David—A Man After God’s Own Heart

Intro: Acts 13:16-22 “Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience. 17The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it. 18And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. 19And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot. 20And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet. 21And afterward they desired a king; and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years. 22And 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.”

Attention is directed specifically to verse 22 and the statement concerning David.

1. David was one of Israel’s greatest kings, reigning during some of Israel’s greatest spiritual and physical attainments.
   a. Solomon may have been highly favored by man but David was by God.
   b. He received from the Lord one of the greatest commendations ever received by man (notice our text).

2. At his appointment (by Samuel the prophet) he was an obscure unimportant lad; (1 Sam. 16).
   a. Even his father did not consider him.
   b. Samuel likewise had other ideas.
   c. Yet, David was destined by God to fill an unforgettable place in Israel’s history.

3. Let us consider this David: King of Israel, warrior, writer of many psalms, father of the Christ who came through his lineage.
   a. What made him great? Why is he called: “a man after God’s own heart”?
   b. No doubt, it was the result of many contributing factors.

I. REARED UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A GOOD HOME.
   A. Notice his father Jesse.
      1. A Jew:
         a. One of God’s chosen; Exo. 19:5-6 “Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”
         b. A child of God.
         c. A glorious heritage for any child.
      2. Obedient to God’s prophet and judge Samuel. (He thus, set the pattern for his son.)
      3. A worshiper of the true God.
         a. There is every indication was that he was faithful to the law of Moses.
         b. Eph. 6:4 “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”
         c. Pro. 22:6 “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
   B. David, as so many today, was not reared in idleness.
      1. He was accountable to his father with responsibilities and obligations; 1 Sam. 16:11 “And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.”
      2. One of the greatest evils we can do to our children is do too much for them.
      3. While occupied with these tasks David had ample opportunity to drink in the beauties and wonders of God’s nature; cf. Psa. 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”
   C. Truly, the early years are the most formative.
II. HE REMEMBERED GOD IN THE DAYS OF HIS YOUTH.
   A. It was David’s son, Solomon, who made the statement along this line.
      1. Ecc. 12:1 “Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;”
      2. However, it was David who set the example.
   B. He had not sown wild oats nor is such needful now to developing character and useful lives.

III. HE HAD AN OUTSTANDING GREAT FAITH.
   A. Such is the record of him from first to last.
   B. David and Goliath of the Philistines.
      1. 1 Sam. 17:26 “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?”
      2. 1 Sam. 17:32-37 “And David said to Saul, Let no man’s heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. 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. 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: 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. 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. 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.”
      3. 1 Sam. 17:42-47 “And the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. Then said David to the Philistine, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. 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. 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.”
   C. Psa. 23:1 “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”
   D. Psa. 27:1 “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”
   E. Psa. 37:25 “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.”

IV. HE HAD RESPECT FOR THAT WHICH WAS HOLY.
   A. Every Bible student recalls Saul’s persecution of David even after David’s appointment by God.
      1. David fled for his life! Why? Was he afraid of Saul?
      2. 1 Sam. 24:10 “Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the Lord had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the Lord’s anointed.”
B. No man develops too much respect for that which is sacred or holy: that which has been appointed by God.

1. The Bible
   a. 1 Cor. 4:6 “And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.”
   b. Gal. 1:6-9 “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”
   c. 1 Pet. 4:11 “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”
   d. Rev. 22:18-19 “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”

2. The church
   a. It organization.
      (1) Christ as its sole head.
         (a) Eph. 1:22-23 “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”
         (b) Col. 1:18 “And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.”
      (2) Within the local congregation.
         (a) Each congregation is autonomous.
         (b) They are to have elders overseeing the work.
            i) Acts 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”
            ii) 1 Pet. 5:1-3 “The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 3Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 4Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.”
         (c) Deacons as special servants doing the work outlined by the elders; Phi. 1:1 “Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:”
         (d) These men must meet certain requirements as set forth by God in 1 Tim. 3 and Titus 1.
   b. Its worship.
      (1) John 4:23-24 “But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
         (a) Directed to the Father.
         (b) Done according to God’s Word.
         (c) Done with the proper attitude.
(2) Singing.
   (a) Eph. 5:19 “Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and
       making melody in your heart to the Lord;”
   (b) Col. 3:16 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and
       admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in
       your hearts to the Lord.”

(3) Prayer.
   (a) Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and
       in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
   (b) 1 Thes. 5:17 “Pray without ceasing.”

