



Sunday 3 February 2013

COURAGE FOR THE JOURNEY
2. THE NEED FOR COURAGE



OVERVIEW

- Scriptures
 - Psalm 27:1-3, 13-14
 - 1 Samuel 30:1-9
- A quick review
- Follow Him
- Taking courage

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 27:1-3, 13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread? ² When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, my adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. ³ Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though war arise against me, in spite of this I shall be confident.

¹³ I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. ¹⁴ Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord.

SCRIPTURES

1 Samuel 30:1-9

Then it happened when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had made a raid on the Negev and on Ziklag, and had overthrown Ziklag and burned it with fire; ² and they took captive the women and all who were in it, both small and great, without killing anyone, and carried them off and went their way. ³ When David and his men came to the city, behold, it was burned with fire, and their wives and their sons and their daughters had been taken captive. ⁴ Then David and the people who were with him lifted their voices and wept until there was no strength in them to weep. ⁵ Now David's two wives had been taken captive, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite.

SCRIPTURES

1 Samuel 30:1-9

⁶ Moreover David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all the people were embittered, each one because of his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

⁷ Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech, "Please bring me the ephod." So Abiathar brought the ephod to David. ⁸ David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I pursue this band? Shall I overtake them?" And He said to him, "Pursue, for you will surely overtake them, and you will surely rescue all." ⁹ So David went...

A QUICK REVIEW

- We must press on
 - deliberately
 - choose to press on with Him
 - extinguish disappointment
 - only antidote to becoming dull
- Take courage:
 - Abraham: God directed his attention to Him and what He can do - 'look at the stars...'

FOLLOW HIM

- If a believer, calling on your life
 - specific: i.e. ministry, location,
 - above all, called to follow Jesus - walk with God
 - episode by episode
 - Come to KNOW Him
 - therefore believe Him
 - therefore are unshakeable concerning Him and His ways

THE JOURNEY IS OPPOSED

- The journey is all about believing God
 - A choice between 'voices'
 - God's
 - circumstances
 - disappointments
 - failures
 - 'reality'
 - the world
 - demons

THE JOURNEY IS OPPOSED

- The journey is all about believing God
 - Following Him *requires* courage
 - But its available!
- Recognize:
 - the nature of the battle (schemes)
 - the goal of your adversary (“Give up”)
 - The need for courage, therefore
 - That He provides courage and we must take it up

TAKING COURAGE

- So how?
 - Don't lose control
 - Don't deny
 - Strengthen yourself IN THE LORD
 - In mind and mouth, what has He said?
 - speak in tongues
 - GROW!

