



The Last Words of David

Kicking It Off

Was there anything from the sermon or the passage that stuck out to you?

Read

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Discussion Questions

1. The message was on 2 Samuel 23:1 – 7. Those seven verses were labeled as the last words of David. Dean said that “being a man after God’s own heart” a standout quality of David. - What stands out to you about David and why?
2. In the 2 Samuel 23:1 – 3, David repeats multiple times that what he is writing is coming from God. Dean used this as an example of David’s humility and relationship with God. What helps in his humility is in thinking less about himself and more about God. Then Dean quotes Deuteronomy 6:4 – 7, which is a basis of the Greatest Commandment spoken of by Jesus, where we are to love your God with all your heart/soul/mind and place them in your heart... to talk about God’s commands all the time. The following questions were posed. Please choose one and respond.
 - a. What occupies your mind/heart/soul most of the time... Jesus or _____?
 - b. Who gets the glory when you do things...Jesus or _____?
3. Dean spoke of Hebrew literature tools which Hebrew writers used to emphasize their main points. One used in Samuel was to begin and end the writing with the main theme... here being God and his sovereign power of everything. These were brought out as Hannah’s prayer in 1Samuel 2: 1 – 10, and the Last Words of David in 2 Samuel 23:1 – 7. Have someone read Hannah’s prayer and then another read the Last Words of David.
 - a. Compare what Hannah emphasizes vs what David emphasizes.
4. A puzzle was shown in various stages of completion, starting with one piece and ending with the completed puzzle. It was to show both the importance of one piece but also to show the purpose of the single piece was to be a part of the completed puzzle. Similarly, the purpose of every verse in the Bible needs to support the main theme of the whole Bible... God’s plan to redeem humanity and creation through Jesus Christ.
 - a. In this scenario, take the completed puzzle to be a picture of the church. You are one of the pieces. Now, if one piece of the puzzle were not added to whole puzzle,

the blank would be noticed. Do you see yourself as insignificant in the big picture of the church or do you see yourself having a role in the church which God preordained which makes your works significant in God's eyes (Ephesians 2:10)?

5. God revealed bits and pieces of his promises to David. This did not disturb David as he led a life of trust, faith, and obedience toward God. David went to God more than not to get direction. He placed complete control of his life in God's hands. Of the types of people below, select the one which dominates in your decision to make a commitment:
 - a. Holy Spirit led: Seek the Holy Spirit's leading. Once you believe it's from God...you'll commit, and through prayer and Bible reading be led by the Holy Spirit.
 - b. Count the Cost: Understand the commitment in terms of disruptions to your life. Look at time, money, energy commitments. Commit if your life schedule permits.
 - c. Non-committal: Knowing your life is over-scheduled, will not consider committing to anything unless absolutely necessary.
 - d. Cautious: Would like to commit more, but are by nature cautious. Unknowns and What-Ifs keep you from committing. Will commit once you get comfortable with the environment you are committing to.
6. In 2 Samuel 23:4, those who are under a leader who rules in the fear of God, will dawn on them like the morning light, sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, or like rain that makes grass sprout from the earth. - Share of a time when you experienced joy from one of these moments. What came to mind?
7. Dean spoke of interpreting God's Word as it was intended for the original audience...for 2 Samuel 23:1 - 7, that would be Hebrews who lived in David's kingdom around 1000 BC. - Do you interpret scripture as it was intended to the original audience before applying it to your life? If not, do you plan to in the future?
8. Saul was rejected as king over Israel by God because his fear of man. The topic of fear of God is very deep and includes knowing yourself and knowing God. Dean used a quote from the New Dictionary of Biblical Theology. The language of fear in the Bible is part of a larger picture of God's controlling and guiding purposes. God demands obedience, but he frees his followers from fear of circumstances, their enemies and everything else, so long as they fear (respect and honour) him... This fear puts other values into their appropriate perspective. (New Dictionary of Biblical Theology, ed. T.D. Alexander and B.S. Rosner, electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), 498)
Share either:
 - a. A recent experience where your fear of God prompted a decision and the outcome from it.
 - b. A recent experience where your fear of circumstances or man, overrode your fear of God. What was the outcome?
9. In 2 Samuel 7:4 -17, Nathan reveals all which God has done for David as well as including future promises to David. This makes David look to the future for an offspring who will be greater than he. David understands the past, dwells in the moment, with a hope that God's promises will be fulfilled. Select one from the list below, how others see you:

- a. A person who finds great pleasure in reliving past accomplishments
- b. A person who regrets decisions made in the past.
- c. A person who lives in the moment with no time to reflect in the past or future.
- d. A person who lives in the future...neglecting the here and now
- e. A person who lives in the moment, looking forward to God's promises.

Sermon Notes

2 Samuel 23:1-7

The Last Words of David

23 Now these are the last words of David:

*The oracle of David, the son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man who was raised on high,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the sweet psalmist of Israel:*

2

*“The Spirit of the Lord speaks by me;
his word is on my tongue.*

3

*The God of Israel has spoken;
the Rock of Israel has said to me:*

*When one rules justly over men,
ruling in the fear of God,*

4

*he dawns on them like the morning light,
like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning,
like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth.*

5

*“For does not my house stand so with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.*

*For will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?*

6

*But worthless men are all like thorns that are thrown away,
for they cannot be taken with the hand;*

7

*but the man who touches them
arms himself with iron and the shaft of a spear,
and they are utterly consumed with fire.”*