Work 2nd

Christian Singles-10/13/88 (Ashwood church)

The secret of getting action: What the mind attends to, it considers. What it does not attend to, it dismisses. What the mind attends to continually, it believes. And what the mind believes, it eventually does.

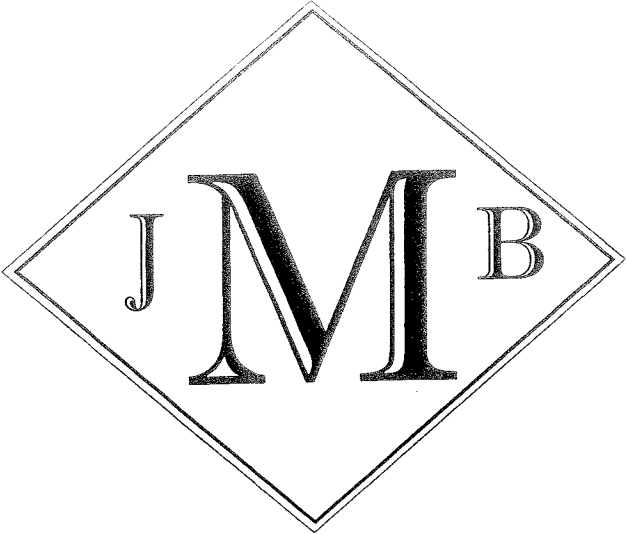
EARL NIGHTINGALE

A man with a half volition goes backwards and forwards, and makes no way on the smoothest road; a man with a whole volition advances on the roughest, and will reach his purpose, if there be even a little worthiness in it. The man without a purpose is like a ship without a rudder—a waif, a nothing, a no man. Have a purpose in life and having it, throw such strength of mind and muscle into your work as God has given you.

THOMAS CARLYLE

How few of us could honestly crystallise the aims that guide our life into any single sentence? We try the impossible feat of riding on two horses at once. We resolve and retract, and hesitate and compromise. The ship heads now one way and now another, and that not because we are wisely *tacking*—that is to say, seeking to reach one point by widely varying courses—but because our hand is so weak on the helm that we drift wherever the wash of the waves and the buffets of the wind carry us.

ALEXANDER MACLAREN



THE DAY DAVID DIED

I Chron. 29:26-30

- I. As it must for all, death came to David.
 - A. What was said of him? *100-81*
 - B. What shall be said of us? *What can we do?*
 - C. May we study this one whom God loved and put a value on our current manner.
 - D. See the verses that brought David to his grave & Solomon to his throne.

II. These Important Features:

- A. He reigned over All Israel.
 1. To the last he holds center stage.
 2. He'll be treated kindly in this report.
 3. There was unity.

I Kings

1:1 *D. old, stricken in yrs*
2:1 *Days drew nigh that he should die*

4. 4X mentions unity of all.
5. Not only of people but Father & Son Solomon. *They are together.*

- B. Reigned 40 years with 2 moves. #1

1. See Caregiving quotes. *G.B. Shaw*
The statistics on death are impressive.

- C. Died in good old age.
1. 30 when he started in Hebron. *one out of 1 people die*

2 Sam. 5:4-5

2. Suppose others as apprehensive about his youth as his own family.
3. Died, must have been 70 (Josephus) 71 (calculation).
4. Calls it good old age.
5. Good - death serious but end was joyous.
 - a) His one satisfaction - God's loving kindness.

Life's a car wash if you're going thru on 2. 2.

- b) See Epitaphs. #2 bicycle
- c) Seems happy til time he dies - rare.

D. Full of Days 80 yrs = 29,200 days

- 1. Lit. satisfied with days. *B. Child hood clip*
- 2. To do this start early. *loose wt-walk*
 - a) Christ's church bulletin. #4
 - b) Retirement quote. #5
 - c) Spellman - 3 ages of man, youth, age, & you're looking wonderful.
 - d) 3 quotes - Perry, etc. #6
- 3. Today 75 yrs. *Barnett clip #7*
2050 - 80 years.
- 4. Living longer does not mean better - 4 yrs. gained only 1 is active the rest comprise a disease.
- 5. 115-120 is maximum - aging starts at 30 with weakened immune system.
- 6. Thymus gland stops at 60.
- 7. Avoid stress.

E. Riches - *Coppers quote #7*

- 1. After gave so much, late in life, still rich. *Waller poem #8*
- 2. What will we do with our wealth?

