

May 2017

McInteer Sermon Outlines - Ezekiel

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IT'S A TOUGH CALL

Ezek. 2:1-7

- I. I've never heard so many various evaluations of preachers as today.
 - A. "What he says you could preach anywhere" --what's so bad about that--all love Jesus.
 - B. He's totally negative.
 - C. It's all love and kisses--entirely positive.
 - D. Nothing distinctive.
 - E. Always talking about change.
 - F. Never hear the invitation anymore.
- II. Is this the fault of the day--are schools helping or hurting--what's the solution to our needs?
- III. Not sure I know--but preaching is a tough call. Let me tell you about one man's call--Ezekiel.
- IV. Ezekiel is commissioned.

Ezek. 2:1 "And he said unto me, Son"

 - A. God's call.
 1. No man more gloriously called to his office since Moses. (Ellicott)
 2. He said--certainly of the call, "I heard him that spoke to me."
 - a) Articulate.
 - b) Understandable.
 - c) God himself--not an angel.
 3. Son of Man.
 - a) Only Ezekiel & Daniel so called.
 - b) Ezekiel 90X+; Daniel 1X.
 - c) Simply means man.
 - d) Shows he's weak, mortal, but how wonderful it is God condescends to use him.

- e) Humble, diminishing title but honorable.
- f) Ezekiel is a mouthpiece & nothing more.
- g) Son shows lowliness & frailty.

2 Cor. 12:7

4. Stand Upon Thy Feet.

- a) Was on face 1:28.
- b) Now feet.
- c) God exalts what he first humbles.

James 4:6

1 Pet. 5:5

d) Stand--means he's in control of himself.

e) Prostrate--humility.

Stand--readiness & fitness for business.

f) Adorning God must not stop our moving to serve Him.

g) God enables us to stand.

h) Thus go in right frame of mind.

5. I will speak unto thee.

a) Spirit entered.

(1) Proof of inspiration--he knew it was God's word.

(2) Understanding of truth is open door for spirit's entrance.

(3) God graciously enters into the man who will cooperate with Him.

b) Need to know whose we are.

B. I Send Thee to Them.

1. Distinct commission.

2. Go with understanding, courage, resolution.
3. Man is more than a creature--he's God's herald with Heaven's message.
4. Children of Israel.
 - a) Rebellious nation.
 - (1) Same as heathen.
 - (2) Antagonistic toward God.
 - (3) Refuse allegiance.
 - (4) Rise up against a sovereign.
 - b) Transgressed.
 - (1) Political term.
 - (2) To violate covenant duties.
 - (3) Consistently evil.
 - c) Impudent--stiffhearted.
 - (1) Hard of face.
 - (2) Obstinate.
 - (3) Stubborn.
 - (4) Emotionless face--unfeeling.

C. Message "Thus Saith the Lord God."

1. All he says must be from God.
2. Regulate what's said by the infallible dictates of inspiration.
3. He's to speak God's word to them.
4. No self originating message.
5. Restrict message to God's word.

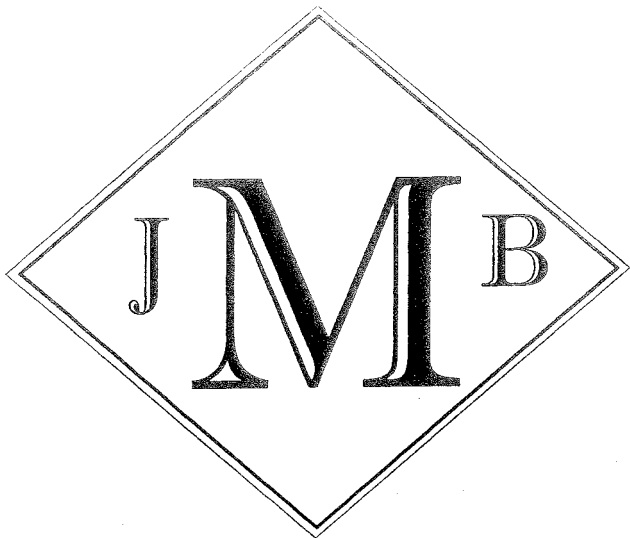
D. Measure of a Ministry.

1. It is not members.
2. It is not success.

v-5 "Whether they will hear, forbear."

3. Some will obey, some become more obdurate.
4. They would not remain as they were.

5. Hearer determines acceptance or rejection.
 6. Did they obey?
 7. Can't command success--Bergie volunteered to be baptized on HoT.
 8. We can aim for success.
 9. Why do some fail?
 - a) Don't know message.
 - b) Not presented in wisdom.
 - c) Aloof from hearer.
 - d) Not convicted himself.
 - e) Life not accord with message.
 10. Not responsible for treatment afforded message--but duty to declare it.
 11. Knew before he'd partially fail.
 12. Forbear--cease, desist.
 13. But carry it to all.
 14. Duty comes from: divine obligation; human need.
 15. Hard to preach to unyielding hearts.
- E. Know There Hath Been a Prophet Among Them.
1. Men must know it's the word & will of God.
 2. May not heed but they'll hear & have not ignorance to plead.



WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH

Ezek. 2:6-10

- I. Just as surely as there are tricks of the trade, there are also hazards.
 - A. "But I wasn't told asbestos might be cancer forming!
 - B. "But no one told me 1 out of 8 might be an alcohol!
 - C. Of such "failures" we cannot accuse the Lord - He's told us what we face!
- II. In this lesson I want you to see two things:
 - A. A possible reception to your teaching.
 - B. The necessary fortification to get the job done.
- III. Our possible reception.
 - A. Three things will oppose me: them, words looks.
 1. Be not afraid of them.
 - a.) A formidable group of people oppose the truth.
 - b.) Usually out no. you.
 2. Be not afraid of their words.
 - a.) Briars, thorns, scorpions.
 - 1.) Briars, thorns not found elsewhere as nouns.
 - 2.) Root - pricking or burning.
 - b.) His denunciations gave him a thorny couch - scorpion's nest.
 - 1.) Reptile.
 - 2.) Sting in tail.
 3. Be not afraid of their looks.
 - a.) Cold looks vs. hot words.
 - b.) Jesus looked at Peter.
 - c.) Evil not only avoids but persecutes the good - saw my 1st drunk woman at Frankfort.
 - B. Remember you speak to a rebellious people.

- 1. Hard to preach to those who do not want to hear.
- 2. Duty to deliver message to all kinds of people.
- 3. You are set at posts of danger.
- 4. Listless to hear.
- 5. Tamper c fixed terms.
- 6. Rash efforts to improve original.

IV. My Fortification.

A. My duty - "speak my words."

- 1. Note God their originator.
- 2. Be warned against a self originating message.
- 3. Faithful delivery of message, not success, his necessity.
- 4. Yet aim at success.
- 5. "The church to witness, the Scriptures to prove."
- 6. Not concerned for personal safety but preoccupied is c Word.
- 7. Who can improve on mind of God.

B. Be not thou rebellious.

- 1. Had to be faithful among unfaithful people.
- 2. You'd have severe trial.
- 3. Privilege & peril in preaching.

C. Presentation of the Roll.

- 1. A hand was sent.
 - a.) Lit. "put forth".
 - b.) From God.
 - c.) What I give must come from God.
 - d.) Didn't write it - "found it" (3:1), discover, divulge.

2. Had a roll in it.

- a.) From volume, volvo "I roll."

b.) Written on both sides.

(1) So could always see what God said.

(2) So you'd know it was complete.

c.) What's written stands test of time.

d.) Unusual - Babylon usually had clay tablets.

e. Had woes.

1.) Message won't please all.

3. Eat the roll.

a.) Revelation may come gradually.

b.) Thus can assimilate what's received. Fully possessed of message.

c.) Human soul cries out to be fed.

d.) Eat - fill - nothing superficial about it.

e.) Like honey for sweetness (3:3).

(1) All for my ultimate good.

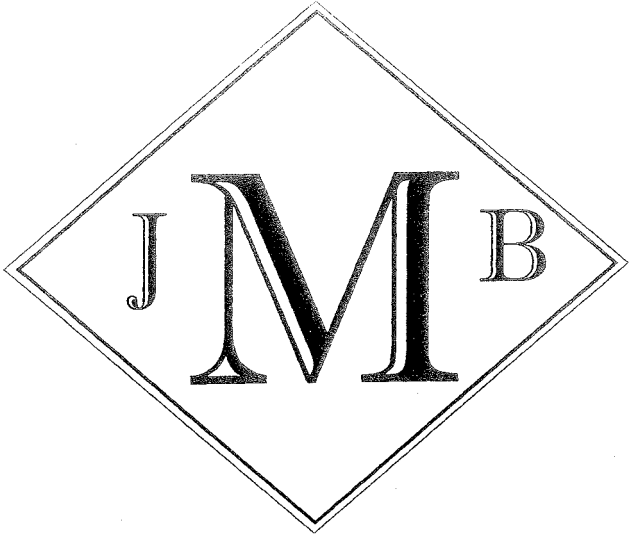
(2) Honor conferred to be an agent of the Lord.

(3) All good lit. good mental food.

(4) Need of personal appropriation.

(5) Gives increased strength.

Best End 10-7-79



FELLOWSHIP: OUR CRYING NEED

Ezek. 3:15

I. Geo. MacDonald said, "When God comes to man, man looks round for his neighbor."

A. Ezek. told of those he understood, "I sat where they sat--and remained there astonished among them 7 days" (3:15).

B. Let's see if we can do just that.

II. The word itself. *Communion, fellowship, sharing in, common (line)*

A. Koinonia means an association or a partnership.

1. Carries the idea of community, association.

2. Spirit of generous sharing contrasted c selfish getting. *See Cottrell article #1*

B. It also meant

1. Business partnership.

2. Marriage - Koinonia of life - live together c everything shared.

3. Relationship c God.

C. Other facts.

1. 18X used in NT.

2. Look at some.

(a) Share a friendship.

Acts 2:42 "And they continued stedfastly in the apostle's teaching and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

2 Cor. 6:15 "And what concord hath Christ with Belial?"

1 Jn. 1:3 "That which we have seen and heard declare we have written unto thee, that thou mayest have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father, and with the Son which have true life."

(b) Practical sharing c less fortunate. *sch. contrib.*

Rom. 15:26 "For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia, that they would minister unto the necessities of the saints."

2 Cor. 8:4 "Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive of them this service of the saints."

(c) Partnership in the work of Christ.

Phil. 1:5 "For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now."

the 1st day until now

at the mystery, which from the beginning world-hid 2.
(d) In the faith - never an isolated unit. *Created by God*
Eph. 3:9 "And to make all men see what is the fellow
(e) In the Spirit - lives in his presence.

Phil. 2:1 "If there be therefore any consolation in Ch

(f) With Christ. *Com. of love, F. of Spirit*

I Cor. 1:9 "God is faithful, by whom ye were called

Phil. 3:10 "That I may know him, and the power of hi

(g) With God. *res. of fellow. of his suffering*

I Jn. 1:3 "That which we have seen and heard declar

3. Bond that binds us together.
4. We have a share in a thing: action, possession, life.
5. A companion, joint owner. *Partners*

Luke 5:10 "And so was also James, and John, the son

Philemon 17 "If thou count me therefore a partner, r

6. Share an experience together - we are not alone: we share:
 - a.) Share in manhood of all men.
 - b.) Experiences of joys & tears.
 - c.) Things divine.
 - d.) All that we have as true wealth lies in giving it away (Barclay).

