

THE KIND OF MEN GOD USES TO BUILD
HIS CHURCH
Acts

INTRODUCTION:

I. THE REASON GOD NEEDED THESE MEN.

- A. Solve a serious problem that had arisen within the church.
 1. The church was confronted with the gravest danger it had yet encountered.
- B. Serve in the increasing work of the church.
- C. Share in the increasing responsibility of the church.
 1. Prayer, the ministry of the work, and serving tables became too great a task for the Apostles.
 2. These seven men became fellow-helpers to the apostles.
 - a. They couldn't preach like the Apostles but could help the apostles by serving.
 - b. "That was a wonderful sermon you and I preached by the help of the Lord."
 3. They shared in making the church more Spiritual.
 - a. Their lives.
 - b. Making possible a greater spiritual contribution by the Apostles.

II. THE RULES FOLLOWED TO SELECT THE MAN GOD USED.

- A. Followed instructions of the Apostles.
 1. Look ye out from among you seven men. Why more women?
 - a. Women more religiously inclined.
 - b. Men in making living.
 - c. Religion and church work is for women.
 2. The saying pleased the WHOLE multitude.

- B. They selected those having the qualifications mentioned by the Apostles.
 - 1. Honest Report, "well testified of"
 - a. Reputation and character that could be looked at and looked through and pass inspection.
 - 2. Full of the Holy Ghost.
 - 3. Full of wisdom.
 - a. Wisdom in spiritual emphasis.
 - (1) Blazing a new trail.
 - (2) Coming from trusting work of law to Christ.
 - (3) Legalism to liberty of Spirit.
 - 4. Stephen - full of faith, v. 5.
 - 5. Stephen - full of power, v. 8.
- C. Apostles appointed them--after prayer and in a public service laid hands on them.

III. THE RESULTS THAT FOLLOWED

- A. The Word of God increased.
- B. The number of disciples in Jerusalem multiplied greatly.
- C. A great company of the priests became obedient to the faith.

FELLOWSHIP

SERVICE

STEWARDSHIP

SOUL-WINNING

MEN FOR MISSIONS

Dr. Wesley Duewel

God give us men; God give us men!
Men all aflame with His glory again,
Men who have sold out their all for the Lord,
Men who're ready to stake all for God,
Ready to sacrifice even to blood!

God give us men today; God give us men!
Men who will shake this world for God again,
Men with a vision of perishing souls,
Men who put God first, above human goals,
Men who are fearless when seeking the lost,
Men who will follow whatever the cost.

God give us men touched with fire from above.
God give us men with a Calvary love.
God give us men who are filled with God's power.
God give us men for this day and this hour.
God give us men who will rise to the need,
God give us men who will work, pray, or bleed.

Where are the men we need? Where are the men?
When will they heed Thy call? When, Saviour; When?
Raise up a host burning with holy fire
Men filled with Thee with flaming desire,
Men who will serve Thee without doubt or fear,
God give us men who will now volunteer!

THE DRAMATIC STRUGGLE OF A YOUNG MAN WITH THE DESTINY OF HIS SOUL

Mark 10:17-22; Matthew 19: 16-30; Luke 18:16-30

I. LONGING FOR ETERNAL LIFE BUT LOST, Mark 10: 17-18.

A. He came running to Jesus.

1. He came to the only One who could satisfy the longing for eternal life.

2. Jesus loved him, Mark 10:21.

B. He knelt down--humbled himself.

C. Earnestness^c-inquired, "Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

1. No better question could have been asked.

2. Not a more serious question could have been asked.

II. LIVING GOOD BUT LOST, vv. 19-20.

III. LACKING ONLY ONE THING BUT LOST.

A. Depending on observance of law instead of faith in Christ.

B. Distorted values.

1. An unwillingness to forsake everything for Christ.

2. All he was asked to give up he would gain in heaven and more!

C. Deliverance from a fear of gambling with the destiny of his soul.

D. Deliberately went away from Christ.

I. Levant, New York

Oct. 1964

THE MEANING OF TAKING OUR STAND FOR GOD

Philippians 4:1-9

I. THE MEANING OF TAKING OUR STAND

A. Let your moderation be known unto all men.

1. Our moderation is to be known to all men. eg.

(a) Take our stand before all men.

(b) Take the same stand before all men.

B. What moderation is: See v. 2

1. Phillips - Gentleness.

2. Berkley - Consideration

3. A.N.T. - Unselfishness.

4. Weymouth - Forbearing Spirit.

5. Wesley - Yieldingness.

6. Godby - Clemency. (Being firm without being unduly rigid.)

7. Adam Clarke - Sweet reasonableness.

C. Moderation is giving proper emphasis to a well-balanced spiritual life. A. W. Tozer: There are areas in our lives where in our effort to be right we may go wrong, so wrong as to lead to spiritual deformity. To be specific let me name a few:

1. When in our determination to be bold we become brazen.

2. When in our desire to be frank we become rude. The Christian who always boasts that he always calls a spade a spade is likely to end up calling everything a spade.

