

BEING MIGHTY MEN OF VALOR

OUTLINE

- I. NOT Being a Spiritual *WIMP*
- II. Men Awakened
- III. Men Armed, Equipped and Ready to Serve
- IV. Mighty Men of Valor Serving Their King
- V. The Sovereign King Wants **YOU** !

I. NOT Being a Spiritual WIMP

1. WIMPS VS. MIGHTY MEN OF VALOR

- a. Wimp disciples of Christ vs. Valiant **disciples of Christ**
- b. Wimp husbands vs. Valiant **husbands**
- c. Wimp fathers vs. Valiant **fathers**
- d. Wimp workmen vs. Valiant **workman**
- e. Wimp witnesses vs. Valiant **witnesses**

2. TIMELY CONSIDERATIONS

1. **Relationship.** No matter what else is in life, there is no relationship more important than your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Nurture that relationship . . . treasure it . . . build it . . . pray about it . . . affirmatively plan on how you can enhance it. (Matthew 22:37-38; Revelation 2:4-5)

2. **Your Quiet Time.** [See the separate outline regarding prayer, and see below regarding the Word of God]

There is nothing more important in any day . . . NOTHING . . . than having your quality, disciplined, quiet time with the Lord (systematic Bible study, meditation on the Word of God, and organized, persistent and fervent prayer). If you have spent significant time with the Lord in any day, then that day is a success regardless of what else happened. If you fail to have quality quiet time with the Lord on any day, then regardless of whatever achievements or accomplishments, the day is not a success.

3. **Seek to Please God.** Seek the favor of God rather than striving to please man. (Galatians 1:10)

4. **Prayers From on High!** Take comfort that the Holy Spirit Himself is praying for you, as is our precious Lord Jesus Christ Himself praying for you. (Romans 8:26; 8:34)

5. **God's Calling - Glorifying God.** For a Christian man, it is of the highest order to be the man God wants him to be, doing what God wants him to do. Once that is in order, then he must do that for which he has been called to the glory of God. Specifically, be very sure in your heart that you are called from on high to be doing what you are doing at this time. With that calling settled and peaceful in your heart, do it to the glory of God.

6. **Holy Living.** Be wise in what is good and innocent in what is evil. (Romans 16:19; Jeremiah 4:22)

7. **Trust in God's Promises.** Always trust in God to keep His promises. Never waiver in your faith that God will keep His promises. Never entertain even the slightest doubt about God's faithfulness and integrity to keep His promises. (I Thessalonians 5:24; Ezekiel 36:36; II Peter 1:2-4)

8. **Solid Foundation.** Because God is an everlasting rock, you can have unwavering trust and confident peace. (Isaiah 26:3-7, 12)

9. **Full Joy.** The growing Christian is joyful. Our Christian testimony will not be effective if we are not joyful Christians. Indeed it is an insult to God and His bountiful shower of blessings upon us for us not to have joy *regardless* of the circumstances of the day. (Psalm 16:11; John 17:13; John 3:29; Psalm 21:6)

Philippians 4:4 . . . Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

John 15:11 . . . These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

10. **Be Choice.** Remember that **YOU** decide by your choices and by your obedient affirmative actions whether you will be a *vessel for honor* (II Timothy 2:20-21) 2

11. **Live By Faith.** To live on the cutting edge for God you cannot wait until you see

everything in place. You must be willing to take steps forward with the eyes of faith. (II Corinthians 5:7)

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12. **Your Ambition.** In your innermost being resolve that your highest **AMBITION** is to please God. (II Corinthians 5:9; Proverbs 16:3) . . . contrast to pathetic worldly ambitions.