Ps. 49:15 *but God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall rec. me.*

F. Honor

- 1. By God & man. *Shakespeare #9*
- 2. Great leader - he went before his folk in war, in reverence to King, in giving, in all lines of duty.
- 3. Powerful example.
- 4. Went from sheep fold to throne.
- 5. Ever on an ascending path. *Pepper quote #10*

Life is short but there is always time for 3. *Courtesy R.W. Emerson*

G. Solomon Son Reigned

1. Joy to see his good work continue after his death.
2. Solomon's strength was "in the Lord". (Youth quote) #11

H. Acts written 1st and last.

1. Reign *Search for Excellence #12*
2. Might
3. *Don Venizark card - Green #13*

I. The Times That Went Over Him

1. Lived through many a war. *#14 HMA*
2. Experiences - good & bad - *Adversity*
3. Joy *Penny-Me Arthur #15* *clip*
4. Rendezvous poem #16
5. *A.J. Cronin #17*

Prime Time Saturday, Abilene, TX - 10/15/88

In 1900 only one North American out of 25 was over 65 years of age. Today it's closer to one out of eight. And this trend is worldwide. While the world's population is growing by an estimated 1.7 percent annually, the 65+ population grows by 2.4 percent. (#1)

Nine countries now have more than one million citizens age 80 or over: the United States, China, the Soviet Union,

India, Japan, West Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and Italy. Japan's life expectancy is the highest of any developed nation; it's 77 years. In the U.S., it's 74.6.

Every day approximately 5,000 North Americans turn 65 and about 3,600 older persons die. Thus, our older population is constantly growing and will continue to grow because of better medical care and improved nutritional habits.

So much for statistics. What about the human side?

Most of our older people are women. There are five times as many widows as widowers. And women have the highest poverty rate in our nation.

Because birthrates are down in most Western "developed" countries, there are fewer taxpayers to contribute to social security programs. The elderly face economic problems, as fixed incomes do not keep up with inflation, or savings evaporate through illness or other emergencies.

The nuclear family is disappearing—through divorce, mobility, or smaller living areas—and this affects the old as well as the young.

Nevertheless the image that most elderly persons are feeble and senile is wrong. Happily, most older people are able to manage on their own. Eighty out of 100 of them live independently; they are the *frisky* elderly. Fifteen of those 100 may still try to live independently, but require occasional help; these are the *failing* or *frail* elderly. Only five from this cluster of 100 receive some kind of custodial care, most likely in a nursing home; they are the *fragile* elderly.

Epitaph for a Dentist

#2

Vind this gravestone c gravity
It is filling his last cavity

Emma, Blair & Abraham & Matilda
C - , & wife of Theodore S -

died Aug 10 1868 A 26 yrs
leaving 5 children - married too young
against her father's will.

Single women take warning.

Saratoga N.Y.

at rest beneath this slab & stone
Lies stingy Jimmy W. Jett
He died one morning just at ten
And saved a dinner by it
Falkirk England

Sacred to the Memory of

Mr. James Bates

who died Aug 6 1800

His widow aged 24

who mourns as one

who can be comforted

lived at 7 Elm St

This village and possesses
every qualification for a good wife
Lincoln Maine

~~SEM~~

Childhood is that wonderful time
of life when all you have to do to
lose weight is bathe.

#3

SEM

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: What do you do with all your thoughts and reactions after you've read The Closing of the American Mind? You come to the book discussion group that's just getting started. Come to a wine and cheese organizational meeting on Monday, September 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Pam Imburgia, 1000 Russell Road, Alexandria. Books to be discussed will be timely, challenging and eclectic. Directions are available at the Welcome Table this morning or call Pam Imburgia at 549-2025.

#4
SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILIES OF AGING PARENTS will meet on Tuesday, September 27 from 7:45 to 9:15 p.m. in the Library to share issues of mutual concern in the wise and sensitive caring of our aging parents. Our facilitator is Mrs. Kitty Nicholson, ACSW, LCSW, Director of Social Services at Goodwin House. If you are interested, please call Kay Kinsey, 960-3328 (h) or 549-1390 (w).

EVENSONG next Sunday, October 2, 5:00 p.m. will be sung by the Chancel Choir of Fourth Presbyterian Church, Bethesda, Maryland under the direction of Douglas Mears and Organist, Fred Markey.

GALLERY CHOIR rehearsal, in church, after the 9:00 a.m. service. After today, the choir will rehearse on the first and third Sundays.

ECW BIBLE STUDY will begin on Wednesday, September 28 at 10:30 a.m. in the Meade Room. Sessions will open with prayer offered by clergy, followed by the "Living the Good News" Adult Lectionary Bible Study curriculum led by lay coordinators. "Living the Good News" offers in-depth study of the Sunday Lectionary Scriptures - sessions are designed to conclude with Wednesday noon Eucharist in the church.