III. Now let's apply. (Jacoben card) # 2

- A. Will you share an experience?
 1. Bristol quote. # 3
 2. Longfellow, "If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life sorrow & suffering enuf to disarm all hostility."
- B. Share strength.

1. The Musketeers of Dumas' novels lived by the oath: "Each for all & all for each."
2. Scott quote. #4
3. Maryville card. #5
4. Muriel Lester, "It is thru the fellowship of the Catacombs that the early Christian achieved the courage of the Coliseum."

C. Share companionship.

1. Zimbardo articles. #6, #7
2. Lost art of touching. #8
3. Groucho Marx, "I always enjoy myself. It's other people I have trouble enjoying."
4. Eliz. Skoglund card. #9
5. Am I bro. keeper card. #10

IV. Barriers's.

A. I'm better than you - Asquith card. #11

1. Brooks Hays. #12
2. Future shock. #13

B. Ignorance.

1. Elevator wait. #14
2. Einstein quote. #15

C. My weaknesses.

To dwell above c saints I love
 To me that will be glory
 To dwell below with saints I know,
 Well, brother, that's another story.

D. Diotrefes III Jn 9-10 ambitious, critical.
 E. Ps. 102:3-6-11

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Editorial

#1

FELLOWSHIP

by Danny Cottrell

The word "fellowship" is from the Greek word "koinonia", and it means "communion, fellowship, sharing in common." (Vine) It refers to "association, communion, fellowship, a close relationship with someone, participation, sharing in something." (Arndt and Gingrich) The word "fellowship" comes from an Anglo-Saxon word which is literally "fee-lowship." It was originally used to describe a business transaction or partnership. Later it was used to describe a marriage. In classical Greek it described the relationship of man to the Greeks gods. In the New Testament it describes our relationship to Jehovah.

The New Testament speaks of fellowship in several ways. Christians have fellowship with God, Christ and each other. (I John 1:3; I Cor. 1:9) Christians have fellowship with the Holy Spirit. (2 Cor. 13:14) We

have fellowship with other Christians and with the church. (I John 1:3, 7; Acts 2:42) We have fellowship with Christ and each other in the Lord's Supper. (I Cor. 10:16, 17) We have fellowship in ministering to the saints in the contribution. (2 Cor. 8:4; 9:13) The Bible warns us against having fellowship with demons (I Cor. 10:20), or with darkness. (2 Cor. 6:14; Eph. 5:11)

Fellowship, then, is a sharing together, association, and communion that we have with the Lord and with each other.

But what is the basis of fellowship? Our fellowship is not horizontal, strictly from one Christian to another, but is vertical. We can have fellowship with each other because we both have fellowship with God through Jesus Christ. God through Christ, then, is the basis of Christian fellowship. Our fellowship springs from a Christ-centered life. This is the great thing that we have in common as Christians.

William Barclay has written, "A real church is a body of men and women united to each other because all are united to Christ." Russell Benjamin Miller observed, "From the very beginning the early Christians experienced a peculiar sense of unity. Christ is at once the center of this unity and the origin of every expression of fellowship."

I circulated about seventy-five brief questionnaires, related to this area of need, in two adult Sunday school classes, inviting members to share their experiences anonymously. I asked:

(1) Give specific instances of times when you felt warmly and personally loved and cared for in the church family-- how Christians befriended you when you were new in the group, sick, in trouble, or lonely.

(2) What is your evaluation of large and small group fellowship among Christians?

(3) What problems have you faced in the church--loneliness, lack of personal friends, a feeling of not being included? Have your children felt unaccepted in the youth group? Why do you think people ignored or rejected you? For what good reasons (and there are some) have you not included some people in your social life?

(4) ~~What suggestions would you make if you were writing in this area?~~ What should Christians do or not do to find friends? To help others find friends?

(5) What has God meant to you in your social relationships with other Christians?

"Saints and Snobs" by Marion Leach Jacobsen

Page No. 20-21

Dr. Lee H. Bristol, Jr. tells of a businessman standing in ^{#3} New York's Penn Station one day, when an unshaven man walked up to him and said, "You look friendly," and then told him a sad story of a wasted life. When he finished, he asked, "Will you do something for me? You know, there's not a soul in the world who cares if I live or die. Would you mind thinking about me for a couple of weeks? If I could think there was someone somewhere thinking about me as a human being, it would be worth a million dollars to me." The man slipped into the crowd, nameless.

"Happiness is Still Home Made" - By T. Cecil Myers - Page 122

Fellowship

Fellowship #4

OF THE WEEK

The race of mankind would perish did they cease to aid each other. We cannot exist without mutual help. All therefore that need aid have a right to ask for it from their fellow-men; and no one who has the power of granting can refuse it without guilt. — SIR WALTER SCOTT.

A 24 year old member of the church at Maryville, #5 Tennessee became seriously ill. He was rushed to the hospital, his boss was called, and the doctor said "He will have to have 15 pints of fresh blood immediately."

The boss said "I think I may can get 5--but I have no idea how I can get 15--this is impossible."

Accompanying this man to the hospital was a member of the church. On hearing of the need he said "This man has 300 brothers and sisters in Christ--he will have no trouble."

The deacons of the Maryville church immediately began to call various folk and within 30 minutes 17 men were lined up giving blood--sustaining life.

This is fellowship is it not?

#6

Feb 1975

INDIFFERENCE

If there is a Devil, it is not through sin that he opposes God. The Devil's strategy for our times is to trivialize human existence in a number of ways: by isolating us from one another while creating the delusion that the reasons are time pressures, work demands, or anxieties created by economic uncertainty; by fostering narcissism and the fierce competition to be No 1; by showing us the personal gains to be enjoyed from harboring prejudices and the losses from not moving out whenever the current situation is uncomfortable. Fostering in us the illusion of self-reliance, that sly Devil makes us mock the need for social responsibility and lets us forget how to go about being our brother's keeper — even if we were to want to. Surely one cause of the growing sense of disengagement in our society is the rise in middle-class affluence since the 1950s, which has allowed an enormous number of people to buy space, privacy, and exclusive-use permits and services. The move to suburbia is a move away from too many people too close. The well-tended front lawn is the modern moat that keeps the barbarians at bay. Every occupant in a separate bedroom with private toilet, personal television, telephone, and hi-fi

reduces hassles and conflicts. No need to share. — PHILIP G ZIMBARDO, *Psychology Today*, 8-80.

ISOLATION

I have always believed that people can control their destinies by work, self-discipline, humor, love of life, concern for other people, and a sensitivity to the tactics of manipulation by the authorities. But tonight is different from all previous nights in America, and tomorrow will be even worse. As the father of three children, it is with sadness that I make such an assertion, and with the hope it will be shown to be a false alarm. I believe that the basic quality of our social lives is being diluted, distorted, and demeaned by a host of profound structural changes in society. Because these new forces are systemic and not just transient developmental stages, they won't simply be outgrown but are likely to become permanent fixtures in our daily existence. The consequences are serious. I know of no more potent killer than isolation. There is no more destructive influence on physical and mental health than the isolation of you from me and of us from them. It has been shown to be a central agent in the etiology of depression, paranoia, schizophrenia, rape, suicide, mass murder, and a wide variety of disease states.—
PHILIP G ZIMBARDO, *Psychology Today*, 8-80.

The Editor's Favorite Meditation for This Month



THE LOST ART OF TOUCHING

BY ANNE KAVEL

I REMEMBER a beautiful late summer day many years ago. My husband and I took a walk farther than we had planned. We came across an unusually charming garden and stood by the fence admiring it.

Suddenly an elderly gentleman appeared and when he noticed us standing there, he came over. We told him we were just enchanted with his lovely creations. He beamed with pleasure, and invited us farther into the rows of neat flower beds. He took us through various paths, cutting blossoms as we went along, while explaining the habits and growth of the flowers.

It was more than an hour later when we finally reached the garden gate again. He handed me the beautiful bouquet of flowers, put his arm around my shoulder, and said, "Happy anniversary, fair lady," then grasped my husband's hand in a warm hand-shake and added, "and the same to you, sir." We were so surprised, we were speechless for a moment before we asked, "But how did you know?"

With a twinkle in his eye, he replied, "Your charm bracelet has three charms. Two are children and one is a bride and groom with the date on the side." How observant he was! We thanked him and impulsively, I kissed his cheek. It was truly a touching experience. That was the most memorable anniversary we ever had, because we met a wonderful stranger.

If only we all could take the time to stop, look, and listen, there would be more touching and understanding in the universe. ☺

When I ask children to talk or write about the thing which ^{#9} frightens them most, almost all of them say they are afraid of being alone in the world.

One tenth-grade boy wrote:

You can see the fire

And feel the loneliness around you;

You can hear the sounds

But don't I know what to do.

You take a look around you

Hoping someone's near;

But then you know there isn't,

It's just your hanging fears.

Fellowship

You wonder what is happiness

That you have never had;

You know you will never have

it
Because people think you're

bad.

You wish there was someone to talk to,
Someone part of you.
You think of all the good times you could have
And all the things you could do.

But you know this is not possible
You know that it's a lie;
So you say to yourself ". . .all the people. . .
all the world." And go somewhere
Lie down . . . and die.

Can I Talk to You? by Elizabeth Skoglund. pp84-85.

The first recorded question from man to God is ^{#10}
"Am I my brother's keeper?"

What is our responsibility to our fellow human
beings? Someone has jokingly said, "Each
person has 67 million 14th cousins.

One of the great teachings of the Bible is the
responsibility of each human being for others.
Each of us is a brother.

1979 Pastor's Annual--T. T. Crabtree, Page 44

Witnessing inevitably crosses all racial and class lines. This brings greater vitality to the fellowship of believers. Some years ago a study was made of old New England families to show how many of the early names had disappeared. The chief reason given was that the aristocratic old families had intermarried for #11 generations and sterility had set in. The researchers found that the men whose family names had survived had married young women of Italian, Irish, Polish, or other ethnic stocks. New vitality had come from the other nationalities. A newness came into religion when the apostles finally broke out of the little Jewish circle and went abroad to witness to the Gentiles.

"Living in the Presence of God" - By Glenn H. Asquith - Page 94

Fellowship

“ ”

The Hon Brooks Hays, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and widely noted for his wit and humor, confesses that he recently made the mistake of paraphrasing in front of Mrs Hayes: "The Lord must like us Southern Baptists - he makes so many of us!"

"Oh, yeh!" replied 90-pound Mrs Hays, a Methodist, "He's just trying to find a good one!" - ERWIN L McDONALD, *Arkansas Baptist*.

p

#12

Fellowship

q

#13

In his book Future Shock, Alvin Toffler says, ". . . we form limited involvement relationships with most of the people around us. Consciously or not, we define our relationships with most people in functional terms. So long as we do not become involved with the shoe salesman's problems at home, or his more general hopes, dreams and frustrations, he is, for us, fully interchangeable with any other salesman of equal competence. . . We have created the disposable person. . . "

Can I Talk to You? by Elizabeth Skoglund, p122.