13. **Time.** This life is short. It is merely a breath and it will be over. By contrast, eternity is eternity. Walk in this brief life in light of eternity and fight the good fight. (I Timothy 1:18; II Timothy 4:7)

14. **STRONG IN THE LORD.** If you are ever feeling a little timid or weak, read and meditate on these verses on II Timothy 2:7 . . . *For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline (sound judgment);* Philippians 4:13 . . . *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* Romans 8:37 . . . *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.* II Timothy 1:7 . . . *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.* I Timothy 1:18 . . . *wage the good warfare.* II Timothy 4:7 . . . *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* Philippians 3:14 . . . *I press toward the goal for the price of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.* I Corinthians 9:24 . . . *Run in such a way that you may obtain the prize.* (Also see Heb 12:1-2, 28)

15. **A Confident, Dependent Perspective.** It will be helpful for you to realize the profound truth of this simple little saying, I can't . . . God can. (II Corinthians 3:5) Apart from God you can do nothing good (John 15:5). Depend on him. Give Him all of the credit. However, you are never separated from the all-powerful God, and you can do things through Christ who strengthens you. (Philippians 4:13)

16. **God Wins!** You are on God's side and God will prevail. (Isaiah 42:13b; Psalm 56:9)

17. **God's Workman.** Ask God to help you to be skillful in your vocation and to even provide supernatural help from above just as God called and empowered Bezalel and the skillful workmen. (Exodus 31:1-11; 28:3,15,27,28; 35:30-35; 36:1,8,35; Ephesians 4:1)

18. **Getting Counsel.** Seek and obtain counsel from godly men. (Proverbs 11:14; 12:15; 13:10; 13:20; 19:20; 20:18; 27:9,17)

19. **Obey and Serve TODAY.** We always live *today*. Tomorrow never comes. It is always today. That means that we must work while there is yet light and we must serve the Lord today. We dare not resign ourselves to waiting to really start serving the Lord until we are settled or we have accomplished a certain task, or we are older, or we have reached the next level. No. We live and we serve today. No exceptions.

20. **No Fear of Death.** Heaven and eternal life are glorious beyond degree. Imagine being in the presence of our precious Savior without the fetters of this sinful flesh. For a Christian to have a morbid fear of death could be an insult to God and to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ which gave us our certain and glorious salvation and eternal life.

21. **Importance.** All of the hustle and striving and pressure and worry of men urgently seek to climb the ladder and to achieve some type of recognition from others is quite silly. Every Christian is given the incredibly high office of being an ambassador of Jesus Christ. Imagine that - to represent the creator of the universe, the King of kings and the Lord of lords! By contrast being President of the United States or the CEO of the largest corporation is such a puny insignificant office. Be a faithful and fruitful ambassador for our precious Savior. (II Corinthians 5:17-20)

22. **Discipline.** Godliness requires discipline. See I Timothy 4:7; Hebrews 5:11-14; Hebrews 12:1,2,11; I Timothy 6:11; II Timothy 2:22; Ephesians 4:22-30; II Timothy 3:16; Philippians 3:12-14.

23. **Blessed.** Oh, how we are blessed! And I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder of this truth! (II Peter 1:13)

24. **STOP WORRYING!!**

Philippians 4:6 *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God;*

I Peter 5:7 . . . *casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you.*

Matthew 6:25. . . *For this reason I say to you, do not be anxious for your life as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing?*

Matthew 6:27 . . . *And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to his life's span?*

Matthew 6:31 . . . *Do not be anxious, then, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or with what shall we clothe ourselves?*

Matthew 6:34 . . . *Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

25. **Have a Truly Peaceful Heart.**

John 14:27 . . . *Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let now your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.*

Colossians 3:15 . . . *And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.*

II Thessalonians 3:16 . . . *Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!*

II Corinthians 1:3-5 . . . Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.

26. **Have CONTENTMENT in Life.**

Philippians 4:11-12 . . . *Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.*

I Timothy 6:6 . . . But godliness actually is a means of great gain, when accompanied by contentment.

