

A FATHER'S EXHORTATION.

05-25-2025 PM

INTRO.:

A. Read the text: 1 Kings 2:1-4.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Solomon is selected to succeed his father on Israel's throne.
2. David, old and near death, gives Solomon a solemn charge.
3. David's charge involved two important facets of Solomon's life.
 - 1) Personal activities.
 - 2) Professional decisions.

I. HIS CHARACTER (V. 2).

A. "Be strong."

1. Challenges of his life and office would require strength.
2. Christians must be strong (1 Cor. 16:13; Eph. 6:10-17; 2 Tim. 2:1).
3. Strength cannot be maintained without food and exercise.
 - 3) Responsibility of preachers and elders to feed (1 Cor. 3:2-3; Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2).
 - 4) Individually, we must feed upon God's word (1 Pet. 2:2; Acts 17:11).
 - 5) Then we must use what we have learned - exercise (1 Tim. 4:7-8).

B. "Show thyself a man" (1 Cor. 16:13).

1. Courage and strength (1 Sam. 4:9).
2. Maturity would be needed.
 - 1) Need to be men in many ways.
 - a. Matt. 11:16.
 - b. 1 Cor. 13:11.
 - c. Eph. 4:14.
 - 2) This characteristic is needed in the Lord's church.

II. HIS FAITHFULNESS (VV. 3-4).

A. "Keep the charge of the Lord..."

1. Solomon's prosperity as a person and king depended on this.
2. Christians must keep the Lord's commandments (1 Cor. 11:2; 1 John 2:3-4; 5:2-3).
3. God's word is law, not just "love letters" (1 Cor. 14:37).

B. "As it is written" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

1. Jesus recognized the value of "it is written" (Matt. 4).
2. Christians must learn not to go beyond what is written (1 Cor. 4:6; Rev. 22:18, 19).

C. "Walk before Me in truth" (2 John 4; 3 John 3-4).

D. "With all their heart and all their soul" (Matt. 22:37; John 14:15, 21).

III. CONCLUSION:

A. If we would follow these principles, we will be better people.

B. Solomon did not always follow his father's advice. Both he and the nation suffered (1 Kings 11:3).