

Daily Devotional, June 21, 2020

“He Charged Solomon His Son”, (1 Kings 2:1, NKJV)

“Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: “I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. And keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, ‘If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,’ He said, ‘you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.’” (1 Kings 2:1-4)

David was a man of God and a devoted father to his children. Solomon was God’s choice to succeed him as King of Israel, and David was pleased to accept the Lord’s will in the matter. Here we have a record of David’s last words. Those of us who have lost a father remember his last words, the last time we saw him, and the various things he said and did. Some of you may still have your earthly father with you. Don’t take that for granted. You will not have him always.

In our text, David simply did what fathers do. He charged his son with counsel borne of experience. Perhaps you are one who never had the benefit of an earthly father who did this for you, and to you I suggest that you take David’s advice in lieu of that, for God has inspired this to be written for all of us. David would not die without addressing his son. He challenges his son to **“prove yourself a man.”** Then David goes on to define what a real man is. A real man is someone who is an obedient and faithful worshiper of the true and living God. Those men (and women) who behave such will experience prosperity of soul. David ends with an affirmation of God’s promise to him, to be fulfilled in Solomon his son, regarding the throne. Indeed, none of God’s promises to you will ever fall to the ground unfulfilled either. Today, let us give thanks for our earthly fathers. And let us give thanks to our heavenly Father, who gave His Son for us, that we might become His children according to the promise. **“As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.” “I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.””** (2 Corinthians 6:16-18).