27. **God's Every Enablement.**

II Peter 1:2-4 . . . Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus, our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

28. **Useful and Fruitful for God - Guaranteed!**

II Peter 1:5-8 . . . Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith, supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge; and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness; and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

29. **Security in the Face of Evil.**

I John 4:4 . . . *You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world [Satan].*

James 4:7 . . . *Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

30. **Time is short** - your life is short. Your life will be a waste unless it is invested in service for the Lord Jesus Christ.

a. I Corinthians 7:29 “But this I say, brethren, **the time is short,**. . .”

- b. James 4:14 “ . . . whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.”
- c. Job 7:7, 16 “Oh, remember that **my life is a breath!** ¹⁶I would not live forever. Let me alone, **For my days are but a breath.**”
- d. Psalm 39:5, 11⁴⁵ Indeed, **You have made my days as handbreadths**, And my age is as nothing before You; Certainly every man at his best state is **but vapor** ¹¹surely every man is vapor.”
- e. Psalm 144:4 **Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow.**

II. MEN of Harvest Bible Chapel AWAKENED

31. **REJECT the lies and excuses.**

Reject lie/excuse #1: “Because of the sins in my past and the mistakes I have made, I could never be useful to God and I could never have a life that will please Him.”

Reject lie/excuse #2: “I am a pretty good guy; I have done a lot of good things; I am sure that my good has outweighed my bad; I am probably O.K.”

Reject lie/excuse #3: “I might be interested in Christianity or spiritual matters, if it weren’t for the fact that [name of a man] claims to be Christian, and I know that he is such a hypocrite, and if that’s the way a Christian is I don’t want anything to do with it.”

[Jesus Christ alone is perfect and sinless. There are false teachers. There are liars. There are hypocrites. God will never fail, but any man certainly can fail. The truth is true regardless of whether any man follows it correctly. You will have no excuse by pointing to some other man. The only issue will be what you have done concerning Jesus Christ. It is your life to either be invested or wasted. It is your eternal soul that will be with the Lord in total bliss for all of eternity or in anguish and separated from God for all of eternity.]

Reject lie/excuse #4: “I tried to be faithful to the Lord and I really wanted to please Him, but then I blew it. Because I blew it, I might as well forget it and just go back to living for myself and following sinful temptations.”

Reject lie/excuse #5: “I am still pretty young and I want to “enjoy” some things of this life before I settle into a more holy life style. Someday, however, I want to be

different and I want to invest in eternal things. But not yet.” (Hebrews 9:27, “. . . it is appointed [by God] for men to die once, but after this the judgment”). Z

Reject lie/excuse #6: “Leading a Christian life the way you described it sounds like a lot of work and it sounds like life would not be fun anymore.”

[The joys, blessings and benefits of a vibrant, exciting and dynamic walk with the Living God cannot be understood or appreciated vicariously or by some quick-fix method. But the man who is walking with God and who knows real peace of mind, and who has overflowing joy, and who develops beautiful relationships, and who knows where he is going and why, and who has the satisfaction of being a part of something that is eternal, and who has his eyes lifted infinitely higher than this puny world, . . . looks back at his prior worldly ways and at his wasted years before he dedicated his life to Christ and at the emptiness of the world’s so-called “happiness,” . . . and that believer is now so filled with thanksgiving that he has found the Lord and that he exchanged his former lifestyle for his joyful life that has significance now and forever]. (See Appendix One)

32. **STEP ONE: GET SAVED!** *[If you are saved, skip this for YOU, but use this in reaching out to other men. No man can be a mighty man of valor if he is not a believer]*

The man who knows that he is not a true Christian; the man who is “religious” but has never really placed his faith and trust in Jesus Christ to save him; the man who thinks that by (1)going to church, or (2)by doing some good, or (3)by living in a so-called Christian nation, or (4)by growing up in a home where the parents called themselves “Christians,” then he is O.K.; that man needs to transact serious business with God. **The absolutely necessary first step to becoming a mighty man of valor is to become a member of God’s family,** (you can’t ever serve in God’s army if you are not in God’s family).