Fellowship

High Romance
A guy waiting for an elevator on the 28th floor of an office building was joined by a beautiful young lady. Together they waited for another five minutes for the elevator. It was obvious he was trying to think of something to say. Finally it came to him.
"I think it's beautiful," he said. "our growing old together this way."
Janesville, Iowa Ed

can person
look to him as if Grandpa

I handed Karen the last dis-
planation as I can think of," I conceded. "Here's
dad. Go get your things and tell Peter to get moving."

The cemetery was only minutes away. I had hoped

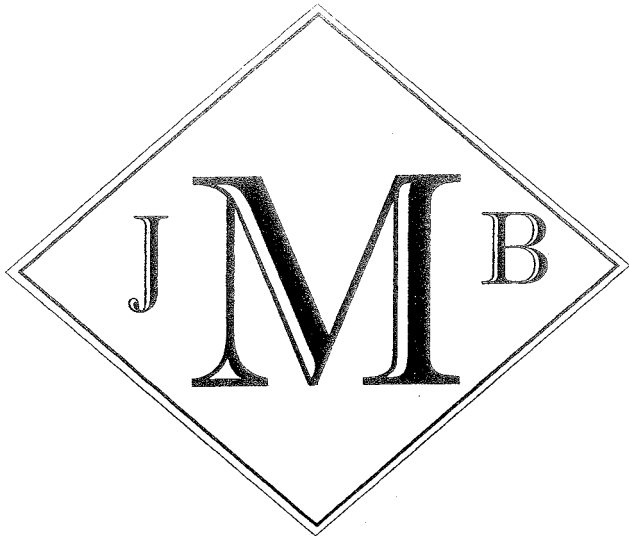
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... JUST THINKING ...

A HUNDRED TIMES every day I remind myself that my life de-
pends on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that
I must exert myself in order to give in the measure as I have re-
ceived and am still receiving.

—Albert Einstein.





DO YOU LIKE CLAPPING?

Ezekiel 6

- I. I want to read you this chapter, Ezekiel's second charge so to speak, and tell me what you get from it.
 - A. I got stuck on this chapter and read it repeatedly at bedtime.
 - B. In it I found some great and pertinent truths.
 - C. It has something to say about clapping.
- II. As I read it I saw:
 - A. The Word of God is truth and He intends us to hear it.
 - v 1-2 "And the word of the Lord came unto me"
 1. It's a new prophesy.
 2. It repeats what has been said before.
 3. God wants me to hear it!
 - B. I saw the message is of God and man the messenger.
 - v-3 "Say, Ye mt. of Israel, hear the word"
 1. It was not perhaps what you want to declare (people's doom) but messenger has no choice--proclaim what he is told.
 2. "It may be irksome to the prophet's taste to have to repeat over and over the same things but he's not to think of himself or his tastes."
(P.C.)
 3. He's servant, not master.
 4. "Line upon line; precept upon"
 5. Say what you are told; in morality, worship, sacrifice.

C. Thirdly--declare it to all.

v-3 "Thus saith the Lord God--mountain, hill"

1. Wherever man is, tell him God's word.
2. Knowledge is of great benefit.
3. Knowledge is lost sight of in time of prosperity and self-indulgence.
4. It can be acquired in time of retribution and suffering.
5. Note he addresses the whole land.
6. Every area is responsible.
7. From mountains word pours down on all--highest to lowest.
8. None escapes his responsibility.

D. Fourth--God proclaims punishment.

v 3-7 "Behold I, even I, will bring a sword"

1. God brings the sword on his own disobedient people.
2. Instead of clearing the land they pursued what the inhabitants were doing.
3. In high places with altars and images they polluted the worship of God.
 - a) Wide variety of idols in wide variety of places.
 - b) Worshipped idols.
 - (1) Ezekiel uses idols more than any other writer--39X.
 - (2) Man's god is what he loves supremely--wife, child, riches, power, popularity, success in business, himself.
 - (3) Idol in the land is as bad as the one he sets up in his heart.

(4) It's the mercy of God that idols are destroyed.

(5) They set up sun images, pillars, obelisks.

E. Fifth--God destroys his competition.

1. Uses words like destroy, break, cast down, scatter, laid waste, desolate, cease, cut down.
2. To abolish--utterly destroy.
3. To render non-functional.
4. Slain before altars shows inability of false gods to protect.
5. Sweet savor changed to rotten corpse.

F. Sixth--God shows his supremacy.

v-7 "Ye shall know that I am the Lord"

1. Repeats v-7, 10, 13, 14
2. God is supreme and to be loved.
3. What hinders us from knowing God is Lord?
 - a) Invisible--can't see Him.
 - b) World disorder--why does he let these things go?
 - c) Earthly mindedness of man.
4. What makes us know Him?
 - a) Fulfillment of prophesy.
 - b) Exercise of power.
 - c) Vindication of the righteous.
 - d) Answer to prayer.
 - e) Eternal quality of his word.
5. 60X almost Ezekiel says this--he's sole diety and power.
6. Honor of God will be vindicated.

G. Seventh--There is a remnant.

v-8 "Yet will I leave a remnant"

1. Remnant sign of God's mercy.
2. But remember God does not spare so that the spared may be negligent.
3. Remnant is the seed of a larger future.
4. Prospect of God's Kingdom on earth is never wholly dark.
5. Elect are few.

H. Idolatry is whoredom.

v-9 "I am broken with their whorish"

1. This either means God is broken-hearted and ascribes such to himself; or
2. He breaks their heart and leads to self-loathing.
3. It's pentinence He wants, not our doom.
4. It's success, not laboring in vain.
5. Purpose of chastisement is to lead to repentence.

Rom. 2:4

6. "Plowshares of calamity break up hard and stolid soil so that grace may find an entrance."
7. Idolatry is spiritual adultery.

I. Clap and Stamp

v-11 "Smite with thine hand"

1. Outward gestures give dramatic emphasis.
2. Indicate strong emotion.

Nu. 24:10 -- anger

Ezek. 25:6 -- derision

Ezek. 21:17 -- Fury

Ezek. 22:13 -- Dishonest gain

3. Can convey earnest of purpose, approval.

4. Examples for worship? What about:

a) Lying on left side--390 days.

b) Lying on right side--40 days

c) Shave head

d) Burn hair

e) Bake with dung

5. "Such extravagant acts are no part of God's worship." (Clark)

J. From sin's punishment for this disobedient there is no escape.

v-11 - Sword, famine, pestilence

v-13 - High hill, top of mt., under every green tree, thick oak

1. We best be faithful to God.

2. Land desolate

a) Diblah in singular only here.

b) Wherever you are judgement will come.

c) Expect people to adopt culture of their neighborhood.

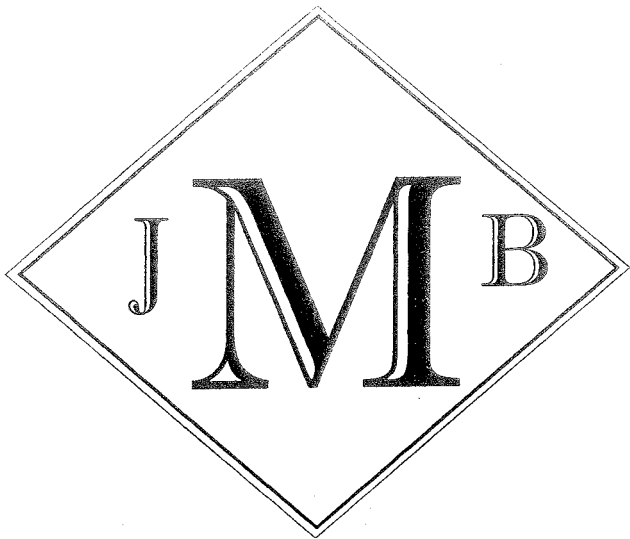
3. Mountains though conspicuous do not escape--none too big for God--no man above Him.

4. Rank, intelligence, fame, power, riches do not exclude.

5. Warnings not to fix our doom but lead to repentance.

6. Thus Ezekiel from flat Mesopotamia speaks to a people God chose & to a people who rejected Him.

7. 4X--Ye shall know that I am God--
do we?



What Would You Have Done?

Ezek. 12:1-15

- I. Often a situation is presented; you then are asked "what would you have done" as the replay comes to you.
 - A. I'd like to do that with you
 - B. Not quite fair as you are not a "rebellious house."
 - C. But I believe we who are faithful can be fortified and you who are not Christians can re-examine your position.

- II. Let me tell you the story of Ezekiel 12:1-15
 - A. Word of the Lord came to Ezekiel.
 - 1. It has to do with destruction of Jerusalem.
 - 2. He's a "sign" - to warn Jerusalem of impending captivity and warning of those already taken you are not coming home anytime soon.
 - B. Rebellious house has still another chance.
 - C. Ezekiel does a pantomime.

1. In sight prepares to leave
 2. By night exit through dug hole in the wall.
 3. Covers face as he leaves
- D. People ask "what are you doing" as they are warned
- E. Told about net, scattering, remnant, declare abomination
- F. Would believe it - King on throne, wall to protect, you are the city of God.

III. Let's now look at some details of the story.

- A. First is the absolute accuracy of the word of the Lord
1. A formula used by Isaiah, Jeremiah and first time by Ezekiel
 2. Courageously told ^{Jerusalem} Jeremiah it had no hope
 3. Our job to reveal whatever it says
- B. Next eyes and ears
1. Four times called a rebellious house.
 2. Many used blinded eyes
 - a.) John - John 12:40
 - b.) Paul - Acts 28:27
 - c.) Jesus - Matthew 13:13

3. All men have organs to receive the truth.
4. Most brutalized sinner was once an innocent child.
5. The degraded can be aroused and restored.
6. Some however, willfully blind themselves.
7. Eyes that won't see and ears that cannot hear - dire results of sin.
8. God gave human liberty and responsibility
9. Not want of grace that brings destruction.
10. This reminds Ezekiel of their perversity lest he be discouraged.
11. It was perversity not incapacity.

C. The Pantomime

1. Stuff in day light

- Egypt*
- a.) Egypt for a journey
 - b.) Signified going into exile
 - c.) It was bare essentials
 - d.) Margin - instruments of captivity - necessities
 - e.) Teaches by example - illustrative action.

2. What would you take with you?
3. We cannot say concerning our dwelling place currently that it is our resting place. (Wesley).
4. We may be tossed far before we die.
5. Not secret - broad daylight
6. Purpose - may be they will consider.
 - a.) God's benevolent and hopeful
 - b.) Romans "some believe and some believed not"
 - c.) God's patient
7. Dig hole in wall
 - a.) Dare not try the gates
 - b.) Moved by the pain he felt so as to teach us.
8. Cover the face
 - a.) Disguise
 - b.) Avoid recognition.
 - c.) Sign of embarrassment
9. Ezekiel in captivity - thus done by a vision
10. Double meaning - Jerusalem will not escape and those in captivity will not soon be released.

