

MAN UP! **I Kings 2:1-4**

David wisely advised his son about manliness through godliness

I. THE REQUIREMENTS

A. BE STRONG (2b)

1. A determined fearlessness
 - Just like God's instructions to Joshua in Deut. 31:7, 25 and Josh 1:6,7,9,18 and 10:25
2. Conviction no matter the cost
 - Willing to say "this is wrong" or "this is right"
3. Committed when others compromise - See Dan. 1:8
 - Your morals will be confronted and your mindset will be mocked

B. SHOW YOURSELF A MAN (2c)

1. Setting aside selfish interests
2. Putting away childish things - I Cor. 13:11
3. Standing on your own - Without your father's oversight or discipline
4. Taking responsibility - Without excuses
5. Meeting obligations - Without exceptions

C. KEEP THE CHARGE OF THE LORD (3a)

1. Strict compliance
 - "Keep the charge" meant there could be no half-heartedness or lack of seriousness
2. Absolute adherence to the king's charge in Deuteronomy 17:14-20

D. WALK IN GOD'S WAYS (3b)

1. A thorough obedience
 - a. Keeping His statutes, commands, ordinances and testimonies
 - b. King Saul's obedience had been incomplete
 - c. King David's obedience had been interrupted
2. A Scriptural awareness
 - Knowing what the Law prescribed and how it applied

II. THE RESULTS

A. PERSONAL SUCCESS (3c)

1. Great accomplishments
 - To be “successful” meant that one demonstrated keen insight and proficiency in their occupation
2. Perpetual blessings
 - Whatever you do and wherever you go

B. A DAVIDIC DYNASTY (4)

1. Based on God’s promise
 - David’s family line would not be eliminated or extinguished
2. Established by compliance with God’s conditions
 - a. Careful sons: Paying attention to their paths
 - b. Spiritual sons: Walking before God

III. SOME REFLECTIONS

A. GREAT MEN DIE (1-2a)

1. Comment: David’s time to die drew near
2. Consider: Whatever you’re doing, you won’t be doing it forever
3. Question: Are you ready to meet the Lord?

B. GOOD MEN GUARD (3a)

1. Command: Keep the charge
2. Consider: Are you protecting your God-given responsibilities?
 - a. Living for God - Josh 24:15
 - b. Loving your wife - Eph. 5:25
 - c. Leading your family - Deut. 6:7
3. Question: Are you clinging to God’s commands?

C. GODLY MEN COUNSEL (3b)

1. Command: Walk in God’s ways
2. Concern: David was more concerned about his son’s piety than he was with his prosperity
3. Question: Will your final words be about your family, your finances or fellowship with God?

CONCLUSION:

Men prove manhood by demonstrating faithful obedience and loyal submission to God and His Word.

Show yourself a man ... Be a man ... Man up!

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