a. Romans 13:11-14 “¹¹And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.”

b. Romans 5:6-11 “⁶For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved

by His life. ¹¹And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.” 8

- c. Romans 10:9-13 “⁹ . . . that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ¹³For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”
- d. I Corinthians 15:3-4 “³For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received; that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, . . .”
- e. Ephesians 2:1-13 “¹And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”
- “⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”
- “¹¹Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh - who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands - ¹²that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without god in the world. ¹³But

now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”

9

Another reason why a man must be saved to be a mighty man of valor: God does not rehabilitate our “old man,” but instead the Lord makes us a new creation.

- a. II Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
- b. Isaiah 43:18-19 “¹⁸Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹Behold, I will do a new thing. . .”
- c. Ephesians 4:23-24 “²³. . . and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”
- d. Colossians 3:3 “For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”
- e. See “No Room for Wimps in God’s Army.”

Another reason why a man must be saved to be a mighty man of valor: Only after you are truly regenerated (saved - you are a true Christian), do you have **the spiritual capacity to learn and understand the Bible.**

- a. I Corinthians 2:10-16 “¹⁰But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.”

“¹³These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. ¹⁶For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.”

10

Another reason why a man must be saved to be a mighty man of valor:

Because the Holy Spirit dwells in every believer, from the instant he receives Jesus Christ (Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 6:19, 20; 12:13), and because the Holy Spirit causes the Christian to have the capacity to understand the Bible (see above), the Christian then has the capacity to **turn away from false teaching and sinful associations**.

- b. I Timothy 6:3-4a “If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing. . .”
- c. Romans 16:17 “Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.”
- d. James 4:4 “Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”
- e. Proverbs 4:14, 19 “¹⁴Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. . . . ¹⁹The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble.”
- f. II Timothy 3:5 “. . . having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”
- g. I Corinthians 5:9 “I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people.”

33. ***You must be a Man of the Bible – God allows us to know how to live and how to stay in close touch with our Commander-in-Chief:***

The Word of God, with God’s grace and help, convicts us of sins and instructs us in true repentance, and the attainment of God’s forgiveness.

- h. II Corinthians 7:1 “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves** from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting **holiness** in the fear of God.”
- i. II Timothy 2:21 “Therefore if anyone **cleanses himself** from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.”
- j. Ephesians 1:7 “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the **forgiveness of sins**, according to the riches of His grace. . .”***II***

- k. I John 1:9 “If we **confess our sins**, He is faithful and just to **forgive us** our sins and to **cleanse us** from all unrighteousness.”
- l. Psalms 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far has **He removed our transgressions from us**.

WOW ! In addition to being forgiven by God (a judicial act) the believer enjoys God’s provision of **knowing he is cleansed and even feeling clean**.

- m. Hebrews 9:14 . . . how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, **cleanse your conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?
- n. Hebrews 10:22 . . . let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having **our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience** and our bodies washed with pure water.

34. The man who has been awakened makes **a choice to live for God rather than for himself** (II Corinthians 5:15, “. . . and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”) and he learns to **trust in God rather than trusting in himself** (II Corinthians 1:9, “Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should **not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead**, . . .”). (See also, Galatians 2:19-20).

35. The man who has been awakened is **ready then to be equipped** and to enter the process of becoming and being a mighty man of valor.