CANTERBURY CHOIR rehearsal, Wednesdays, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Boys and girls, third grade and older are invited.

Christ Church Alexandria Va

The purpose of Christ Church is to fill us all with the knowledge of God so that His will for this world becomes our will, and that every decision we make, every life affected by our lives, shall witness to the Power, Love, and Grace of Jesus Christ, & the Inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Prepare For Later Life

It is wise and necessary to prepare for later life. Life includes a series of developmental stages — childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle-age and old age. The latter state can cover as much as one-fourth of a person's life, yet this stage is not usually prepared for. People must learn to grow old, and in order to do this they must have some understanding of the aging process.

Every person facing retirement has a choice of either making his life a fruitful and exciting adventure or reducing it to a wistful, sentimental postscript.

The fine art of living involves challenges, creative planning and a commitment to spiritual values, with the choicest fruits of living being harvested in the years beyond sixty-five. Retirement is rewarding to those who plan for it. The tragic note is: many people who live meaningfully for three quarters of a lifetime will settle for trivia during the last quarter of life. Among the hundreds of people who daily are retiring from jobs only a few have any specific plans for this new adventure. And, as you might guess, the people who need the most preparation usually prepare the least.

#5 Losses Alarming

I am alarmed at the number of workers the church loses when people retire. Many of these people have said, "I am going to devote more time to the church when I retire," but it is not working out that way. In most cases the church is losing talent, not gaining it. Who is at fault? Probably all of us. Individual Christians are at fault in that they do not begin planning early enough, and even when planning is done it is not thorough and realistic. The church is at fault in that it needs to claim the services of people long before they retire. There is no age limit in Paul's statement: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (I Corinthians 15:58). "You shouldn't start talking about retirement to old people, but to youngsters in secondary school," says Dr. E. Percil Stanford. "Instead of just preparing for work," Stanford adds, "they should also be preparing for leisure. You must have meaningful life on many levels." Stanford says further: "In my view retirement should be a continuation of your life without the necessity to go to work every day."

What Is Retirement?

Retirement as we know it today is comparatively new. In one sense it is an event, with attention focused upon a specific point at which a person retires from a job. Retirement also may be viewed as a process. If we view it in this way the retirement process begins when a person recognizes the fact that some day he will retire. Attitude toward retirement is important because it can become a self-fulfilling prophesy. If you look forward to retirement with great plans it is quite likely you will find it exciting. If you think you are going to be miserable, you probably will be.

Christians need urgently to understand that they can retire from a job, but not from the Christian life. Include Christ in your retirement plan, and both you and the church will be richer. Studies by Duke University's Center for the Study of Aging show that the happiest retirees are those who start planning for retirement five, ten or twenty years in advance.

Each day, more than four thousand people in the United States join the retirement ranks. For many people as much as one-fourth of a lifetime will be spent after retirement. Unfortunately, some people will spend more time in planning for a two-week vacation than they will in preparing for the last quarter of life. The more tomorrows you plan for, the more and happier tomorrows you are likely to have. John Galsworthy has said, "If you don't plan for your future, you can't have one."

Too many people have concluded that since they are not bringing home a monthly pay check they are no longer productive and are therefore worthless. Old age need not be non-productive, and "productive" should not be defined solely in terms of earning money. Many older people are productive as volunteers.

There are needs other than economic ones. Some retirees I know, who have more than adequate income, have had as much trouble coping with retirement as some people who have incomes at or below the poverty level. In planning for retirement people need to develop personal and social skills that are necessary for living as well as for making a living. Many people who have the financial resources lack the spiritual resources for happiness and contentment.

"Bring Forth Fruit in Old Age"

Can you imagine the owner of a date palm refusing to gather the fruit because a tree was eighty years old? That would be a foolish

X Age should not have its face lifted, but it should rather teach the world to admire wrinkles as the etchings of experience and the firm line of character.

RALPH BARTON PERRY

X We are happier in many ways when we are old than when we were young. The young sow wild oats. The old grow sage.

WINSTON CHURCHILL

X It's not how old you are, but how you are old.

MARIE DRESSLER

*All publicity is good, except an
obituary notice B. Behan #17*

Our society is getting older.

Since 1950 the number of Americans 65 and older has more than doubled to 28 million. There are now more Americans over 65 than there are teenagers — an amazing change from 100 years ago when the median age in America was 16.

During the same period, the number of people older than 85 has quadrupled to 2.6 million. The over-85 age group is the fastest growing segment of the population, growing three to four times as fast as any other age group.

