

The Warrior Chronicles #3: "Courage and Leadership"

1 Chronicles 12:21

1 Chronicles 12 gives a list of mighty men/warriors who helped David become King. Going to look at various men/tribes/attributes

1 Chronicles 12:21 And they helped David against the bands of raiders: for they were all mighty men of valor, and were captains in the host.

I. SUBMISSION AND SELFLESSNESS

A. There are 2 dimensions of pride and selfishness that stop men from doing God's will

1. **Some are unwilling to submit their will to another man**

a. Who are you to tell me what to do? b. Are you saying I'm stupid? c. I know things/I'm experienced

2. **Some are selfish – and unwilling to help anyone else win in life**

a. If I get the glory – I will be involved/work hard. If not – I won't b. Outreaches: I won't help him – he might succeed

B. But these men overcame those tendencies: **V21** they helped David against the band of the raiders:

1. They helped David: David was a leader/in charge

a. They connected their hearts with the will of God – as it came through David

1. **Matthew 8:9** For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

b. Submission will involve men who are flawed: *But flaws don't remove our responsibility*

2. They helped someone else win/someone else succeed

a. **Luke 16:12** And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

1. Help someone else's outreach/someone else's agenda/someone else's plans

II. COURAGE

A. Life requires courage: B/C there are many things that make us afraid or uncomfortable

1. There are men who are afraid to face themselves

a. Men who never ask for help: Pride keeps them from revealing their weakness/problems

2. Some men are afraid of doing anything that has an uncertain outcome

a. What if I witness and they reject? Pray and don't get healed? Go out and don't succeed?

3. Some men are afraid to take responsibility in their home

a. Admit they may be the problem b. Work to meet wife's needs c. Stand against unhealthy desires

B. But these men were men of courage: **V21** they were all mighty men of valor...

1. They faced their fears – they faced their problems/their enemies: *The raiders*

a. You have to have courage against the surprise attacks

b. You have to have courage against setbacks

c. You have to have courage against failure: Ziklag – at risk b/c of David's failure; They joined

2. Courage is not a feeling/absence of fear: It is being willing to face your fear/what is difficult

a. **1 Corinthians 16:13** Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

III. LEADERSHIP

A. Life requires leadership

1. Someone has to provide direction for others: Marriage/home/job/ministry/church/Fellowship

a. Without it – nothing gets done b. It leads to chaos c. People fail to rise d. People are unprotected

2. The problem is that men can view leadership simply as a position

a. I have a title b. I can quote a scripture: Wives submit yourselves...

3. But it's possible to be in a position – but not actually be leading

a. Saul: Not leading against Goliath/not fighting Philistines

1. People were in trouble 2. Or someone else winds up leading: *What if they're not good people?*

B. But our text is describing men who were leading: **V21** and were captains in the host.

1. **You have to be a man worth following:** Character on the inside – example on the outside

a. It was a great sermon: Pity it came from him

2. **You have to act like a leader:** This chapter is an action chapter – what men did!

a. David/Jonathan did what leaders should do – so God blessed them/people followed

3. **You have to care in order to be a leader:** Saul cared only about himself

a. Moses: Let me be cursed instead of the people b. Paul/love for people/churches