

SERVED HIS OWN GENERATION

ACTS 13:36-39

Text: Acts 13:36

(Acts 13:36 KJV) "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:"

Introduction:

We who are saved have the responsibility as well as the privilege to serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In Eph. 2:10 "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

We are also reminded and encourage of our responsibility in service in 1 Cor. 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Let me remind you of our responsibility from our text that we have read that we who are saved have the responsibility to serve our generation by the will of God. To serve it as David served his. Using David as our example this morning, how can we serve our generation by the will of God?

Notice:

1. WARRIOR

A. Contended for Righteousness (1 Sam 17:20-26)

(1 Sam 17:20-26 KJV) "And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle. {21} For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army. {22} And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren. {23} And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them. {24} And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. {25} And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel. {26} And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from

Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

1. We need to follow David's example in contending for righteousness.

a. We need to contend for righteousness.

B. Convicted for the Cause (1 Sam 17:28-29)

(1 Sam 17:28-29 KJV) "And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why comest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle. {29} And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?"

- When you realize where this country is headed someone needs to sound the alarm: "Is there not a cause?"
- The Devil is at work today in our country: "Is there not a cause?"
- Constrained to Battle (1 Sam 17:47)

(1 Sam 17:47 KJV) "And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands."

1. Did something about the cause.
 - a. It is not a political battle, it is a spiritual battle.
2. We are in a battle.
3. We need to fight faithfully (1 Tim 6:12)

(1 Tim 6:12 KJV) "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."

Illustration:

We need to lead these people to Christ.

2. WORKER

He gathered all the materials for the temple.

- A. Vision (Prov. 29:18)

(Prov 29:18 KJV) "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

(1 Chr 22:1-5 KJV) "Then David said, This is the house of the LORD God, and this is the altar of the burnt offering for Israel. {2} And David commanded to gather together the strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God. {3} And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the joinings; and brass in abundance without weight; {4} Also cedar trees in abundance: for the Zidonians and they of Tyre brought much cedar wood to David. {5} And David said, Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the LORD must be exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will therefore now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death."

1. David wanted the right place for his son to worship in.

a. What kind of churches are our children and grand children going to have to grow up in America?

b. The trend has already started, Old fashion, Bible believing,

Fundamentalist, is looked at as something wrong, your intelligence is questioned and made fun of.

c. They say this is a new millennium and things have changed. That is true but let me remind you that God has not changed.

2. David looked ahead and wanted to provide a place to worship God for his son and his generation.

Illustration:

As I begin to look around a few years ago, I didn't see a place fit for my children and your children to worship the Lord. That is why Mid-America Baptist Church is here. God help us to make this church a place such as this place that David saw. A place where people get saved and enjoy serving the Lord.

B. Voice (1 Chron. 29:5)

(1 Chr 29:5 KJV) "The gold for things of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD?"

1. Most people today don't go to church to be participators, but rather spectators.

a. Can't get people to work and serve.

Illustration:

Our generation is obsessed by being well rounded and for the most part we are.

We are too busy with recreation to go and visit a bus route, or go out soul winning.

We have changed the prayer of Isaiah chapter 6, "Here am I Lord send me." We pray it like this, "Here am I Lord send someone else."

2. Are you willing to consecrate your service to the Lord?

Illustration:

David Wireman visiting his bus route every Saturday and picking up his kids every Sunday with Cerebral Palsy

C. Victory (1 Chron 28:20)

(1 Chr 28:20 KJV) "And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD."

1. With God with us we cannot fail.
2. We have victory in Jesus.

3. WITNESS

A. Spoke with Boldness - (1 Sam 17:32-37,45-47)

(1 Sam 17:32-37 KJV) "And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. {33} And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. {34} And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: {35} And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. {36} Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. {37} David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out

of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee."

(1 Sam 17:45-47 KJV) "Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. {46} This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. {47} And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands."

Illustration: Chorus I wrote.

Nothing to fear with the Lord as my guide, Nothing to fear with Him by my side, Though the day may be dark and the way seem unclear, we've nothing to fear with Jesus.

B. Sowed with Tears (Ps 126:5)

(Psa 126:5 KJV) "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

- No tears no joy.

- People will know that you care with tears.

C. Shouted for Joy (Ps 126:5,6)

(Psa 126:5-6 KJV) "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. {6} He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Illustration:

Nothing is any more exciting than bring someone with you that you have led to Christ or they get saved during the service.

Joshua at Jericho (Baptist wouldn't have shouted to the walls)

4. WONDER (ACTS 13:22)

(Acts 13:22 KJV) "And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will."

We should desire this as our testimony: "A man after God's own heart, which fulfilled all of God's will. David was a man after God's own heart because:

A. Compassionate

1. He could have taken the life of Saul a number of times but didn't.

(Jude 1:22 KJV) "And of some have compassion, making a difference:"

Illustration: Professional Preachers with no compassion.

B. Consumed (2 Sam 6:12-17)

(2 Sam 6:12-17 KJV) "And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obbedom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obbedom into the city of David with gladness. {13} And it was so, that when they that bare the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings. {14} And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. {15} So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. {16} And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart. {17} And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place,

in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD."

1. We need to get consumed in the Work of God.

- a. By being consumed, one can't see what is going on around him.

C. Conqueror

1. He united the nation of Israel

2. He defeated his enemies eventually.

3. He overcame problems and turmoil.

Close:

You and I have the opportunity to serve the Lord by the will of God for our generation. What kind of church life, what kind of spiritual values, what kind of a nation that we have for our children and our grandchildren will depend upon you and me.

What will we do about it? Will we retreat? Will we forfeit the battle? Will we not join those that say is there not a cause? Or will we give ourselves to old time preaching, soul winning, praying, singing, rejoicing

in the Lord? (Rom 8:37 KJV) "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."