

MAKING YOUR SAVIOR YOUR KING

TEXT: 1Ch 12:38 *All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.*

THESIS: To show that the desire of every believer ought to be to make Christ the King/Lord of their life.

INTRO.: A. We are *against* “Lordship Salvation” but we are *for* making Christ the Lord of our life. In fact you may be a Christian, but you are not a good Christian unless He is the Lord of your life. (Since the Bible speaks of “carnal” Christians and “baby believers” it is obvious that not all Christians have made Him Lord.)

B. In the text verse the friends of David had *gathered* “*to make David King over all Israel.*” They had known him as their “savior” from the oppression of Saul & now they wanted to crown him their King. I would like to substitute the name of Jesus for “David” in our text, “...to make *Jesus* King...” We will attempt to glean some principles concerning what the Israelite soldiers did to make David King & apply them to us so we can make Jesus King...

I. VOLUNTEER FOR SERVICE: v.38a “...all these men...came...”

II.

A. A Subject Is Willing:

1. These men didn’t wait to be drafted or conscripted to serve, & they came from all over Israel. Cf.v.22
2. They came & offered themselves to fight David’s enemies, to expand his kingdom, to serve him in any way possible to enable him to be crowned King.

ILLUS.: Christians shouldn’t have to be badgered to serve the Lord after what He did for them. You ask a Christian to serve on a bus route or teach a S.S. class & they say: “Well, I’ll pray about it!” I was saved 6 months & went into the Army & as soon as I arrived in Germany a guy came to me & said you need to teach the adult S.S. Class; you’re the only believer avail.” If I said “No” it would have been taught by some unsaved man. I was happy to be asked & said “I’ll do the best I can!” Soldiers don’t question orders, they just say “**Yes, sir!**” A SUBJECT IS WILLING!

II. BE SINGLE HEARTED: “...were of one heart”

A. A Subject is Single-minded::

1. His one desire is to please the King.
2. There is no room for divided loyalty.

Mt.6:24 *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

ILLUS.: When your wife says to you “Do you love me w/all your heart?” & you answer “Well, I praying about it” - you’d better duck. If you ask her “Honey, do you love me w/all your heart?” and she says “I’m thinking about it” - maybe you ought to ask her “With what part of your heart do you *not* love me?”

What turns me off about pro sports is there is no loyalty. They sell themselves to the highest bidder. One thing I do admire is that they will play w/busted ankles, busted hands, painful injuries, while a mosquito lands on some saints nose & they can’t go to church or show up for their S.S. class or bus route.

I was going to school & a little church up in the country called me as their Pastor (I would go anywhere & preach anytime, in spite of a full schedule at school), & we had about 18 people & they grew to 25,30,50,75, 100+ & I counted it a blessing just to serve the Lord. You wouldn’t have been impressed w/the church, it had no plumbing (*indoor or outdoor!*) No bath, not even a path! But I was single-minded, I just was pleased to be serving the Lord! A SUBJECT IS SINGLE-MINDED.

III. USE WHATEVER YOU HAVE: (v.2)

A. A Subject Is Dedicated:

1. In order for the Savior to be Lord of your life, you must yield everything you have to Him.
2. These men came prepared for battle & had honed their skills & were willing to hazard their lives that David be crowned King.

3. The main thing was not their glory, but the King's glory, not their will but the King's will, not their desires but the King's desires.
 - a. They didn't come to argue over how to get the job done, they came to get David crowned King & were willing to do whatever it took.
 - b. They didn't come to *give* orders, but to *take* orders from the King.

ILLUS.: To make Jesus King or Lord in your life, you must be willing to yield yourself completely to His will, be willing to not get any glory for what you do for Him & be willing to give your life for Him if that's what He requires of you.

Think of the dedication it took to get all these Jews from all these tribes to agree to work together, not for their own benefit, but to make David King! They all had different skills, ideas, opinions and desires, but they were united in one purpose: to see the crown on David's head.

Wouldn't it be great if nobody in the church cared who got the credit or who got the certificate or pat on the back, as long as Jesus was Lord?! A SUBJECT IS DEDICATED.

IV. DEVELOP DISCERNMENT: (v.32)

ILLUS.: Every tribe contributed whatever they had to the cause of making David King but v.32 singles out the tribe of Issachar as being "*men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do...*" Some do the fighting, others do the planning. Leadership needs discernment. Note that there were 200 leaders who *knew "what to do...& all their brethren were at their commandment."*

A. Subjects Need Wisdom:

1. If Christ is to be Lord, then we must be willing to accept His wisdom.
2. He has given us His wisdom in a Book; as someone said it isn't that we don't know what to do, it's that we don't do what we know!
 - a. As with Issachar, a few have discernment, to keep the others on track.
 - b. Everyone doesn't have the same gifts nor the same wisdom.
 - c. God gives preachers w/discernment to warn the flock. (*According to Acts 20:28 Paul told the preachers there as he was leaving that the pastor's job was to **take heed** to the flock, **feed** the flock and **lead** the flock.*)
 - d. We need to study our Bible, but we also need to listen to counsel & respond to preaching/teaching. SUBJECTS NEED WISDOM.

V. KEEP RANK: v.38 (cf. v.33)

A. Subjects Don't Desert:

1. The grass on the other side of the fence is going to turn brown too! (*The reason that the grass is always greener there is that the devil has been there painting it!*)
2. If there is any outstanding quality of a soldier is that he knows how to keep rank:
 - a. He doesn't desert when the battle gets thick.
 - b. He doesn't look around to see how the other soldiers are doing.
 - c. He doesn't turn aside to skirmishes or disobey orders.
 - d. The Lord is looking for loyalty more than talent!
 - e. The Lord is more concerned w/you keeping rank than what rank you hold in the church. (Obedience, not promotion, is the soldier's object.)
 - f. If He is to be your King/Lord then He needs you where He assigns you doing what He desires...KEEP RANK!

ILLUS.: A good soldier respects the chain of command. If He is the Commander in Chief He expects & demands obedience. Imagine a soldier telling his commander how he thinks the battle should be fought! Every military man must *swear "to obey the orders of the Pres. Of the U.S. & the officers appointed over (him)."*

In the Bible we are told we must obey our Savior & "those who have the (spiritual) rule over us." Heb.7:7 & 13

- g. We have our “marching orders” called the Great Commission & a good soldier doesn’t change the battle plan, nor allow himself to get sidetracked.

CONCL.: It is one thing to accept Christ as Savior & quite another to make Him the King/Lord over our lives. But that is His desire. Over & over Paul speaks of Christ as “*our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ.*” Surely it is God’s will & purpose for Him to be every believer’s Lord! What part of your life are you holding out on Him?

Why not try “**MAKING YOUR SAVIOR YOUR KING?**” today? Surely you are not content w/only allowing Him to pay for your sins & take you to heaven w/out doing anything in return for Him or w/out allowing Him to rule your life.

Why not *volunteer* as David’s men did to crown him King? Why not *become a single hearted saint, use whatever you have for Him, develop some discernment & just keep rank?!*

A SUBJECT IS WILLING, SINGLE-HEARTED, DEDICATED, HAS WISDOM & DOESN’T DESERT his Master, Lord or King!