

## **HELPING THOSE AROUND YOU**

### **JAMES 1:27**

PURE AND GENUINE RELIGION IN THE SIGHT OF GOD THE FATHER MEANS CARING FOR ORPHANS AND WIDOWS IN THEIR DISTRESS AND REFUSING TO LET THE WORLD CORRUPT YOU.

### **INTRO**

IF ONLY WE WOULD TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE AROUND US AND WE BEGIN TO SEE AND RESPOND TO THE NEEDS ALL AROUND US. FOR, THIS IS THE LIFE THAT IS TRULY BLESSED BY GOD. THIS IS THE LIFE THAT IS REWARDED.

### **GOD WILL BRING JUDGMENT**

### **MAT.25:31-40**

“BUT WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMES IN HIS GLORY, AND ALL THE ANGELS WITH HIM, THEN HE WILL SIT UPON HIS GLORIOUS THRONE. 32. ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE GATHERED IN HIS PRESENCE, AND HE WILL SEPARATE THE PEOPLE AS A SHEPHERD SEPARATES THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS. 33. HE WILL PLACE THE SHEEP AT HIS RIGHT HAND AND THE GOATS AT HIS LEFT. 34. “THEN THE KING WILL SAY TO THOSE ON HIS RIGHT, ‘COME, YOU WHO ARE BLESSED BY MY FATHER, INHERIT THE KINGDOM PREPARED FOR YOU FROM THE CREATION OF THE WORLD. 35. FOR I WAS HUNGRY, AND YOU FED ME. I WAS THIRSTY, AND YOU GAVE ME A DRINK. I WAS A STRANGER, AND YOU INVITED ME INTO YOUR HOME. 36. I WAS NAKED, AND YOU GAVE ME CLOTHING. I WAS SICK, AND YOU CARED FOR ME. I WAS IN PRISON, AND YOU VISITED ME.’ 37. “THEN THESE RIGHTEOUS ONES WILL REPLY, ‘LORD, WHEN DID WE EVER SEE YOU HUNGRY AND FEED YOU? OR THIRSTY AND GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK? 38. OR A STRANGER AND SHOW YOU HOSPITALITY? OR NAKED AND GIVE YOU CLOTHING? 39. WHEN DID WE EVER SEE YOU SICK OR IN PRISON AND VISIT YOU?’ 40. “AND THE KING WILL SAY, ‘I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHEN YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, YOU WERE DOING IT TO ME!’

- WHEN EVERYONE HAS BEEN GATHERED, GOD WILL BEGIN TO JUDGE ALL THE PEOPLE.
- THOSE ON THE RIGHT, WILL INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE WITH GOD AND HIS CHOSEN FAMILY.
- THOSE ON THE LEFT, INHERIT ETERNAL FIRE W/ THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS. (41-46).

**Q:** WHAT DIFFERENTIATES THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS?

**A:** SEEING THE NEED & DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

- LET US NOT DENY HELP TO THOSE WHO TRULY NEED IT!

### **LIVE TO REFLECT THE BEAUTY OF GOD**

### **2 SAM. 23:1-7, 8-12, 13-17**

THESE ARE THE LAST WORDS OF DAVID: “DAVID, THE SON OF JESSE, SPEAKS – DAVID, THE MAN WHO WAS RAISED UP SO HIGH, DAVID, THE MAN ANOINTED BY THE GOD OF JACOB. DAVID, THE SWEET PSALMIST OF ISRAEL.

- Q: WHAT ARE YOU KNOWN FOR? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE KNOWN FOR?

2. "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD SPEAKS THROUGH ME; HIS WORDS ARE UPON MY TONGUE. 3. THE GOD OF ISRAEL SPOKE, THE ROCK OF ISRAEL SAID TO ME: 'THE ONE WHO RULES RIGHTEOUSLY, WHO RULES IN THE FEAR OF GOD, 4. IS LIKE THE LIGHT OF MORNING AT SUNRISE, LIKE A MORNING WITHOUT CLOUDS, LIKE THE GLEAMING OF THE SUN ON NEW GRASS AFTER RAIN.'

- WE ALL HAVE GREAT POTENTIAL IN BEING ABLE TO BRING BEAUTY TO THE WORLD
- IT ALL STARTS WITH LISTENING AND RESPONDING TO THE VOICE OF OUR CREATOR

5. "IS IT NOT MY FAMILY GOD HAS CHOSEN? YES, HE HAS MADE AN EVERLASTING COVENANT WITH ME. HIS AGREEMENT IS ARRANGED AND GUARANTEED IN EVERY DETAIL. HE WILL ENSURE MY SAFETY AND SUCCESS.

- WHEN WE FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN TO STAY IN RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, WE WON'T FAIL.

6. BUT THE GODLESS ARE LIKE THORNS TO BE THROWN AWAY, FOR THEY TEAR THE HAND THAT TOUCHES THEM. 7. ONE MUST USE IRON TOOLS TO CHOP THEM DOWN; THEY WILL BE TOTALLY CONSUMED BY FIRE."

- THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO USE THIS LIFE FOR THEIR OWN GOOD, WILL EVENTUALLY FIND THEMSELVES LIKE CASTAWAYS – LONGING FOR FRIENDSHIP BUT UNABLE TO FIND LOVE.

#### **FIGHT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT**

IN THE NEXT VERSES, 8-12, WE LEARN OF DAVID'S THREE GREATEST WARRIORS AND SEE WHAT SETS THEM APART FROM THE OTHERS.

- JASHOBEAM – FEARLESS AGAINST THE ENEMY, A DEFENDER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
- ELEAZAR – FEARLESS AGAINST THE ENEMY, A DEFENDER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
- SHAMMAH – FEARLESS AGAINST THE ENEMY, A DEFENDER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

IN THE NEXT VERSES, 13-17, WE SEE ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE THREE MIGHTY WARRIORS: NAMELY, THEIR FAITHFULNESS TO DAVID (GOD'S APPOINTED KING), THEIR DESIRE TO DEFEND RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THEIR UNITED FEARLESSNESS AGAINST THE ENEMY.

**Q:** WHO HAS GOD PLACED IN YOUR LIFE TODAY THAT MAY NEED TO EXPERIENCE THE FULL MEASURE OF GOD'S MIGHTY LOVE?

- TAKE TIME TO GET CLOSER TO GOD, AND THE PEOPLE WHO ARE ALREADY IN YOUR LIFE.
- AGREE TO LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES WHERE GOD IS ALREADY AT WORK IN LIFE.
- PURPOSELY GIVE GOD THE CREDIT FOR WHAT HE IS DOING AND BRING ATTENTION TO HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- AND WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHERS TO BRING ABOUT THE BEST POSSIBLE OUTCOME.

**TODAY, LORD I WILL:**

- CONSIDER THE NEEDS OF OTHERS; PRAISE GOD FOR HIS BLESSINGS;
- KNOW HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND DESIRES;
- BE FEARLESS, AND NOT AFRAID TO HELP WHERE I CAN
- WORK WITH YOU AND WITH OTHERS IN MY LIFE ... ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD!