

Sept 20th 2009: "King at Last" : 2 Samuel 5:1-5

King at last!

That's the big news about David.....that 2 Sam 5 contains

He is King....not just of the tribe of Judah....(he has been their chosen king for 7 years)

But king over all the tribes of Israel.....Just as God had said....when Samuel anointed.

God had a plan for David.....and God....at work in the heart and life of David...in those around
...and in all the positive and negative situations of his life....**brought that plan into being**

This is incredible news....It reveals that Almighty God has a specific interest in individual human
.and uses His power to control both large and small events so that those who choose to follow
...will become partners with Him in the immense plan He has for this world and those who live in

And the even more wonderful thing is that such includes you....if Jesus Christ is your Saviour
God has a planwhich is always current.....**you will** never grow out of God's plan for you
He will always have tasks.....with your name alongside....until you meet Him in glory

And what's more His plan.....is many faceted

It may begin with involvement in one area.....then as one walks with the Lord.....so it opens up
(I think of my own journey.....picking up an elderly lady.....)

(I also think of **Don Byrne** who at the age of 14 became a Christian.....)

But perhaps you are thinking

Yes....But **David** was a king.....You are a Pastor.....and Don is a missionary

God may have a plan for those type of people.....but not for me

You couldn't be more wrong

For God's purpose is to impact this world with His love.....through **everyone** who claims His name

His plan for you ...is for you to use the gifts.....to full advantage.....in the place that He has put you

- **David would never have become king**.....

If it wasn't for a large group of others.....who used their gifts faithfully

Others who were just as important in God's plan.....as David was

And together they teach us.....**the ABC of usefulness**.....

Something everyone of us.....can so easily follow,....if we truly desire to be used

The A stands for Availability:- But to be available.....**you need to listen**

And the Prophet Samuel is a great example of that.....

Samuel of course.....learnt listening lesson very early.....**When** he was just a young boy....
Remember what Samuel said to the Lord.....1 Sam 3:10

The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

From that time on Samuel not only sought to listen.....but to be available to do what God
And when God said to him.....**Go and anoint David**.....Samuel went

**It wasn't easy for him to go.....He was still emotionally attached to Saul
He was fearful for his life if he went and Saul found out
But he listened.....and he went.....And he listened again when he had to pick..**

Being available and listening go together

We see it also in the life of David

He made himself available to God.....but he didn't then rush ahead.....taking the crown by
whatever means he could

He listened and sought God's direction**Several** times in 1 Sam 23 and again in 2 Sam 2

we read that David inquired of the Lord.....He listened

Are we as available to God...as He wants us to be.....**Or just as available** as it suits us

The first means listening.....and **choosing** not to say no

(A person in a prayer meeting recently.....felt the Lord saying.....The other night visiting Gary)

- **B stands for Boldness**

If you are truly sincere about being useful for the Lord....then **be prepared to be bold**

David continuously gives us an example of being bold in the Lord.....But he is far from the only one

In fact one of the best examples of boldness.....**is found** in the story of a woman....never heard of
Yet God used her boldness....to stop David from doing...adversely affected his suitability as God's

Her name is Abigail.....and in **1 Sam 25**...described as an intelligent and beautiful woman

It seems that David and his men...have been protecting.....**and as** was the custom...
at shearing time David sends some of his mento seek some gift...as a recompense

However the husband.....surly man.....reacts with arrogance.....ingratitude and meanness
And David is livid.....and begins preparations to go and destroy Nabal and all he has

It is at this point that Abigail is bold

Without telling her husband.....she rides out to meet this band of armed warriors....bearing gifts
Speaking words of apologies.....and bringing to David a word in season...from the Lord

1 Samuel 25:28-31 is part of what she said

Please forgive your servant's offense, for the LORD will certainly make a lasting dynasty for my master, because he fights the LORD's battles. Let no wrongdoing be found in you as long as you live. Even though someone is pursuing you to take your life, the life of my master will be bound securely in the bundle of the living by the LORD your God. But the lives of your enemies he will hurl away as from the pocket of a sling. When the LORD has done for my master every good thing he promised concerning him and has appointed him leader over Israel, my master will not have on his conscience the staggering burden of needless bloodshed or of having avenged himself. And when the LORD has brought my master success, remember your servant."

When was the last time.....you were bold for the Lord????
(JAALbeing ready to serve even though they are scared to do so)

- **Then we have C.....Commitment**

David became king.....**because** over the 15 or so years since anointed.....**he** was totally committed
.to God's plan for His life

Many times he could have given up.....

- But commitment means persevering when nothing is going right
- Staying put when the years pass....and the objective seems no closer
- Not giving up though its harder than you thought.....**More** painful.....lot less enjoyable

David is king of Israel.....But it didn't happen quickly...or easily

We also see this commitment in Jonathan

By right of birth.....he should have been king....But somehow he knew...that such was not God's will

He knew that God's work for him.....was for him to support David

And Jonathan did that....even though it meant going against his father the king...

Putting his own life on the line.....and encouraging David to persevere....not to give up.

Consider these words in 1 Samuel 23:16

While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.

Aren't they amazing words.....That's commitment**.....Commitment to being an Encourager
Whatever the personal cost of doing so**

- **Perhaps God has called you to be an encourager**

To be committed to standing alongside another.....To praying for them.....Helping them
And being there for them in their times of greatest needs

**For you no great earthly glory.....but the satisfaction of knowing.....that you have been useful
In Gods almighty plan.....for touching this world....Gospel of His love.**

In prep.....read again the story of William Carey

Like David he too was set apart by God....early age to be someone import...in God's plan
And he too had an extremely hard journey....**before he** reached the mission field.....and even then
Now many of us...heard of William Carey.....But not too many.....William Ward

***Before Carey left England...he spoke to a young Christian printer.....YOU must come and print
That man was William Ward.....those words stuck in his mind....and six years later....letter to***

***Dear Mr Carey. I know not whether you will remember a young man, printer, walking
with you from chapel one Sunday and conversing with you on your journey to India. But
that person is coming to see you and writes this letter.....It is in my heart to live and die
with you....Yours affectionately. W Ward***

That's commitment.....and its also being an encourager

There's no doubt that David as king is the focal point of so much of what God was doing
But God required the **Availability.....Boldness.....and Commitment** of so many.....
to accomplish His purposes.....**The same is so true today**

We often talk about the faithful 10%.....

as the ones who are available....who are bold.....committed

That is never God's plan.....and He will never be satisfied with less than 100%

He loves you so much.....He wants to bless you so much.....**To use you**

But He needs you to be available....

To be bold

To be committed....for Him...and for His Kingdom