- a. Romans 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

III. MEN ARMED, EQUIPPED AND READY TO SERVE

35. Choosing the superior life.

- a. I Corinthians 1:23-25 ²³. . . but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”**12**

36. Becoming a man of prayer [See the separate handout regarding prayer]

- a. I Thessalonians 5:16 “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
- b. Colossians 1:9-10 “For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

37. BE VALIANT IN YOUR STUDY OF GOD’S WORD !

Devour, diligently study, and meditate on the Word of God (with a commitment to obey and apply the truths you learn). [Note - the following verses can be used by you as personal prayers in preparation for your own study and meditation of the Bible]

- c. John 16:13 [Jesus] “The Spirit of Truth will guide you into all truth. . . .”
- d. Luke 24:45 “And Jesus opened their understanding that they might comprehend the Scriptures.”
- e. Psalms 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your Law”
- f. II Timothy 2:7 “consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.”
- g. Isaiah 28:9 “Whom will He teach knowledge? And whom will He make to understand the message?”
- h. Luke 24:27 [Jesus on the road to Emmaus] “And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”
- i. Ephesians 1:17-18a “. . . that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know. . . .”
- j. Psalm 119:30b, 33-35 I have chosen THE WAY OF TRUTH . . . TEACH me, O Lord, THE WAY OF YOUR STATUTES, and I shall KEEP it to the end. GIVE ME UNDERSTANDING and I shall KEEP your Law; indeed I shall OBSERVE it with my whole heart. Make me WALK in Your commandments, for I DELIGHT in it. 13

- k. Psalm 119:50 This is MY COMFORT in my affliction, for YOUR WORD has given me LIFE.
- l. Psalm 119:80 Let my heart be blameless regarding Your STATUTES, that I may not be ashamed.
- m. II Timothy 3:15-16 The Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, of reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
- n. Hebrews 4:12 The Word of God is living and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- o. Isaiah 42:16 I will BRING the blind by a WAY they did not KNOW; I will LEAD them in PATHS they have not KNOWN. I will MAKE darkness LIGHT before them, and NOT forsake them.
- p. Psalm 86:11 TEACH me YOUR WAY, O Lord; I will WALK in YOUR TRUTH; UNITE my heart to fear Your name.
- q. Colossians 1:9b-10: . . . that you may be FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL IN ALL WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING; that you may WALK worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the KNOWLEDGE OF GOD;
- r. Psalm 119:9 How can a young man cleanse his way? By TAKING HEED ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.
- s. Psalm 119:101, 104 I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may KEEP YOUR WORD . . . Therefore I hate every false way.
- t. Psalm 119:105 YOUR WORD is a LAMP unto my feet and a LIGHT to my PATH.
- u. Psalm 119:133: Direct my STEPS by YOUR WORD. 14
- v. Revelation 1:3 “Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophesy, and KEEP those things which are written in it; for the time is near.”

- w. Luke 11:28 “But He (Jesus Christ) said, more than that, blessed are those who hear the Word of God and KEEP it!”
- x. John 14:15, 21 (Jesus Christ) “If you love Me, KEEP My Commandments” . . . “He who has My commandments and KEEPS them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”
- y. James 1:22-25 “But be DOERS of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the Word and not a DOER, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and CONTINUES IN IT, and is not a forgetful hearer but a DOER of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”
- z. Philippians 4:9 “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in Me, these DO, and the God of Peace will be with you.”
- aa. Psalm 19:11 “Moreover, by them [God’s Word] Your servant is warned, and in KEEPING them there is great reward.”

38. Equipped for Spiritual Battle.

- bb. Ephesians 6:10-18 ¹⁰Finally, my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore **take up the whole armor of God**, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with **truth** having put on the breastplate of **righteousness**, ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the **preparation of the gospel of peace**; ¹⁶above all, taking the **shield of faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷And take **the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**; ¹⁸**praying always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. . . 15

39. Being conformed to the image of Christ.

- cc. Romans 8:29 “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be **conformed to the image of His Son**, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”
- dd. Galatians 4:19 “My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until **Christ is formed in you, . . .**”
- ee. II Corinthians 3:18 “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”
40. Godly thinking.
- ff. II Corinthians 10:5 . . . casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, . . .**
41. Gaining victory over temptation.
- gg. I Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”
- hh. Psalm 118:19 “Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD.”
42. Christ’s love for you constrains you.
- ii. II Corinthians 5:14 “For **the love of Christ compels us**, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died;”
43. Building on God’s firm foundation.
- jj. I Corinthians 3:9-11 “⁹For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. ¹⁰According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”**16**
44. You have a heart’s desire to glorify God.
- kk. I Corinthians 10:31 “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

