

UNITY Matthew 18; Ps 133; Ephesians 4

Called to be peace-makers; takes effort: Romans 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; Ephesians 4:3

Heartbeat of Jesus is soul winning; supreme call is Christ-likeness (out of which will flow His works – locally and worldwide); without Christ-likeness – what would we disciple souls into?

Proverbs 29:18; not just a revelation about an individual's future; we must have God's vision – accomplishing His cause will see your desires met; VISION is the revelation of His plans and purposes. Ephesians 4 & 1 Chronicles 12 – precious verses on unity. David was a man who was after God's heart and would do all His will (knew his destiny lay in God's plans)

1 Samuel 17 David sees the army of God being defied/intimidated by a giant (by one person) He stood up and spoke up; ridiculed by his brothers but word got to the king who knew David had guts to do it.. called him and tried to dress him up but someone else's armour won't fit. David went out and declared that God would deliver the giant in to his hand (1 Sam 17:38) and then in verse 47 'into our hands': team player; for OUR benefit.. He had built himself up.. first a rabbit, then a fox, then saved a sheep from a lion's mouth and then a bear.. for good works..

We are not saved by them but for them – sometimes there are giants to slay.

David had chosen 5 smooth stones (there were four other giants killed later)

Prophetically: remember David & Jonathon; shepherd boy and prince – had made covenant; Saul & Jonathon died and David remembered the covenant to care for Mephibosheth.

Remember Joseph & Moses.. often things don't happen as quickly as we would like, nor as we think they should. It was several years from Samuel's identifying/anointing him as king that David begin to reign and then was several years over a portion of the nation. 1 Chronicles 12 amazing story of those who came to him to 'make him king' – some had defected from Saul; some had fought David prior; some were Levites; some were farmers; some were wisest of wise; some were ambidextrous killers.. we need the Holy Spirit for *THE UNITY* of the church; the body of Christ, the army of God.

All these men were very different; same now but the common thread is that we are born-again believers with the common cause of His Kingdom – choosing not to argue over disputable issues; fully determined to make Christ King (Amen).. David was a type of Christ; a shadow – how much more can we see a unity begin to knit to make Christ King.

Perhaps it took those first 6 years for the others to humble themselves..

We have the opportunity to portray Christ as King on a united front. One day, there will be enough people in the river of God (staying in the Word and allowing the rough edges to be knocked off; laying down agendas; laying down personal preference – long enough to deal with pride so that we are the living stones – knit together) to come together as ONE. Ephesians 4:3 & 11-12 – mentions unity twice

5 smooth stones prophetically may represent a fivefold ministry.. in the river long enough to fit Christ's hand.. leaders need to stay in the river and not jump out.. crazy enough to stay in the middle of the river where things are not in your control but God's.. this same river flows and brings life wherever it goes..

Ephesians 4:2... BE COMPLETELY HUMBLE.. GENTLE.. PATIENT... BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER.. IN LOVE...

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DEAL WITH OUR PRIDE?

HOW LONG ARE WE TOSSED AROUND?

HOW LONG DO WE FIGHT FOR A FORT THAT IS TOO SMALL?

MAKE EVERY EFFORT.... Pride keeps some people in that place as a rough edge.. David had to deal with pride to have the humility he needed to be king.. violent men take the kingdom of God.. violent men who have the five aspects of character that will maintain the unity... even the harshest of words in Matthew 23 do we see then end in His gentleness longing to see them come under His wings.

Where did we see gentleness in David? Rescuing a sheep and bringing it to life... walking broken glass to see someone healed

Where did we see patience in David? Waited years

Where did we see bearing with one another in David? 12 tribes coming together (naturally impossible).. bore with them and fought for them..

Where did we see love in David? His amazing love for God.. this is where wisdom and understanding is found. He spent time with Him.

He chose 5 smooth stones. Let there be two or three witnesses over the word. Be in the middle of His will; not standing on the edge.

EVENING MEETING: THE WORD OF THE KINGDOM

What sword are you carrying.

John 8:31-32 It is the Word you hold to that makes you free; the hearing and doing; the application of; the persevering in that produces the results of the Word. Romans 10:17 – Faith comes: by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. HEARING.. ongoing and constant.

When you have the Word of Faith on any subject, you have the ability to apply the Word and then come the power. Ps 119:105 - Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path – it not just a weapon but gives direction and opens doors.

Ps 16:11 He has made known to us the path of life

Ps 1 meditate day and night

Matthew 28:18-20 Christ said to 'teach them to obey' Deuteronomy 30:11ff declares that it is not too difficult to serve the living God.. His Word is near; even in your mouth - for you and your children (v20)

There is great blessing in honouring the Word.

We preach the full gospel and with it come persecutions (from within and without) There must be the testimony of two or three witnesses.

Be disciplined to hear and hear again and Do..

See part one of chart worked through:

WORD OF THE KINGDOM (study coming soon)

Key Scriptures

SALVATION SCRIPTURES: **John 3:16; 3:3 Romans 3:23; 6:23; 10:9-10**

NEW CREATION: **2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:6-10**

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE STATEMENT: • 'The devil made me do it?' **James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8; Colossians 2:6-15; Ephesians 4:27 (not give place)**

FEAR & ANXIETY: **Psalms 34:4; Isaiah 41:10; 365x 'Fear not' Philippians 4:6-8**