- D. Did as he was commanded.
1. Ready to obey completely.
 2. God expects this.
- E. People ask - what are you doing? and get an answer.
1. Inquiry leads to a greater concept of truth.
 2. He's after the Prince.
 3. This will arouse the people when they see the King run
 4. The Prince becomes a porter
 5. Jonah, Jacob, Zedekiah all ran.
 6. David covered his face
2 Samuel 15:3
- F. God's Net
1. Guilty will not escape
 2. Power of choice abused - freedom withdrawn
 3. King caught - greatest of earth not beyond reach of God.
 4. Christ has a net
(Matt. 13:47) we best be caught in it as good fish
 5. In war, soldiers threw net over enemies.
 6. Babylon was God's instrument. Isa. 10:5
 7. King will be blinded.

- G. Scattered and told why
1. Babylon not only place they went.
 2. Remnant would ^{WARN} waver and confess their sins.
 3. We must try to be honest.
 4. We must try to reach wicked.
 5. Confess and declare "I am the Lord."
 6. Acknowledge justice of God
 7. Question then is not can God protect His own, but that he will punish the disobedient.

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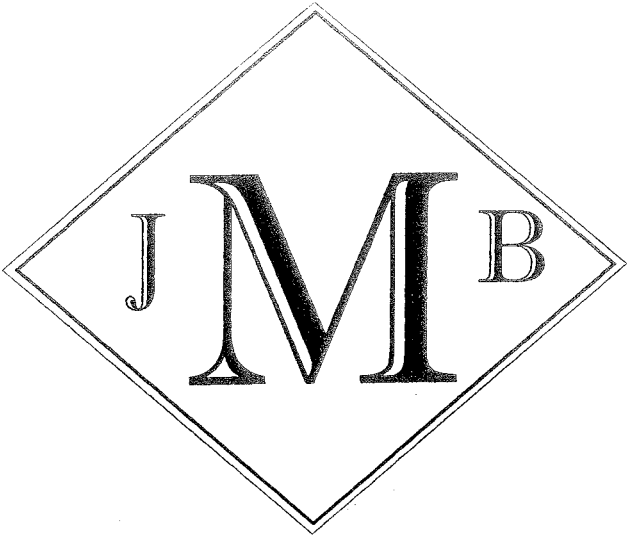
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FOUR CASES: AND WHO'S AT FAULT?

Ezek. 18:1-4

I. Man never wants to accept the blame for his action

A. We find the question asked, "Who sinned?" - usually answered, "Not me!" Jn 9

B. Gen. 3:12 has the classic - the woman thou gavest - two at fault - God & Eve before you ever got to Adam.

II. I'm aware of connected calamities *fathers have eat*

Jer. 31:29 "In those days they shall say no more, The

Lam. 5:7 "Our fathers have sinned, and are not, and *have borne their iniquity*

Exo. 20:5 "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, *visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, 3rd & 4th gen*

Exo. 34:7 "Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity *i b's*

Deut. 5:9 "Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them *i b's*

A. Lord punishes some.

Heb. 12:6 "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, &

B. Rain falls on all - just & unjust.

C. But am I at fault anywhere & is God's fair?

III. The Proverb - V. 2.

"The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the child

A. It was a common saying.

B. It implied a shrinking of the responsibility of guilt

C. It's exploded to bring home the private responsibility of one's own actions. They are not innocent. *every man shall be put to death for his own sin*

Deut. 24:16 "The fathers shall not be put to death for

IV. 4 cases cited. *his own sin*

A. It's the just man (V. 5-9).

1. He cites sins of the time & shows the righteous did not engage in them.

a.) Eat on the mt.

- 1.) Wrong place.
 - 2.) Wrong god worship - didn't stay in God's temple.
 - 3.) Worshipped idols.
 - b.) Lifted up eyes to idol.
 - 1.) Lustfully like adulterous man.
 - 2.) Longing after.
 - c.) No defilement of neighbor's wife.
 - d.) Came not near a **menstruous** woman.
 - 1.) That child would be **leprous** or epileptic.
 - e.) Oppressed **none**.
 - f.) Restored debtor his pledge.
 - 1.) Jew could not charge interest to fellow Jew.
 - 2.) He could foreigner.
 - 3.) Take no advantage of the poor.
 - g.) Spoiled none by violence.
 - h.) Gave bread to the hungry.
 - 1.) Not optional but required!
 - 2.) Neglect this is sin.
 - i.) Covered naked c a garment.
 - 1.) Modesty.
 - 2.) Cold.
 - j.) No usury.
 - 1.) Lit. usury = bite.
 - 2.) No advantage of neighbor's necessities.
 - k.) No iniquity.
 - 1.) Executed true judgement.
 - m.) Walked in statutes, kept judgements, dealt truly.
2. He's just - he'll live!

- a.) Religious duties.
- b.) Moral duties.
- c.) Negative & positive duties toward neighbor.
- d.) Duties of justice & benevolency.
- e.) Not enuf to do no wrong - must do good.

B. Son that's Bad (V. 10).

1. His crimes:

- a.) Robber.
 - 1.) Lit. "breaker".
 - 2.) Lays aside all constraint of right.
- b.) Shedder of blood.
- c.) Ate on Mt.
- d.) Defiled neighbor's wife.
- e.) Oppressed poor & needy.
- f.) Spoiled by violence.
- g.) Didn't restore pledge.
- h.) Lifts up eyes to idols.
- i.) Commits abominations.
- j.) Usury practiced.

2. Shall he live? - He shall not!

- a.) Had a good daddy.
- b.) Who was at fault?
- c.) "His blood be on him."
- d.) If men perish, it's because they will not change.
- e.) Can't escape because of Dad's piety.

C. Case #3 - 3rd generation (14-18).

- 1. He's a good guy from a bad father.
- 2. V. 17 He shall not die.
- 3. Daddy will.
- 4. They asked qt.: (V. 19-).

5. Soul that sinneth it shall die.

D. Case 4 - 2 Parts.

1. If the wicked turn (V. 21-23) he will live.

2. If the rt. backslide - he'll die (V. 24).

3. "Shall not be mentioned" a strong way of showing complete forgiveness.

IV. To every responsible person comes the call "Why die?"

A. God wants none separated.

B. God desires all.

C. Consequence of your deeds show lost or saved.

D. Repent -

1.) Think what you've done.

2.) Turn.

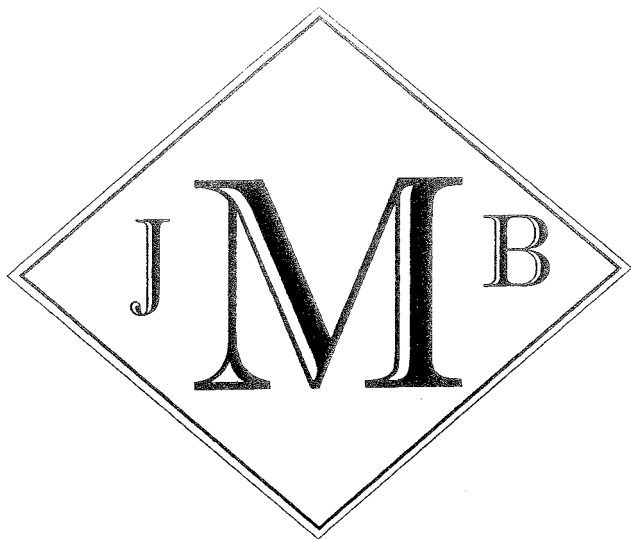
3.) Obtain mercy.

E. Present character determines future eternal estate.

F. God's merciful.

Isa. 55:7 "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the un-

West End 12-11-77



GOD'S STILL LOOKING FOR THAT MAN

Ezek. 22:29-30

- I. One of the remarkable things about God is that He ties some of His success or failure to us.
 - A. Men have come at the right time.
 1. Moses "stood in the gap".
 2. He "raised up" Judges.
 3. John was the Voice.
 - B. Tragically, there have been times when none came forward.
 1. It's proof of general corruption.
 2. Ezek. tells when there was:
 - a.) No city.
 - b.) No prince.
 - c.) No prophet.
 - d.) No priest.-- All failed Him.
 - C. Review the account.
 1. Conspiracy of prophets (V. 25).
 2. Priest violated law (V. 26).
 3. Princes like wolves (V. 27).
 4. Prophets daubed c untempered mortar (V. 28).
 5. People used oppression - grievous gap in moral state & feeling (V. 29).
People of land means w/o rank.
 - D. When folks told in God's name that there was no harm in what they are doing - tho it was sin - things are bad! No difference between holy & common.
 - E. Teacher, political leader, religious leader all prostituted their power & positions.

II. So in times like this, what did God do?

A. I sought for a man among them (V. 30).

1. Heb. word shows all classes mentioned - not just the prophets - all could have provided a leader & it was expected of them.

B. Duties of Sought Man.

1. Make up the hedge.

a.) How do this?

(1) Publicly oppose wrong.

Neh. 13:15-18 "In those days saw I in Judah some tre

(2) Go into mourning.

Exo. 32:10 "Now therefore let me alone, that my wra

Ps. 106:23 "Therefore he said that he would destroy th

Jer. 7:16 "Therefore pray not thou for this people, ne

(3) Put things in primitive condition.

2 Chron. 34 1-2 19-21

b.) God's got great hedges.

(1) Sound doctrine.

~~Acts 7:38 "This is he, that was in the church in the w~~

Prov. 4:2 "For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye n

Ps. 93:5 "Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness beca

(2) Pure worship.

Deut. 6:13-14 "Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and

(3) Good laws.

Ps. 19:7-11

(4) Good prophets.

Joel 2:17 "Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, v

2. Second duty, stand in gap.

a.) Gaps occur when

(1) Doctrine corrupted.

He that hath my word - speak faithfully³.
Jer. 23:28 "The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell
Ezek. 13:2-3 "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets
Jer. 14:14 "Then the Lord said unto me, The prophets
~~Jer. 12:16 "And it shall come to pass, if they will dil~~

(2) Worship corrupted.

Ezek. 5:11 "Wherefore, as I live, saith the Lord God;
Micah 6:16 "For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all

(3) Law perverted.

Micah 3:9 "Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the hou

(4) Men rotten.

Lam. 4:13 "For the sins of her prophets, and the iniqu

b.) We stand via:

(1) Prayer.

(2) Refutation.

(3) Reformation.

Ps. 106:23 "Therefore he said that he would destroy th

C. Sadly, Found None!

1. No intercessor came forward.

Ezek. 13:5 "Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neith

Jer. 5:1-6 "Run ye to and fro through the streets of Je

2. Wanted one who had sense of right or wrong.

3. When hedge down & gap down, God looks for
someone.

Isa. 70:16 "

Ps. 106:22 "Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and i

Nu. 16:47-48 "And Aaron took as Moses commanded,

D. Consequently, Judgement comes.

1. Morality is like a wall that shields people from
divine wrath.

2. When it breaks down, judgement enters.

3. So certain was judgement to come, God put it in past tense.

III. There are Inescapable Conclusions.

- A. We have power & authority - do we abuse it?
- B. We have a trust from God, will we use it wisely?
- C. Corruption spreads downward - start c leader & reaches people.
- D. Man's failures call for God's punishment.
- E. Today does He need me?

2nd Spiritual Intensive Care Workshop, Gateway Church, Southgate, Mich, 9-10-80

When a man who had just returned from his vacation complained about the rainy weather he'd had, a friend interrupted.

"It couldn't have been all that bad — look how sunburned you are."

