

# Be an Issachar Man!

## 1 Chronicles 12:32

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# The Death of Saul, Israel's First King

1 Chronicles 10:13-14

*“Saul died because he was unfaithful to the Lord. He failed to obey the Lord’s command, and he even consulted a medium instead of asking the Lord for guidance. So the Lord killed him and turned the kingdom over to David son of Jesse.” NLT*

# 1 Chronicles 12

- This was a crucial time in the nation of Israel
- The tribes of Israel were collectively without a leader
- They decided to align themselves with David, to make him their king
- What is said about the tribes as they decided to join with David is interesting

- 1 Chronicles 12:30, “... of the sons of Ephraim twenty thousand eight hundred mighty men of valor, famous men throughout their father’s house
- 1 Chronicles 12:33, “... of Zebulum there were fifty thousand who went out to battle, expert in war with all weapons of war, stouthearted men who could keep ranks; ...”

# Verse 32

... “ of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command”

- These men of Issachar realized that God was making changes in their nation and they needed to respond to those changes righteously
- They were the kind of men who made the right decision during this critical situation

# Paul Writes to the Young Man Timothy

## 2 Timothy 2:1-4

*“You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that  
is in Christ Jesus.*

*And the things that you have heard from me among  
many witnesses, commit these to faithful men  
who will be able to teach others also.”*

## 2 Timothy 2:1-4

*..You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.*

*No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.”*

# Observations

- Paul says that even in the Christian life *men will have times of hardness meaning “afflictions”*
- Yet men are to remain faithful through the hard times
- God needs men who will “*Stand in the Gap*” and *protect God’s (their) families from evil*

# Ezekiel 22:26-27

## God's Leaders Had Betrayed Him!

Talking about Israel God says, *“Your priests have violated my instructions and defiled my holy things. They make no difference between what is holy and what is not. And they do not teach my people the difference between what is ceremonially clean and unclean.*

*They disregard my sabbath days so that I am dishonored among them.”*

# Verse 30, Ezekiel Chapter 22

*“I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land, I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn’t have to destroy the land, but I found no one.”*

*So God was looking for men who would act as a wall between their families and evil and couldn’t find one man!*

# God Is Still Looking For a Man; Someone Who Will Stand in the Gap

## #1 Understanding the Times Demands That a Man Be Faithful In His Private Life

- What you are in private says a lot about your character
- What you do when no one can see you speaks of who you really are

Are you faithful in thought? Philippians 4:8-9

Are you faithful in actions? James 2:26

Are you faithful in your plans? Don't Omit God's Will and Word in Your Plans (remember Samson's marriage plans without God, Judges 14:2,3 or the Rich man's plans in Luke 12:16-21)

# #2 Understanding the Times

## Demands A Faithful Man In His Home Life

- Being faithful to your wife means fulfilling your wedding vows over and over again
- Question: Guys, if your performance at work was like it is at home, would you lose your job?
- Lack of trust from a wife can be caused by her husband's actions (it may take years of faithfulness to remove one bad incident that broke her heart)
- We should plan to serve God like Joshua in Chapter 24:15, who had testified to his children what he had seen God do in his life
- Children need to know what a faithful man of God looks like

# Observations

- Christian psychologists have argued that much of homosexual behavior and same sex attraction in this country originates from father hunger and a longing for good male role models
- When spiritual fathers are absent, the need for their example still remains
- Some boys who do not have good fathers who are role models will try a lot of things in life to try to find out who they are, including experimenting with homosexual encounters which can leave them confused about themselves well into adulthood
- Some women may use their daughters to help them heal their bad, abusive male relationships so that daughter becomes her mother's counselor and comforter and there is a role reversal (daughter becomes the mother and the mother becomes the daughter)  
Later on the daughter gets involved in lesbian relationships looking for love (her own female counselor)

# In Understanding the Times Our Children Need Our Faithfulness

- Taking time with them
- Listening to them
- Playing with them
- Pray with them
- Going places with them
- Punishing a child only when they deserve it
- Not being afraid to admit when you're wrong

# In Understanding the Times

## Be Faithful at Church

- Men should be faithful in attendance to worship services
- If our men don't set the standard in faithful attendance, our families have the temptation to be spasmodic in serving God
- Men should participate in service (singing, praying, giving, communing, reading scripture)
- Faithful men don't wait to be called upon to lead God's worship.

# Statistics

- If both father and mother go to church, 72% of the children will go to church when they grow up
- If only father goes, it drops to 55% when they grow up
- If only mother goes, only 15% of the children will go to church when they are grown

Men, Don't Let This Be Said of Your  
Spiritual Example

*When He Should Have,  
He Wouldn't,  
Now That He Would Be,  
He Couldn't!*

# The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38