

Remembrances of a Life Lived for God

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake from Internet sources)

Introduction:

A. 1Chron. 29:26-30

B. We have considered the life of David quite a bit of late.

1. We saw the boy became a man, the shepherd become a king, across high mountain peaks of success and into deep valleys of defeat, in the glory of righteousness and the tarnish of sin, in the blessings of God and the consequences of his sins. We can identify with David.
2. In the last words of David will be heard remembrances of a life lived for God - 1Chron. 28:1-2

I. IT WAS A TIME OF REFLECTION

A. 1Chron. 28:2-8 - The last days of David's life were filled with a dream he never saw fulfilled

1. But God said no - 2Sam. 7:1-17
2. David did not allow the Lord's "No" to discourage him. He gathered the necessary materials, so Solomon would have what he needed when the time came.
3. David did not look back with anger on what God had not allowed him to do. Instead, he looked back with gratitude on what God had helped him to do.

B. If we are not careful, we will come to the end of the way bitter and disillusioned because we did not see our dreams fulfilled.

1. As we age, it becomes clearer with each passing year that some of our dreams are not going to come to pass. What do we do with those unfulfilled dreams?
2. We can become bitter because God said "No" to our dreams. Or, we can look back with joy, thankful for the things that He did bring to pass our lives.
3. We can sit around and grouse about what we did not get, or we can thank Him for what we did get.
4. We can blame Him for what we think we missed, or we can rejoice in what He gave us.
5. It comes down to a matter of sovereignty. Who is God in our lives, ourselves or Him? If you are the master of your own destiny, then don't blame God for unfulfilled dreams, blame yourself.
6. If God is the Lord of your life, then thank Him for what He has done, because He has brought into your life the things that were in your best interests spiritually; if you are spiritually and not materially minded, you will appreciate this - Rom. 8:28; Jer. 29:11.

C. The best thing to do with past unfulfilled dreams is to let it go.

1. Phil. 4:11-13 - Paul may have never dreamed he would die as he did, but he was content to allow the Lord to have His way.

II. IT WAS A TIME OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. 1Chron. 28:9 - 29:1 - David speaks to Solomon of his responsibility,
- B. Of his relationship to God - 1Chron. 28:9
 - 1. He challenges Solomon to know God, serve God, and seek God. A king must have a close relationship with God.
 - 2. He cautions Solomon to keep his heart and thoughts pure. He speaks these words from experience. David knew the blessing of walking with God and he knew about the pain of turning away.
 - 3. These are the kind of traits every godly parent wants to see in the lives of their children. David taught them to Solomon, and Solomon passed it on to his son in Proverbs.
- C. And of his reign over the people - 1Chron. 28:10-21
 - 1. David gives Solomon the plans and the materials for the construction of the temple and challenges Solomon to do the job right.
 - 2. He speaks of the pressures and the doubts that come to the king, reminding him that no matter what the future holds, he can count on the Lord's presence, power and promises to help him through.
 - 3. We need to be careful to avoid filling our children's heads with our own doubts, fears and prejudices. They need to know that God will never leave them nor forsake them - Heb. 13:5; Psalm 37:23-25

III. IT WAS A TIME OF RELIANCE

- A. 1Chron. 29:1-19
 - 1. In 1Chron. 29:2-9, David challenges the people of Israel to give to the work of the temple. They do so willingly and when they do, David lifts his voice in a prayer of faith, thanksgiving and supplication.
- B. At the end of the road, David is still praising the Lord - 1Chron. 29:10-19
 - 1. The end of life is not a time to let up on spiritual discipline. It is not the time to stop praying. The end of life is best spent in prayer, seeking the Lord, praising the Lord and calling on the Lord in the behalf of others. The end of life is a time to draw closer to the Lord.

IV. IT WAS A TIME OF REJOICING

- A. 1Chron. 29:20-25 - David's life concludes not with sadness, but with rejoicing. He leads the congregation in offering praise to the Lord. They celebrate his life and rejoice in the new king. David does not go out with a whimper; he leaves this life praising the Lord.
 - 1. The end of life does not have to be a sad time. It is possible to leave life on a high note when it has been well lived for the Lord. Come to the end of the road close to the Lord, clinging to and calling on Him, there is no reason for overwhelming sadness, but for rejoicing - Rev. 21:4
- B. David seems to have no fear regarding his impending death. He does not seem upset by the fact that his earthly journey is about over. Why? He knows the Lord and where he is going.
 - 1. When we are overwhelmingly afraid of death, it says something about our faith - 2Tim. 1:12; 1Thes. 4:13-14
 - 2. Like David, we want to finish strong - 2Tim. 4:6-8