"Sunburn, nothing," the unhappy vacationer replied. "That's rust."

i



Have a Lil Fun

from the
when the
and he had
or a batch
\$20 bills
since com-
on by his
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ecting hill
rt of the
s general
bills

PATIENT: "Doctor, is there anything wrong with me? Don't frighten me half to death by giving me a long scientific name. Just tell me in plain English."

Doctor: "Well, to be perfectly frank, you are just plain lazy."

Patient: "Thank you, doctor. Now please give me the scientific name for it so I can tell the family."

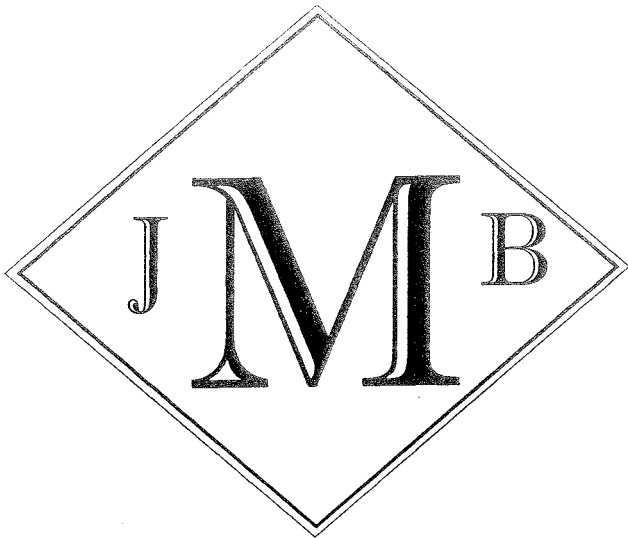
A grave responsibility of each individual Christian is well suggested in this story. It was told as a true story. I do not know whether it is a true story or not, but it well impresses the point. The scene of it is in the state of Kentucky. A man who had not lived as he should came to the end of the way. All of the people in the community were aware of the fact that his life was far from what it should have been. Regular arrangements were made, however, for his funeral, and a preacher who was known in the community was invited to preach it. In the meantime there were heard many expressions of sympathy and pity for the preacher, "What could he say at such a funeral?" When the time came the casket was rolled into the meeting house, the flowers were arranged, the songs were sung, and the preacher arose to begin his task, the nature of which had aroused much sympathy on the part of some of his hearers. The preacher began by reminding his audience of the fact that this man was beyond his reach, that his destiny was already deter-

mined, that there was nothing that he could say or do that would influence it in the least. He also mentioned the fact that these people knew this man's life and that they knew in the light of their Bible understanding that he was going to a hopeless grave. As is generally the case under such circumstances, the speaker turned his attention to the living. He asked them a personal question, a question that no doubt caused those who had sympathized with the speaker in his very difficult situation to shift their concern to themselves: "I would like to know which one or ones of you are responsible for this man's going to a hopeless grave?" This was an extremely searching question. It revealed a responsibility in which some or someone had failed.

from "God's Plan and Me, Book III"

by J. Ridley Stroop

pages 104-106



COMPONENTS OF LEADERSHIP

Ezek. 22:30

I. I know of few issues & needs today as imperative as leadership.

A. The world says:

i. "The church has always prospered most when it has been blessed with strong and spiritual leaders who expected & experienced the touch of the supernatural in their service. The lack of such men is a symptom of the malaise that has gripped it. The clarion voices that used to make the pulpit the paramount influence in the land are tragically few. In a world aflame, the voice of the church has sunk to a pathetic whisper. It is the binding duty of those in positions of leadership to face up to the situation & do all in their power to see that the torch of truly spiritual leadership is passed on to younger men".

O. J. Sanders Pg 17

"Spiritual Leadership"

B. God says:

Jer. 4:25 "I beheld & lo there was no man"

Jer. 5:1 "Run yet to & fro thru the st. of J.

Ezek. 22:30 "I sought for a man among them

...to stand in the gap ... I found none."

C. And so the cry:

"Give me men to match my mountains,
Give me men to match my plains,
Men with empires in their purpose,
Men with eras in their brains."

II. What is it we are looking for - what is leadership?

A. "We've got elders, deacons, preachers!"

"It occurs to me that perhaps the best test of whether one is a qualified leader is to find out whether anyone is following him." D. E. Hoste

B. What is leadership?

1. "Leadership is influence, the ability of one person to influence others." Sanders

2. "Leadership is the capacity and will to rally men & women to a common purpose, and the character which inspires confidence. Field Marshall Montgomery

3. "A leader is a man who knows the road, who can keep ahead, & who can pull others after him".

John R. Mott

4. "A leader is a person who has the ability to get others to do what they don't want to do, and like it."

Harry Truman

5. "There are only three kinds of people in the world - those that are movable, those that are unmovable, and those that move them". Li Hung Chang

6. "The real qualities of leadership are to be found in those who are willing to suffer for the sake of objectives great enough to demand their wholehearted obedience."

Paul E. Sangster

C. Against this dismal but honest background I ask for change as we see duties, traits, enemies and goals of leadership.

1. People in 3 groups: those who watch things happen, those who wonder what happened, and those who make things happen. J. W. Newburn

"How to Sell Your Way to Financial Freedom"

III. 1st what are traits, ingredients, abilities, commitments essential to able leadership?

I want to avoid the Bramble bush

(Judges 9:8-15).

A. Godly

Ps. 75:7"God is the judge-puts down 1,sets up a.

B. Growing

1. Reads & studies the Bible.

Prov.18:15"The heart of the prudent getteth know.
The ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

a) 18,344 HS students tested:

10,000 could not name apostles.

12,000 could not name 4 gospels.

16,000 could not name 3 prophets.

b) Adults could not repeat Lord's prayer, 10 Commandments, 23rd Psalm - a majority of them.

c) Make a survey - the average person excels in nothing.

Vern Jacobs

d) Average person = level of sophomore in HS.

2. Prays

a) "If I wished to humble anyone, I should question him about his prayers. I know nothing to compare with this topic for its sorrowful self confessions."

C. J. Vaughan

b) Dee Wilkerson prayed & Sue Sinclair asked, "what's he trying to do, go over the head of the elders."

C. Humble

Jer. 45:5 "Seekest thou great things for thyself?"

1 Pet. 5:5 "Clothed (aproned) with humility"

D. Example

1 Pet. 5:3 "Neither being lords over God's hert."

1 Jn. 2:6 "He that saith he abid. in him ought"

1 Tim. 4:12 "Be thou an exam. of the believers"

1. Tell me how to tie a tie.

2. Demonstrate it.

E. Cares

Prov. 27:23 "Be thou delig. to know the state of thy flocks, look well to thy herds."

Acts 15:36 "Let us go again & visit our br. in every city...and see how they do".

1. Better bring his own Dad.

D. Works

Matt. 9:36-38 Labors (lit. one in fields) not A/C.

Matt. 11:1 "Jesus departed thence to teach & pr."

1. Story of boys, all quiet playing war. Why? "We are all generals. We can't get anyone to do the fighting".

E. Accepts Responsibility. (Involves much)

1. "My decision to attempt, my decision to cancel, the responsibility is fully my own" - 4/25/80
Jimmy Carter - Failed Rescue
2. Involves time - 60,000 trained terrorist by Russia to attack targeted installations - Roy Sawyer.
3. Available
4. Prudent - competent
5. Restraint
6. Integrity

Mal. 2:6-7 (Read)

7. Tact

F. Teachable

1. Doesn't know it all.
2. Goes to lectureships, workshops.

Ps.119:98-100 (Read)

Prov.12:15 "The way of a fool is right in his

He that harkeneth unto counsel is wise"

Prov.13:18 "Poverty & shame shall be to him ref.

IV. Goals of LeadershipA. Set some.

Neh.2:17 "Let us build up the wall that we - reproach

1 Kings 8:43 "That thou may know that this house called by thy name"

Prov.13:19 "The desire accomplished is sweet"

1. Vision
2. Hope (Vermont story) - Bridge
3. Optimism
4. Persistence
5. Create morale-(lower than the instep of a duck)

B. Inform

Prov.15:23 "A word spoken in due season, how good it is"

Ecc.3:7 "A time to keep silence, a time to"

Prov.20:28 "Mercy & truth preserve the King"

Prov. 15:2 "The tongue of the wise uses know."

1. Tell the women what's going on.
2. Little confidential.

Col.4:7-9 (Read)

Exo.35:1 "These are the things God has c.you do

3. Communicate

C. Equips

Eph.4:11-12 "And he gave some"

Perfecting - work - edifying - unifying

1. Repair, adjust, fit, mend, join together.

1 Thess.3:10 "Might perfect that which is L."

2. Set a joint - can't work with broken thumb!
3. Cabbage & gold story Eldorado
4. Unify - garbage truck sticker
"Satisfaction guaranteed or double your garbage back"
5. Evaluate regularly - didn't sell anything. (Clip)
6. Commend generously.

Prov.27:21 "As the fining pot for silver & the furnace for gold; so is a man to his pr.

7. How many have received a letter of praise for an elder; written one?
8. Memo clip.

D. Delegate Responsibility.

1. Jr. wants VP's place. - see under *Kelley*

V. Duties of Leadership

A. Make decisions are hindered by:

1. Confused - Send earthquake
2. Hurt - no one desire
3. Unpopular
4. Too busy
5. Coward
6. Ignorant — *Montgomery Card*
7. Pride — *Sanders Card*
8. Dilatory

a) Robt. L. Stevenson called safety security that "dismal fungus".

b) "The frontiers of the Kingdom of God were never advanced by men and women of caution".

Mrs. H. K. Moule

B. Decisions vary

1. Bad - Acts 26:9 *I verify that c myself*
2. Courageous - Acts 4:13 "When they saw"

2 Chron. 32:7-8 (Read)

3. Honest "If truth be banished from all the rest of the world it ought to be found in the heart of the princes" (French King).
4. Fair
5. Scars - Gal. 6:17

C. Must stay abreast.

2 Tim. 4:13 "Bring c thee the books, but esp."

1. Biographies
2. Lectureship volumes - Moule card.
3. Sermon books

4. "Read not to contradict or confute nor to believe & take for granted, nor to find talk & discourse, but to weigh & consider. Some books are to be tested, others to be swallowed, & some few to be chewed & digested. Histories make men wise; poets, witty; the mathematics subtle; natural philosophy deep; moral, grave; logic & rhetoric, able to contend."

Francis Bacon

5. Listen - Prov.19:20 "Listen to counsel
6. Brainstorm

Prov.15:22 "W/o counsel purposes are disappointed, but in the multitude of counsellors they are established."

7. Hear critics (Maude's letter).

Prov.15:5 "He who regards reproof is prudent"
15:10 "He who hates it will die"

E. Rebuke

2 Tim.3:16 "All Scripture is given by"

F. Follow thru

1. Involves his executive ability.

Isa.30:18 "The Lord is a God of judgement"

2. Means methods, order, system.

Acts 20:28 "Take heed therefore unto yourselves"

G. Recognize in others abilities of and limitations.

1. ~~Twilight sleep - Labor - Management~~
2. ~~Lost train of thought.~~

VI. Enemies of Leadership

A. Pride

Prov.16:18 "Pride goeth before destruction"

Prov.16:5"Everyone that is proud in h. abom.
Jer.17:5-6 (Read)

"One of the outstanding ironies of history is the utter disregard of ranks and titles in the final judgements men pass on each other. The final estimate of men shows that history cares not an iota for the rank or title a man has borne, or the office he has held, but only the quality of his deed and the character of his mind and heart."