And the Census Bureau estimates there will be more than 100,000 centenarians by the turn of the century.

But while our society is getting older, the old are getting younger.

People are living longer and feeling better. Due to better medical care, improved diet, and increased interest in physical fitness, more people are reaching the ages of 65, 75 and older in excellent health. Their functional age is much younger than their chronological age.

As Sylvia Herz told an American Psychological Association symposium on aging recently, the activities and attitudes of a 70-year-old today are equivalent to those of a 50-year-old's a decade or so ago.

There is no temptation in life greater than the temptation to give up. #7

George Plagenz; *Capper's*

When future historians write their account of the great moral struggle of our society of today, one question they will ask is, "Where were the good people?"

Donald E. Wildmon
American Family Association

The 17th century English poet Edmund Waller recognized the value of the experience of age: #8

The soul's dark cottage, battered and decayed

Lets in new light through Chinks that Time has made;

Stronger by weakness, wiser men become . . .

The glory of young men is their strength, but the beauty of old men is their gray hair'
(Proverbs 20:29).

Ambition

#9
Cromwell, I charge thee, fling away ambition:
By that sin fell the angels; how can man, then,
The image of his Maker, hope to win by it?
Love thyself last: cherish those hearts that hate thee;
Corruption wins not more than honesty.
Still in thy right hand carry gentle peace,
To silence envious tongues. Be just, fear not. . . .

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, King Henry VIII

#10
At 86, Claude Pepper, known as the "champion of elderly Americans," is the oldest member of the U.S. Congress. Pepper said:

"...the later years need not be a time of retreat. We can't control our aging since it goes on daily, but we can control our mental attitude toward it. We can refuse to resign ourselves to a diminished role in life just because another candle has been added to the birthday cake. I am convinced that a positive attitude is the secret of youth.

...The point I want to make is this: You adapt, and you keep going to the limits of your ability."

#11
YOUTH—Behavior

This is not a day when the young listen to advice from the old with much grace. In spite of that, I cannot refrain from giving this wise word from Anne Bradstreet who lived in the 17th century: "Youth is a time of getting, middle age of improving, and old age of spending; a negligent youth is usually attended by an ignorant middle age, and both by an empty old age." The thing that troubles me the most about foolish behavior on the part of the young is that, when these years are spent, they can never be recovered. Middle age and old age become ignorant and empty. — Bishop GERALD KENNEDY, "The Starting Line," *Pulpit Digest*, 1-70.

In their book *In Search of Excellence*, Thomas J. Peters and Robert H. Waterman suggest eight qualities that are characteristic of excellent companies in the United States. The first is "a bias for action," which Peters and Waterman describe as a tendency to act rather than to remain passive. #12

The authors use phrases like, "do it," "fix it," "try it," and state that "chaotic action is preferable to orderly inaction." X

Ludwig van Beethoven arose at daybreak and immediately began composing until 2 P.M. when he would have dinner. He worked in long stretches of unbroken time to allow his thoughts to unfold and flow uninterrupted. He exemplified a bias for action.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, traveled more than 250,000 miles on horseback, preaching often fifteen times a week for over fifty years. As an octogenarian, he complained that he found it difficult to work more than fifteen hours a day.

C. T. WINCHESTER

Don't forget: Best yet to be

#13

1. Maria Newman
2. Experience
3. Wisdom
4. More varied views
5. More free time
6. Technical developments
7. Good circle of friends

my

Best Kruger Smith "Aging in America"

discards 4 myths

1. Older people cannot learn
2. Sexual interest & activity is limited to the ^{young}
3. Older people do not want to work
4. Older people like to be helpless
over

Marge Green on women

1. want to be used
2. Believe every woman can survive
3. " services are valuable
4. They are creative
5. spend little time fault finding
6. willing to accept responsibility

Adversity

#114

It is difficult to steer a parked car, so get moving.

HENRIETTA MEARS

Adversity

Fire is the test of gold; adversity of strong men.

SENECA

When I dig another out of trouble, the hole from which I lift him is the place where I bury my own.

ANONYMOUS

I'll say this for adversity: People seem to be able to stand it, and that's more than I can say for prosperity.

"KIN" HUBBARD

Sweet are the uses of adversity;
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in every thing.

#14A

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*

#15

replied, "Why, my good sir, it's now or never."

And J.C. Penney, when he was 95, said, "My eyesight may be getting weaker, but my vision is increasing."

General Douglas MacArthur was seventy-eight when he wrote:

"Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up interest wrinkles the soul."

