

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