- ll. Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
- mm. I Peter 4:11 “If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong all glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

V. MIGHTY MEN OF VALOR SERVING THE KING

- 45. You never cease daily Bible study.
 - a. Proverbs 19:27 “Cease listening to instruction, my son, And you will stray from the words of knowledge.” [Note this WARNING!]
- 46. Your mind is set on God-honoring things.
 - b. Philippians 4:8-9 “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy - meditate on these things. “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”
- 47. You elevate your life goals - You have a life that counts for eternity!
 - c. Acts 20:24 “However I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace.”(NIV)
 - d. John 8:29 “And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”
 - e. Galatians 1:10 “For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.” 17
 - f. Ephesians 5:10 “. . . finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.”

- g. II Corinthians 5:9 “Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.”
- h. I Thessalonians 4:1 “Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; . . .”

48. You have a **hearts-desire to be useful and fruitful to the Lord**. The Apostle Peter summarizes a guarantee from the Lord as to how to be **useful and fruitful**:

- i. II Peter 1:5-9 “⁵But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.”

49. As a mighty man of valor, you **live for Christ** rather than for yourself.

- j. Galatians 2:19-20 ¹⁹For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

(See also, II Corinthians 5:15)

50. As a **victorious warrior for the Lord**, you enter the battlefield.

- a. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
- b. Romans 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.
- c. II Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. **18**
- d. I Timothy 1:18 This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare.
- e. II Timothy 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

- f. Philippians 3:14 I press toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
- g. Corinthians 9:24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.
- h. II Corinthians 2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

51. As a warrior for God you accept the duty to **share your faith in Christ**, but even more, evangelism becomes your joyful passion.

- i. I Corinthians 9:16-17 ¹⁶For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of , for necessity is laid upon me [i.e. duty]; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this **willingly** [i.e. your heart's-desire], I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted [i.e. duty] with a stewardship.

52. As a man of faith you are **not ashamed of the gospel**.

- j. Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
- k. II Timothy 1:8, 12 ⁸“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, . . .”

 ¹²“For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.”
- l. Mark 8:38 “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” 19

53. You humbly accept the exalted position as an **AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST**.

- m. II Corinthians 5:20 Now then, **we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

54. As a mighty man of valor you accept God's great **entrustment**.

- a. I Corinthians 4:1-2 ¹Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

55. As God's man, you understand that the question is *not*, "What can **I** do?" (in my strengths and my abilities). But instead the question really is, "**What can my God do?**" [A sermon by Rev. Dick Woodward, "I can't - God can!"]

- b. II Corinthians 3:4-6 "And we have such trust through Christ toward God. ⁵Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, ⁶who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

[See the illustration of "the elephant and the ant"]

56. You understand and appropriate **GOD'S PROVISION AND HIS MAGNIFICENT PROMISES**, and you receive God's unlimited blessings.

- c. Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, . . ."
- d. II Peter 1:2-4 "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

V. THE SOVEREIGN KING WANTS YOU !

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57. NOW . . . is the time.

- a. II Corinthians 6:2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, **now** is the accepted time; behold, **now** is the day of salvation.

58. Wanted - Might Men of Valor to Serve Our Sovereign King!
- b. Unbelievers need not apply.
 - c. Spiritual wimps need not apply.
 - d. Those who want to give to God only their “leftovers” need not apply.
 - e. Those who insist upon continuing their private “secret” sins, need not apply.
 - f. Those who are chasing worldly “success” need not apply.

You can be fruitful and useful to the Master, and you can live the rest of your life investing in eternity! and in that process you can choose to have a life worth living, have beautiful relationships, have overflowing joy, have genuine peace, and have all things that count.

HOW ABOUT YOU???