

Team Work

Two Are Better

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

Alex Haley (author of “Roots”) had a picture on his wall of a turtle sitting on a fence post. Caption: If you see a turtle on a fence post, you know he had some help.”

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Helen Keller

More _____ “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.” (v.9)

- **Two are BETTER** - good, better, best
- **“It is better”** (Bible references) - “to obey is better than sacrifice,” to hear the rebuke of the wise than hear the song of fools.

Seeing the “Better”

Psalms 84:10 “For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.”

Together: A Better Return

- **“Reward”** - worth, price, fare, or wages. **Profit.**

Proverbs 27:17 “Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.”

More _____ “For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!” (v.10)

- **“For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow...”** - safety precautions... just in case.

“I don’t need anybody!” - God disagrees

Genesis 2:18 “Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

“But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!”

- **Woe** - deep sorrow, grief, or affliction

More _____ “Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone?” (V.11)

Conserving Body Heat

“...if two lie together...” - not a reference to marriage intimacy. Think traveling companions when it is cold.

1 Kings 1:1-2 “Now King David was old and advanced in years. And although they covered him with clothes, he could not get warm. Therefore his servants said to him, “Let a young woman be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait on the king and be in his service. Let her lie in your arms, that my lord the king may be warm.”

More _____ “And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—(V.12)

Ecclesiastes 6:10 “Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what man is, and that he is not able to dispute with one stronger than he.”

“I don’t need anyone’s protection!”

David: Had God; but he also had his mighty men.

2 Samuel 23:9 “And next to him among the three mighty men was Eleazar the son of Dodo, son of Ahohi. He was with David when they defied the Philistines who were gathered there for battle, and the men of Israel withdrew.”

The Importance of Three Strands:

“...a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

Me... God... and Others

“No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it.”
Halford E. Luccock