Samuel Brengle

B. Jealousy

Nu.11:28" My Lord Moses, forbid them!"

V-29 "would that all were prophets"

Nu.12:2-3 "Hath the Lord spoken only to"

Nu.16:3 "You take too much upon you"

(Blooming Kid)

C. Laziness

Prov.18:9"He who is slack in his work is
brother to him who destroys"

"The heights by great men reached & kept
Were not attained by sudden flight;
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night!"

D. Ambition

Jer.45:5"Seeketh thou great things for thyself"

Mk.10:42-43 Great - serve

1. Coronation vs crucification.
2. ~~Ambition is Latin for canvassing for promotion.~~
3. ~~"Even a little authority is prone to turn the seemly walk into the offensive strut".~~

4. Egotism

If successful don't crow
If defeated don't croak

5. Remember others are not 2nd class - don't withhold.

Prov.15:7 "The lips of the wise disperse know.
but the heart of the foolish doth
not so".

2 Chron.26:17-21 (Read) (1 Sam.13:12-14)
(Uzziah) (Saul)

E. Rationalization

1. Pass the buck.
2. God held Moses responsible for the people.

Exo.16:27-28 (Read) Manna

3. Navy "It didn't happen on my watch"4. Compromise (Stand on dictionary)

Exo.8:2-26 (Review)

10:11

10:24-26

F. Fear1. Don't know enough.

Jer.10:21 "For the pastors are become brutish
and have not sought the Lord"

2. Failure

1 Cor.9:27 "Buffet body - castaway

3. Lonely

2 Tim.1:15 "All they which are in Asia turned"

4. Weariness "The world is run by
tired men". Ps.90:12 - no. days5. Criticism, Rejection

~~Highly important~~ card

VII. How now will we respond.

- A. "Leadership is of utmost importance. Indeed, there is no substitute for it. But leadership cannot be created or promoted. It cannot be taught or learned."

~~Peter Drucker "The Practice of Management"~~

1. He says the task of the organization is to create the conditions under which potential leadership qualities become effective.
2. "Look ye out among you" spirit.
3. "~~Selfless dedication~~" was Eisenhower's term for qualities necessary plus courage, persuasiveness, competency.
4. Add decisiveness and compassion and we are on our way to get a leader.

B. Of Jesus

Mk.7:37 "He hath done all things well"

Life is a leaf of paper white
Whereon each one of us may write
His word or two, and then comes night.

Greatly begin! though thou hast time
But for a line, be that sublime --
Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

James Russell Lowell

Columbus, OH Christian Workshop - 3/6/87
Training for Service Series, Troy, TN-4/13-4/14/87

THERE HAD been several earthquake shocks in the area, so an anxious couple sent their son to stay with an uncle who lived some distance away. Two days later the couple received this telegram: "Am returning boy. Send earthquake."

X Substitution *over*

The vice president of a large corporation died suddenly, and a brash junior executive asked the president: "Do you suppose I could take his place?"

"It is fine with me," the president answered, "if you can arrange it with the undertaker."

— *Pulpit Helps*

Blooming Kid

We teach our kids to be polite
As much as we are able,
But dinner guests who came last
night

Must think we run a stable.
Our small son asked, "Who had
a fight?

There's flowers on the table!"

Nova Trimble Ashley

TWO SALESMEN met on the elevator as they were leaving work for the day. "What sort of day did you have?" the first one asked.

"I had a great day," his friend said, "established a lot of goodwill for the company all over town. How did you do?"

"I didn't sell anything either," his friend said.

over

Religion, Philosophy

I asked a preacher, "How are you getting along?"

He said, "We are living in idolatry — just sitting around admiring our new church. We have arrived; we have it made — no more worlds to conquer."

What ought to be a milestone has become a millstone. We have run out of goals.

Vance Hammer

"Calling by number" speeds up telephone service, but we recently ran across a case which presented an unforeseen difficulty. A little boy asked Information for the number of the local movie theater.

When operator gave it to him and then added, "You will find that number listed in your telephone directory."

"I know," replied the little boy in a small voice, "but you see, I'm standing on it."

PAGE 7

Concentration

In the closing days of the session, a legislator, in full oratorical flight, paused for a question. Then, about to resume, he looked momentarily flustered and said, "Mr. Speaker, I've lost my train of thought."

An observer in the balcony whispered to a friend, "On his train of thought, the caboose comes right behind the locomotive."

— *James Dent*,

Secret of Good Leadership

Two words - "Good decisions"

Fine - but how do you make good decisions?

One word - "Experience"

Fine - but how do you get experience?

Two words - "Bad Decisions"

Business

Labor

A harried business executive went to his physician to get a prescription for sleeping pills, only to find that he was allergic to sedatives.

"What about some of that twilight sleep I've heard about?"

"Oh, that's only for labor," was the doctor's reply.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed the executive, "haven't you anything for management?"

Leadership

A reinforcing memo can help you make sure that an employee's good work is repeated. When someone does something that's clearly above and beyond the call of duty, a brief note to him/her — saying *thank you*, pinpointing the behavior you're praising and explaining why that behavior is important — will make the recipient more likely to repeat the exceptional performance. *Reason:* There's a permanence to a memo that goes beyond verbal praise. *Refinement:* If the work done deserves long-term recognition, put a copy of the memo in the employee's personnel file . . . and make sure that person knows you're doing so.

— HOW TO MOTIVATE
PEOPLE,

— Fran Tarkenton



Baby

A young couple had a loving relationship with their little boy, who especially looked forward to the time each day when his father came home from work. The youngster's father took time to play with his son; their love for each other was obvious.

One day his mother approached the little fellow with what she considered great news: "You are going to get either a little sister or a brother. Isn't that wonderful?"

He frowned and put his head down. "Not a sister. A brother."

He looked thoughtful. "And he'd better bring his own Daddy."

— Grit

Check

Fishman said to his new secretary, "Miss Dandridge, always add a column of figures at least three times before you show me the result."

The next day she came in with a big smile. "Mr. Fishman," she said, "I added these figures ten times."

"Good. I like your thoroughness."

"And here are my ten answers."

Lord Montgomery enunciated seven ingredients necessary in a leader in war, each of which is appropriate to the spiritual warfare: (1) He should be able to sit back and avoid getting immersed in detail. (2) He must not be petty. (3) He must not be pompous (4) He must be a good picker of men. (5) He should trust those under him, and let them get on with their job without interference. (6) He must have power of clear decision. (7) He should inspire confidence.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP - Sanders - P. 23-24

Leadership

Time can be lost, but it can never be retrieved. It cannot be hoarded, it must be spent Nor can it be postponed If it is not used productively it is irretrievably lost, as these lines which were engraved on a sundial assert:

The shadow of my finger casts
Divides the future from the past;
Before it stands the unborn hour
In darkness and beyond thy power;
Behind its unreturning line
The vanished hour, no longer thine;
One hour alone is in thy hands,
The NOW on which the shadow stands.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP Sanders -P.87

In a later age, in the sixteenth century, a request curiously similar was made by a true disciple of St. Paul's, that great Christian and great Englishman, William Tindale, whose translation of the New Testament is practically the basis of our versions of to-day, Authorized and Revised. In 1535, immured by the persecutor at Vilvorde, in Belgium, he wrote, not long before his fiery martyrdom, a Latin letter to the Marquis of Bergen, Governor of the castle. 'I entreat your lordship, and that by the Lord Jesus, that if I must remain here for the winter you would beg the Commissary to be so kind as to send me, from the things of mine which he has, a warmer cap; I feel the cold painfully in my head. Also a warmer cloak, for the cloak I have is very thin. He has a woollen shirt of mine, if he will send it. But most of all, my Hebrew Bible, Grammar, and Vocabulary, that I may spend my time in that pursuit.'

-H.C.G. Moule

Studies in II Timothy, pg.158-159

Dr. John R. Mott moved in student circles and his tests covered different territory: (1) Does he do little things well? (2) Has he learned the meaning of priorities? (3) How does he use his leisure? (4) Has he intensity? (5) Has he learned to take advantage of momentum? (6) Has he the power of growth? (7) What is his attitude to discouragements? (8) How does he face impossible situations? (9) What are his weakest points?

Lytton Strachey wrote of Florence Nightengale:

It was not by gentle sweetness and womanly self-abnegation that she brought order out of chaos in the Scutari Hospitals, that from her own resources she had clothed the British Army, that she had spread her dominion over the serried and reluctant powers of the official world; it was by strict method, by stern discipline, by rigid attention to detail, by ceaseless labor, by the fixed determination of an indomitable will. Beneath her cool and calm demeanor, there lurked fierce and passionate fires.

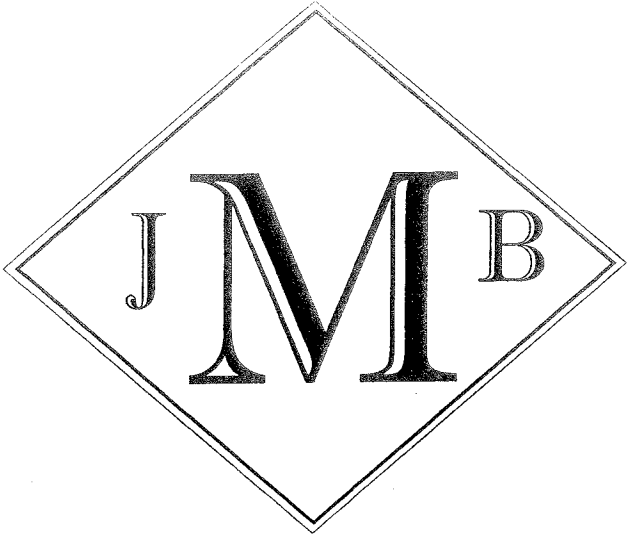
SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP - Sanders- P.46

A friend of ours motoring in Vermont last week end got lost on one of the back roads and pulled up to a farmhouse to ask directions to Bennington. The farmer in residence leaned comfortably on the side of the car and proceeded to cooperate at length. "You just go a few miles more up this road until you hit a dirt road, skip the next crossroad, and turn right on the crossroad after that. When you cross a bridge on this road, turn left at the next crossroad. From there on, you won't have any trouble at all." Our friend thanked the farmer, but the latter made no move. He just kept leaning on the side of the car. Finally, our man said firmly, "I've got to go now. I'm in a great hurry." "No need to be," the farmer said. "That bridge I told you about is washed out."

Challenge Plus Know-How

There is power in a good example. We can learn things we never dreamed possible when *someone shows us how*. Recently, Professor Sid Buzzell, of the Christian Education Department of the Dallas Theological Seminary, asked me to teach a short course on leadership. During one of the lessons, I asked if there was a girl in the group who had never tied a man's necktie. One young lady raised her hand. I left the podium and walked over to her. I asked her to listen carefully as I explained this very simple process.