Mitchell: The fellow who says I am brutally frank is likely to end up by being frankly brutal.

3. When in our effort to be watchful we become suspicious. Because there are many adversaries the temptation is to see enemies where none exist. Because we are in conflict with error we tend to develop a spirit of hostility to everyone who disagrees with us on anything. Satan cares little whether we go astray after a false doctrine or merely turn sour. Either way he wins

4. When we seek to be serious and become somber.
5. When we mean to be conscientious and become overscrupulous. If the devil cannot succeed in destroying the conscious he will settle for making it sick. . . "

(a) The devil has succeeded when we get off center in our emphasis.

(b) The devil would like to get our emphasis so out of focus on such non-essentials on the one hand as to make us the laughing stock of the world, and on the other hand to embrace such evil practices to make us a laughing stock of those who are seeking an answer to the inner-longing of their soul.

(1) Never allow anyone to convince you that externals do not count. **THEY DO.**

(2) However, never allow yourself to place more stress on externals than on internals.

(3) Never allow yourself to stress **ONLY** the **INTERNAL** will lead to compromise.

(4) Never allow yourself to over stress or to stress only externals - this will lead to legalism.

(aa) Legalism is living by the letter of the law while ignoring the letter of the Word. Deodorant, ladies wearing P. J., measuring length of dress, virtually no social recreation life. No standard on modesty - shorts.

(bb) Legalism is going beyond what is written.

(cc) Legalism is being more concerned with a position than the truth, Pharasees, compromising.

II. THE MANNER OF TAKING OUR STAND FOR GOD, 4:1-5

A. "So stand fast in the Lord."

B. Keep on standing firm (Williams.).

1. There is no place for compromise.

2. Keep on - could change without compromising.

C. Must keep the right spirit toward people who may

The Meaning of Taking your Stand

P. 3

differ with you, v. 3.

1. People may differ and yet have their names written in the book of Life.
 2. Must not allow our differences to become an issue. Evidently Clement was being affected by the difference between Euodias and Syntyche.
- D. Be agreeable, v. 2
- E. Stand with a joyful spirit, v. 4.
1. Don't assume a martyrs attitude or a persucated complex or an enemy consciousness, or a holier than thou attitude when people disagree with you.
 2. Stand for and in such a manner that the spirit of rejoicing will not be disturbed.
- F. Be careful (don't worry - don't be anxious- don't fret - be not solicitous) for anything.
1. Observe context.
 2. Reputation - pressures - opinions of thers.
- G. In everything - prayer - supplication --thanksgiving. Maintain prayer life - do what you can - ask God to bless.
- H. Peace of God guard or be a garrison of the mind, v. 7.

III. THE MEANS BY WHICH WE MAKE OUR MODERATION KNOWN TO ALL MEN, vv. 8, 9

- A. Think on proper things, v. 8
Phillips, "If you value the approval of God."
- B. Follow the teaching and example of Paul, v. 9.
- C. The God of peace shall be with you.
- D. The Lord is at hand, v. 4
 1. Looking on - observing.
 2. At hand to assist.
 3. At hand in the rapture.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

Romans 8:1-39;

Text v. 37.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

Rom. 8:1-39; text v. 37

"Victory! Yes, and some ammunition left over over for another battle". Chinese version

INTRODUCTION:

1. To me, the entire 8th chapter of Romans revolves around this verse.
2. Here, as well as throughout the scriptures, it is declared that God intends for his children to be conquerors.
3. To be more than conquerors is to be on top of all that which used to be on top of you.
4. It is to win the fight with ammunition left over.
 - a. David and Goliath--David had five stones but only used one. Goliath had four brothers. David was prepared for all of them. II. Sam. 21:22.
 - b. The rooster in our barnyard. Whipped every rooster on the farm. Then would fly up on the fence and crow.
5. Things in which we are to be more than conquerors.

I. MORE THAN CONQUERORS IN CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE.

v. 1-16:26

- A. Christian experience involves conversion. v. 1-5. Conversion is an inclusive term embracing justification, forgiveness, regeneration, adoption, and entire sanctification.
 1. Conversion frees from condemnation. v 1 a.
 - a. Because one is delivered from sin. (Whole arguments of Chapters 5 and 6). 6:1 - Purpose death of Christ 8:3.
 - b. Because conversion is a present tense experience - Now.
 - (1) Not future, not merely past, and not done and over with.
 2. Conversion places one in Christ Jesus. v. 1-b
 3. Conversion enables one to walk after the Spirit. v. 1-c.
 - a. The battle between the flesh and Spirit is evident

but conversion sets one on the course of living above sin. 2-5. Spiritual appetite.

- b. The struggle is keen, but the grace of God gives victory over the carnal mind. v. 6-13.