I Have a Rendezvous with Death

I have a rendezvous with Death
 At some disputed barricade,
 When Spring comes back with rustling shade
 And apple blossoms fill the air—
 I have a rendezvous with Death
 When Spring brings back blue days and fair.

It may be he shall take my hand,
 And lead me into his dark land,
 And close my eyes and quench my breath—
 It may be I shall pass him still.

I have a rendezvous with Death
 On some scarred slope of battered hill,
 When Spring comes round again this year
 And the first meadow flowers appear.

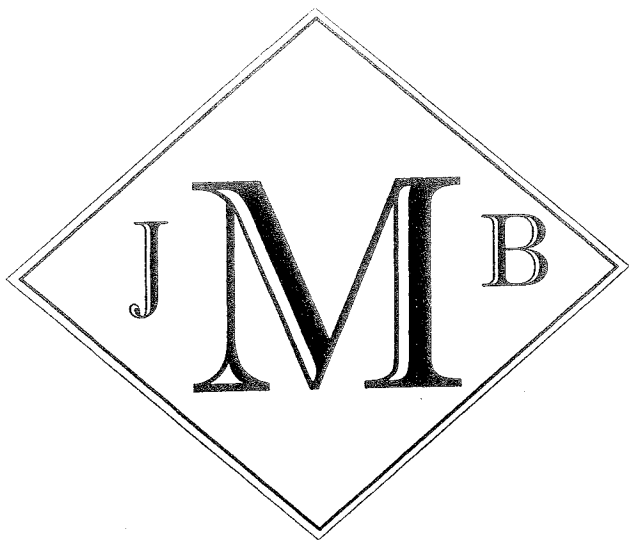
God knows 'twere better to be deep
 Pillowed in silk and scented down,
 Where Love throbs out in blissful sleep,
 Pulse nigh to pulse, and breath to breath,
 Where hushed awakenings are dear . . .

But I've a rendezvous with Death
 At midnight in some flaming town,
 When Spring trips north again this year;
 And I to my pledged word am true,
 I shall not fail that rendezvous.

ALAN SEEGER, AMERICAN VOLUNTEER
 (killed in France while serving with
 the French Foreign Legion, 1916, age 28)

#17

The famous author, A. J. Cronin, who was well-acquainted with pain and heartache, has had this to say: "When a man surveys his past from middle age he must surely ask himself what those bygone years have taught him. If I have learned anything in the swift unrolling of the web of time, it is the virtue of tolerance toward one's fellowmen. I have come also to acknowledge the great illusion which lies in the pursuit of a purely material goal. What a slight satisfaction lies in temporal honor and worldly grandeur! All the...possessions for which I strove so strenuously mean less to me now than a glance of love from those who are dear to me. Above all am I convinced of the need, irrevocable and inescapable, of every human heart, for God. No matter how we try to escape, to lose ourselves in restless seeking, we cannot separate ourselves from our divine source. There is no substitute for God!"



LONG LIVE THE KING

I Chron. 29:30

I. That moving moment:

- A. Two Kings - David & Solomon before the people.
- B. One is old - one is young.
- C. One resigns, one reigns.
- D. It is a marvelous time of coronation.
 - 1. 2nd Crowning of Solomon.
 - 2. Completion of aged David's reign.
- E. See the scene.

II. These Events

- A. David said to all the congregation,
Now bless the Lord your God.
 - 1. He's just done this.

1 Chron. 29:10-12

- 2. He asks them to do what he has done.

B. Congregation's action.

- 1. Blessed the Lord of their fathers.
- 2. Bowed their head.
- 3. Worshipped the Lord, and the King.
- 4. Rite of coronation.
 - a) Investiture with insignia.
 - b) Anointed.
 - c) Acclamation.
 - d) Enthronement.
 - e) Homage of high officials.
- 5. Read V. 23-24 - note his brothers did also.
- 6. Hand gesture odd.
 - a) Either put their hand under King's extended hand & kissed the back of it.

b) Or put hand under thigh.

7. Worshipped God & King.

a) Prostrated self.

b) All men have ample reason to worship.

c) Worship is spiritual.

Worship is expressive (bow)

Worship has object (P.C.)

Worship needs be accepted.

8. Paid their respects to King as God's instrument.

9. God has the throne - he uses men - they are subservient.

C. Congregation Sacrifices

1. 1000 bullocks

2. 1000 rams

3. 1000 lambs

4. Drink offerings

5. "Sacrifices in abundance"

D. Results

1. Ate & drank before the Lord with great gladness. V-22

(In lives of service we find freedom and joy)

2. Made Solomon son of David King as youth is entrusted with highest calling.