“First you hang the tie over your neck with the wide end on the right. Next you pull the wide end down until it is much lower than the narrow end. Then you swing the long wide part up through the gap left between your left wrist and the narrow end and throw it over the top, making sure that you keep a firm grip at the point where the narrow end and the top of the wide end meet. Then put the long wide end down through the ‘V’ that is formed by the two ends. Then you again throw the long wide end over the top of the point where your thumb and index finger are grasping the top of the two ends and shove it up through the ‘V’ and then down through the knot, and pull it to its full length and straighten the knot.”



THE FORGOTTEN FLOCK
Ezekiel 34:1-10

- I. Some sermons we preach with fear and trembling.
 - A. It may contain inappropriate accusations.
 - B. It may be viewed as a personal attack.
 - C. It may immediately introduce a resistance by the use of one word--shepherds.
 - D. It may endanger the welfare of the one who preaches it.
 - E. It may only partially be heard as we turn it off in the very introduction.
 - F. Nevertheless, if it is truth, needed and can be helpful, it must be preached.
- II. For all of us there is distress about the current condition of the church.
 - A. Like flock of old this one is scattered on a "dark & cloudy day"(Ezek. 34:12).
 - B. We place blame at many feet.
 1. Elders not shepherding.
 2. Preachers not preaching fully.
 3. Members either ignorant or indifferent.
 4. Times in which we live--and all may be right as to causes.
 - C. Irrespective of who we are--elder, deacon, preacher, teacher, member, I believe we can do better.
 - D. I believe with the help of God we can turn a cloudy and dark day to one of sunlight.
 - E. But before it is done we must face our own individual condition.

F. I hope by seeing any parallel of Ezek. 34:1-10 we can see ourselves, I read now this text.

III. As Israel Faced Their Cloudy Day of Calamity we find certain things. This chapter similar to Jeremiah 23.

A. It is 1st the word of God that comes to man.

1. It's then the truth.

2. It is God's evaluation.

3. It is man's duty to face and correct it.

B. Against Shepherd Prophecy

1. Before even seeing the identity of Shepherds note God's loving concern for the Flock.

2. Shepherds

a) Well, I'm not an elder so no thoughts here for me."

b) O.T. shepherds are Kings, civil rulers.

c) We are Kings.

Rev. 1:6 "And hath made us Kings & priests"

d) Thus I speak to all of us.

e) Shepherds were leaders.

f) Position is a privilege.

g) You possess power as you deal with some no one else can touch.

h) Position--even by age--comes because of superior knowledge, skill and fitness to do the job.

i) This whole section reflects what rulers do.

C. "Woe" -- Because:

1. Much expected--little given.2. Offenses cited

a) Feed themselves.

(1) Put self above anyone.

(2) Neglect others for own comfort.

(3) All efforts to enrich self.

(4) Care more for fleece than flock.

(5) Took no care to instruct the ignorant.

(6) Qt. "Should not the shepherds feed the flocks?" (v-2)

b) Eat fat--took all the milk.

c) Cloth with wool.

d) Kill the fat--feed not flock.

e) Diseased not strengthened as hungry not fed nor sick tended.

f) Sick not healed.

g) Broken not bound.

(1) Fell & maimed themselves.

(2) Appropriate treatment not given.

h) Driven away not brought again.

i) Lost not sought--give no heed to them but shut self up in palaces.

j) Ruled with force & cruelty.

k) Scattered, no shepherd,

Matt. 9:36

no bond of unity felt.

(1) Became meat for beast.

John 10:11 "The good shepherded gives his"

(2) Scattered on hill & mt.--
none searches as guilty
of neglect.

IV. Because of these 10 Crimes God Acts
(v 7-10) (what real Kings do)

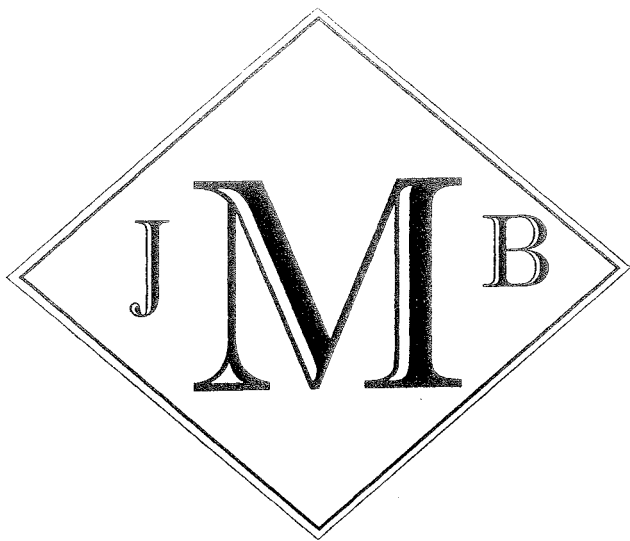
- A. God provoked to anger as he saw folk who lived to/and for themselves not God or others.
- B. He flatly states we are responsible for others.

v-10 "I will require my flock at their hand"

- 1. Solemnly God holds us responsible as our brother's keeper.
- 2. All, Kings & private people, give account unto God.
- 3. Every neglect of well being of flock is noted by God.
- 4. Every place of honor is one of responsibility.
- 5. God places us there and selfish neglect draws down this displeasure.
- 6. He rewards the faithful.

C. I Will Deliver

- 1. We need to act as God acts.
- 2. Society is no better than its leaders-- God at the top.
- 3. Relieves bad shepherds of their duties.
- 4. Note the "I wills" as God takes over.



LEADERSHIP
Ezek. 34:1-10

- I. Leadership has Friends
 - A. Much desired.
 - (The trouble with being a leader today is you can't be sure whether the people are following or chasing you. (#1)
 - B. Obviously essential
 - 1. All in the back seat. (#2)
 - 2. Ike and Integrity. (#3)
 - C. Success heralded.
 - 1. Peterson card (#4)
 - D. Gratefully acknowledged.
 - 1. Schuller card (#5)
 - E. Born of God
 - 1. Enthusiasm, infectious, vision.
 - 2. 7 characteristics Success (#6)
 - 3. Goal obsessed (#7)
- II. Like other things, has Enemies.
 - A. Resultant Failure
 - 1. Ike & string (#8)
 - 2. Callahan card (#9)
 - B. Claimants that are not.
 - 1. We can't all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by.
Will Rogers (#10)
 - 2. Small men and big shadows. (#11)
 - C. Destroyed by Fear, Laziness and Timidity
 - 1. Potato decisions (#12)
 - 2. Iacocca (#13)

D. Hurt by Selfishness

1. Richardson & Ike (#14)
2. Stafford bulletin (#15)
3. Kelly story (#16)
4. Tucker card (#17)

E. Assaulted by the Indifferent

1. Gerald Turner quote (#18)
2. David Wells (#19)
3. Jack Lewis card (#20)

III. Now read Ezek. 34:1-10

IV. 7 questions to answer (#21)

Berry's Chapel - 8/26/06

#3

In order to be a leader a man must have followers. And to have followers, a man must have their confidence. Hence the supreme quality for a leader is unquestionably integrity. Without it, no real success is possible, no matter whether it is on a section gang, a football field, in an army, or in an office. If a man's associates find him guilty of phoniness, if they find that he lacks forthright integrity, he will fail. His teachings and actions must square with each other. The first great need, therefore, is integrity and high purpose. — DWIGHT D EISENHOWER

Quote

Wilfred A. Peterson best illustrates this point in his essay on leadership, "A leader," he said, "is interested in finding the best way--not in having his own way."

#4

"They Call Me Coach" - By John Wooden - Page 122

Leadership

And what is leadership? Leadership is thinking ahead, planning for the future, exhausting all possibilities, envisioning problems and dreaming up solutions to them, and then communicating the possibilities and the problem-solving ideas to the decision makers. This is leadership.

#5

"Your Church Has Real Possibilities!" - By Robert H. Schuller

Page 49

#6

Leadership

Seven characteristic actions of ideal leaders:

1. Never separate the word "accountability" from "responsibility."
2. Always seek advice and criticism to gain new insights into performance and the goals set.
3. Recognize the situations where a little extra effort is required.
4. Maintain enthusiasm in any circumstance.
5. Have the foresight to continually plan and think ahead.
6. Understand how to prioritize amid a wide variety of daily choices.
7. Love to win, and, at the same time, accept the risks involved in losing.

— *SUCCESS!*

The best leaders are goal obsessed, even when the goal isn't altogether clear. The leader is always thinking about *what* should be done and *how*, in terms of both life goals and organizational attainment. Effective leaders have a mental picture of themselves as they would like to be in the future — an intense striving for personal purpose that translates into striving for organizational purpose. Leadership is distinct from setting objectives and definable goals and then striving for them.

— Boardroom Reports

#7

Quote

Leadership #8

General Eisenhower used to teach leadership with a simple piece of string, says *Today's Supervisor*. He would put it on a table and say, "Pull it and it will follow wherever you wish. Push it and it will go nowhere at all. It's just that way when it comes to leading people."

— Horizons

Every good thing in the world was once only a dream. Dream your own great dreams.

Luck comes to those who are prepared, but it's largely a matter of common sense and hard work. Lots of people have common sense, and if they are willing to work hard, they can achieve great success.

— John Marks Templeton

These four occasional alternative understandings of the nature of leadership are:

- manager (or administrator)
- boss (or benevolent, authoritarian dictator)
- enabler (or developmental process planner)
- charismatic inspirer (or motivator)

#9

Persons usually adopt one primary leadership perspective and yet occasionally find themselves enacting now one, now another. We do find that each understanding on occasion applies best to some particular situation because of the central truth implicit in that understanding of the nature of leadership.

From: The Nature of Leadership, Kennon L. Callahan
Pg. 39

MEN—Small—34

When small men begin to cast big shadows, it means the sun is about to set. — LIN YUTANG, *Personnel Jnl.*

Leadership

Vol. 54, No. 8

#11

26 - Leadership

#13

Decide, then act!

If I had to sum up in one word the qualities that make a good manager, I'd say that it all comes down to decisiveness. You can use the fanciest computers in the world and you can gather all the charts and numbers, but in the end you have to bring all your information together, set up a timetable, and *act*.

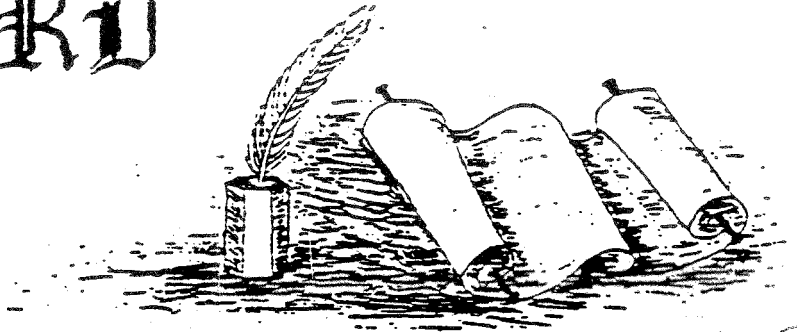
Lee Iacocca
Quoted by Al Ries and Jack Trout
Marketing Warfare
Reviewed in *Success*

THOSE who worked with President Dwight D. Eisenhower found him

#14
very bright, tough and commanding. But Ike liked to verbalize his leadership role in a softer way: "I am not one of the desk-pounding type that likes to stick out his jaw and look as if he is bossing the show. I would far rather get in the background and, recognizing the frailties and requirements of human nature, try to persuade a man to go along—because once I have persuaded him, he will stick. If I scare him, he will stay just as long as he is scared, and then he is gone."