B. Christian experiences embrace cleansing from the carnal mind. v. 6-13.

A. Cleansing saves from death. v. 6-a.

B. Cleansing brings life and peace. v. 6b-7.

a. Because the inward enemy is subdued.

b. Obstruction to growth removed.

C. Cleansing from sin pleases God. v. 8-9.

a. They that are in the (carnal) flesh cannot please God. v. 8.

b. One is not in the flesh (carnal) if the Spirit of God indwells him. v. 9.

D. Cleansing brings the fulness of the Spirit's indwelling. v. 9-13.

a. "In regeneration we receive the personality fulness of the Holy Spirit, but not His operational fulness. There is a carnal obstruction that hinders His out-working.

b. "In sanctification we receive His operational fulness." Flexon.

c. The infilling of the Spirit brings death to carnality. v. 13.

E. Christian experience embraces confirmation. 14-17.

a. Confirmation is the witness of the Spirit. v. 16

(a.) The direct witness is two-fold.

(1) The Holy Spirit assures my spirit that I have received the experience sought. How will I feel? How will I act?

(2) My spirit accepts the witness the Spirit gives.

(b.) The indirect witness of the Spirit is two-fold

(1) Through reading the word of God, I am assured that I have met the conditions and thus have obtained the experience.

(2) Through my daily walk with God, the fruit of a holy life result. Deeds of body mortified.

- ~~2~~ Confirmation includes being led of the Spirit. v. 14
- 3. Confirmation embraces being Spirit taught. v. 15.
- 4. Confirmation includes being Spirit assisted. v. 26.

CONCLUSION: Muller

PLACES PREACHED

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Birmingham, Ala. | Oct. 18, 19, 20, 1959 |
| 2. Iowa Camp | Aug. 9, '0, 11, 1960 |
| 3. Central College | Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 1960 |
| 4. Wesley Grove Camp III. | July 23, 1961 |
| 5. Lafayette, Ind. | Mar. 19, 20, 21, 1962 |
| 6. Shady Grove Camp III | June, 1962 |
| 7. Hayworth Memorial III | Oct. 19, 1962 |
| 8. West Eighth St. Marion I-III. | Nov. 12-14, 1962 |
| 9. Brooksville, Fla. Camp I - III | Jan. 7-9, 1963 |
| 10. Knoxville, First, I, II, III. | May 9-11, 1963 |
| 11. Greer Camp III | Aug. 24, 1963 |
| 12. Virginia Camp III. | July 20, 1965 |

MORE THAN CONQUERORS AT THE CLOSE OF LIFE'S
JOURNEY.
Romans 8:17-27

II. MORE THAN CONQUERORS AT THE CLOSE OF LIFE'S JOURNEY

Romans 8:17-27

A. The Reason We Are More Than Conquerors At the Close of Life.

1. We are heirs v. 15-16.

a. Heirs of (to) God.

(1) Lost all legal claim on Christ in the fall of Adam. Christ brought us back and gave us a legal claim to God. Galatians 4:7; Heb. 1:14.

(2) Earthly life as we know it will end. Life's journey will soon be over. God will make us triumphant in this hour.

b. Heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

(1) In the fall, man lost his inheritance. It reverted back to Christ.

(2) He wanted us to share it with Him thus He made it possible for us to be adopted into the family of God.

2. We are the adopted sons of God.

a. Conditions to be met for adopting children.

(1) A young couple well known to me wanted to adopt a child. They were asked the following:

(a) Are you SURE you want to adopt a child?

They were told to go home to consider the matter, and if in two weeks they still wanted to adopt, they should return.

They returned. It will be months before a child will be available. In the meantime, if you change your mind, let us know.

If you do adopt a child, we will give you one year to make up your mind.

(1) Christ as an only son, wanted other children.

More Than Conquerors at the Close of Life's Journey 2.

Our heirship is no afterthought with God.

(b) Are you worthy to adopt a child?

(1) Required them to give references.

(2) They investigated thoroughly as to home conditions, attitudes, temperments

(c) Can you support the child if placed in your home.

(1) Required a financial statement.

(2) Required the wife to give up her job.

b. Considerations for those seeking to adopt a child.

(1) At the end of one year the child becomes legally yours. You cannot annul or change it.

(2) The child may renounce its relation to you, but you cannot renounce your relation to the child.

B. The Result of Being More Than Conquerors at the Close of Life.

1. We (and Christ) shall be glorified together - v. 17.

a. Christ's final triumph over sin. Picture the battle.

2. ~~1~~. The glory shall be revealed in us. v. 18.

3. ~~2~~ a. Crown of life, crown of glory, crown of righteousness.

3. The redemption (glorification) of our bodies. 19-23

a. All creation turned to the minor key because of the fall.

b. Creature-all creation or all creatures--sinners--sanctified--ourselves--

c. Grace will undo all sin did for us.

(1) Regeneration, Sanctification, Glorification

C. Requirements to Be Met in Order to be More Than Conquerors at Close of Life.

1. An up-to-date experience.

2. Free operation of God's grace.