—Elliot L. Richardson in foreword to *Command Decision and the Presidency*, by Gordon Hoxie
(Center for the Study of the Presidency)

AN ENCOURAGING WORD



#15

Leadership

Stafford Kamps

Attributes of a Leader

1. **DESIRE** - "Desire is the beginning for all achievement." Desire has allowed people to overcome overwhelming odds to accomplish what is seemingly impossible.
2. **ENTHUSIASM** - Enthusiasm is like a highly contagious disease that will spread quickly throughout the whole group. If you will be enthusiastic in the kingdom, you will infect others, who will infect others.
3. **VISION** - A good leader not only has vision but will encourage it in others. Many prospective visionaries have been blinded by a poor leadership that reacted negatively to something different.
4. **SELF-DISCIPLINE** - One cannot lead others until he has conquered himself.
5. **PERSEVERANCE** - Generally, it is not the most gifted and talented who succeed, but the one with the most determination.

A NEW EXECUTIVE went to his first high-level meeting. At the end of the conference table sat a fellow who, whenever a tough problem came up, would say something like, "Well, it never rains, but it pours" or "It's a long road that has no turning" or "If life gives you lemons, then make lemonade."

"Exactly what does that guy do?" the new exec asked a colleague after the meeting.

"He gives us our spirit of unity," was the reply. "We'd all like to strangle him."

—Joan Auer Kelly

Do you have a joke for "Laughter, the Best Medicine"? See page 1 for information about payment.

Leadership

#17

Church leaders blocked in their desire for change should recognize that they have not been appointed lords over God's dice (1 Peter 5:3). The Greek word translated "heritage" (klaron) is the word for dice or lots. In the Old Testament, God's people often discovered God's will by casting the lot. The idea was tht God is in control of even the numbers which appear face up on dice. The thought in 1 Peter 5:3 is that each member of the group over which a leader has responsibility is there by divine appointment—even the cantankerous ones. The leader's job is not to bully the onw who opposes him, but to be an example to him.

Leadership

THE CHURCH THAT DARED TO CHANGE

Michael R. Tucker - P 86

AN ADMINISTRATIVE PRINCIPLE #18

X "For any great event to come off successfully, there must be someone who gets up every morning thinking about it, spends much of each day working on it, and who thinks about it at night, sorting out the details and keeping tabs on what has and has not been done."

Dr. Gerald Turner, University of Mississippi Chancellor,
speaking of Chairman Jack Stuart's work
on "Dr. Aurthur Guyton Day"

Whenever we want to have a great gospel meeting, lectureship or special day, we need to remember that.

PRAYER BEFORE PREACHING

In my alphabetically arranged subject files, "prayer" comes just before "preaching." Whenever I look for either folder, I am reminded that prayer should always come before preaching in our practice also.

Leader Step

#19

Leadership

Genuine leadership in the Church, therefore, is not a matter of finding out what everyone wants and already knows and articulating it; genuine leadership is a matter of teaching and explaining what has not been so well grasped, where the demands of God's truth and the habits of the culture pull in opposite directions. . . .

Without real leaders, God's people are led by the pollsters—which is to say, they lead themselves. . . .

Genuine leaders often have to be different. They often have to articulate the truth of God's Word among those who do not fully understand its demands and implications. . . . there are many organizers and many managers but only a very few leaders.

David F. Wells, *No Place For Truth*

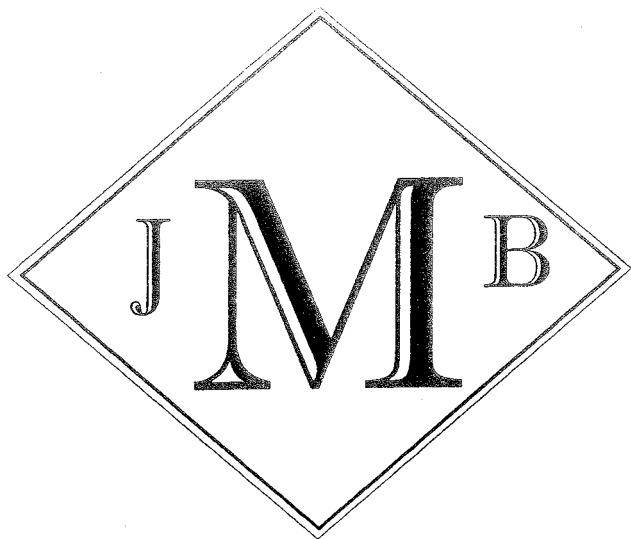
#20

#20

The relation of the shepherd and the sheep is a relation built on trust. "The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out" (John 10:3). There is a personal concern and care for the sheep. In our congregations where the shepherd looks over the departing congregation and comments, "I do not know all these people," this relation has broken down. In situations known to me where some prominent elders over a period of twenty years have never been in the home of members who attend regularly - not even at the time of death in the family, nor have had the members in theirs - the shepherd relation is lacking.

LEADERSHIP QUESTIONS CONFRONTING THE CHURCH

Dr. Jack P. Lewis - P.28



A LESSON IN SHEPHERDING

Ezekiel 34:11-31

I. We learn from the masters.

- A. Coach instructs us in athletics.
- B. Teachers guide us in computers.
- C. Artists give us of their skills & talents.
- D. How can one have a better teacher than God himself?
- E. The 34th chapter of Ezekiel shows us how God takes care of His own.
- F. Then should we be not as carefully concerned for our brothers and sisters in the church? Let us see God's feelings and measure ours as to its point of comparison.

II. The Pulpit Commentary gives a graphic characteristic of the Lost Sheep of Ezekiel 34.

- A. They originally were in the fold.
- B. They have gone to distant places.
 - 1. Old beliefs abandoned.
 - 2. Old ways are left.
 - 3. Duty neglected.
- C. They are scattered.
- D. They are lost in darkness on a "cloudy and dark day."
- E. They are suffering due to the neglect of shepherds.
- F. Though scattered they are still His sheep.
- G. Religious sunk to the formal and routine.

III. Next see God's search for them.

Read Ezekiel 34:11-16

A. This God will do.

1. God will search & seek.
 - a) Shepherds lost them, God will find them.
 - b) Their condition not a matter of indifference with God.
 - c) God is vitally interested in their welfare.
 - d) "For though deceived & led astray
We've traveled far & wandered long
Our God hath seen us all the way
And all the turns that led us wrong."
(Unknown)
2. He will bring them out (v-13).
 - a) Finds & restores.
 - b) Cloudy & dark day overcome.
3. Feed them (v-13).
 - a) On the mountains--prominent.
 - b) By the rivers--refresh them.
 - c) In all inhabited places.
 - d) Morals rise to mt. tops as we sing "Higher ground."
4. Protect them (v-14)
 - a) Their fold--perfect protection.
 - b) Lie in a good field.
 - c) East in fat pasture.
5. Care for them.
 - a) Bind the broken--as no necessity is uncared for.
 - b) Strengthen the sick.
 - c) Destroy fat & strong as unaffected by social position/as contrasts with broken.

5. Judge between cattle and cattle
(v-17).

- a) Not all treated alike.
- b) Individual treatment not group.
- c) Not judged by group but singularly.
- d) Thus judges between classes of people.
- e) Part of the blame lays with sheep that are thoughtless, greedy, pushy and beligerent.

B. God notices behavior of the Sheep(v-18).

1. Ate up good pasture without sharing.
2. Tread down with feet what they could not eat to spoil it for others.
3. Drank deep water then fouled it with feet for others.

C. Selfishness is the mother of many sent.

1. Cruelty practiced.
2. To enhance own joys they trample on rights of others.
3. Soil what they cannot use.

D. They pushed weaker ones around (v-21).

1. Thrust with side & shoulder.
2. Pushed diseased with horns.
3. Scattered them.
4. For us:
 - a) Our attitude?
 - b) Hurt weak.
 - c) Disclaim poor.
 - d) Abuse our power.

IV. There Will Be Showers of Blessings

A. Set Up One Shepherd.

1. I will save my flock (v-22).
2. I will do it by my Shepherd.

B. The Identity & Work of the One Shepherd--One Flock.

1. Jesus to come, did, and ever with us.
2. He's disappointment of the worldly.
3. He is appointed by God.
4. He ruled over flock--feeds & saves them.

(Shepherd favorite representation in Catacombs)

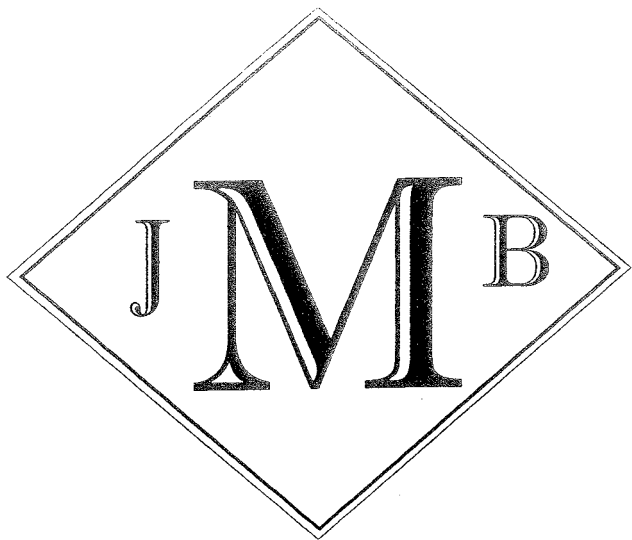
C. Benefits Shares

1. Covenant of peace.
 - a) Covenant is an agreement between two people.
 - b) Made by God; offered to man.
 - c) It is one of peace--between God and man; man and man.
2. Dwell safely in wilderness, sleep in woods.
 - a) Epitomizes safety.
 - b) Security & divine protection.
3. Sins Pardoned.
4. Capacity to feed & grow as enjoy spiritual plenty of all good things.
5. Plantation of renown.
(Read v. 26-29)

D. Great Conclusion.

(Read v. 30-31)

1. Can this be said of us?
2. Will we bow to Him?



WHAT LESSON IS THERE FOR ME?

Ezek. 40:1-5, 39-43

I. Truly, the Bible is alive.

A. God's message.

B. My road map.

C. My answer.

D. Pertinent - Relevant - Current.

E. All this I've gratefully heard & subscribe to.

1.) Not to human experience.

2.) Not to it becomes the word when it speaks to me

3.) Not that it's too difficult

Woman's role in church

(M. Davis said Power was clearer), out of step,
archaic.

F. But about that time we read in Devo. Ezek.

vision of temple - what's he saying for me?

II. Some obvious principles.

A. God wants to be worshipped.

1.) He's worthy of it.

2.) It's a benefit to man.

B. Adoration must please him to whom it's offered.

1.) Mother's Day gift pleases her.

2.) Aunt Lula & choc. candy.

C. There is a revelation as to specifics.

D. All talents are not equal, but all are vital &
loved.

1.) Priest.

2.) Carpenter.

3.) Artisan.

E. Cardinal to us is the Sacrifice.

1.) God provides life.

2.) Needs to be prominently seen.

F. Great to have a holy dream (bigger than our grasp).

G. I vocally & actively put **self** on God's side.

Christian Student Center 5-5-78