(4) Partaking the Lord’s Supper on the first day of the week.
   (a) Acts 20:7 “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break
       bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech
       until midnight.”
   (b) 1 Cor. 11:26 “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the
       Lord’s death till he come.”

(5) Giving as God has prospered us on the first day of the week; 1 Cor. 16:1-2
   “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia,
   even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God
   hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”

(6) Preaching or studying God’s Word.
   (a) Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and
       in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
   (b) Acts 20:7 “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break
       bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech
       until midnight.”

(c) Its plan of salvation.

   (1) Believe
      (a) Heb. 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God
          must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
      (b) John 14:1 “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.”

   (2) Repent.
      (a) Luke 24:46-47 “And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to
          suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins
          should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
      (b) Acts 17:30 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all
          men every where to repent.”

   (3) Confess.
      (a) Rom. 10:10 “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth
          confession is made unto salvation.”
      (b) Acts 8:37 “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he
          answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

   (4) Be baptized in water for the remission of sins.
      (a) Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel
          to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth
          not shall be damned.”
      (b) Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the
          name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy
          Ghost.”
d. Its work: The saving of souls (which is done through three avenues).
   (1) Preaching the Gospel to the lost.
      (a) Jesus came to seek and save the lost; Luke 19:10 “For the Son of man is come
to seek and to save that which was lost.”
      (b) He gave us the great commission to go into all the world.
         i) Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name
            of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe
            all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even
            unto the end of the world. Amen.”
         ii) Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the
             gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he
             that believeth not shall be damned.”
      (c) 2 Tim. 2:2 “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same
          commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”
   (2) Edifying the saved.
      (a) Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and
          in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
      (b) Eph. 4:11-12 “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists;
          and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the
          ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”
      (c) Acts 20:32 “And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace,
          which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are
          sanctified.”
   (3) Benevolence.
      (a) Acts 20:35 “I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the
          weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to
          give than to receive.”
      (b) Eph. 4:28 “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his
          hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
      (c) Gal. 6:10 “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto
          them who are of the household of faith.”
      (d) Acts 11:27-30 “And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And
          there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should
          be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius
          Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief
          unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders
          by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.”

   e. Its name.
      (1) The church belongs to Christ; Mat. 16:18 “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter,
          and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
      (2) Thus, any name which indicates that the church belongs to Him is permissible.
         (a) Rom. 16:16 “Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.”
         (b) Acts 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the
             Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath
             purchased with his own blood.”
         (c) Since the church and the kingdom are the same:
            i) John 18:36 “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were
               of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the
               Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.”
ii) 1 Cor. 1:2 “Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.”

d) Mat. 16:19 “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

(3) There are other terms as well: body of Christ; bride of Christ; church of the firstborn; the church.

3. The name Christian.
   a. Isa. 62:2 “And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name.”
   b. Isa. 56:5 “Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.”
   c. Acts 11:26 “And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.”
   d. Why would anyone wish to call themselves by any other name (i.e., Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Catholic, etc.).

4. Worship Services
   a. We should reverence the worship of God enough to attend; Psa. 122:1 “I Was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.”
   b. Our attitude in worship should be one of respect and reverence.
      (1) Remember whom we are worshiping.
      (2) This attitude will express itself in the clothes we wear.
      (3) Thus, we will not be talking to others, passing notes, doing other things, etc.

5. We need to develop David’s respect.

C. Respect for those in seats of authority; cf. 2 Pet. 2:10 “But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries.”; Jude 8-10 “Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignitaries. Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.”

1. The government.
   a. Rom. 13:1-7 “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God’s ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due, custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.”
   b. 1 Pet. 2:13-14 “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.”

2. The elders.
   a. 1 Thc. 5:12-13 “And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”
b. Heb. 13:7, 17 “Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.... 17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”

V. HE WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE TO GOD.
A. David sinned in numbering Israel contrary to God’s law: the resulting plague killed 70,000 men.
1. David repented and asked forgiveness.
2. He was commanded by God to offer a sacrifice at the threshingfloor of Araunah.
3. 2 Sam. 24:24 “And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.”
B. Religion is of no value unless it cost us something.
1. I believe this is the reason those “brought up in the church” often do not have the appreciation for the church as those converted from out of the world.
2. Illustration: There was a rich man asking different preachers, “what will it cost me to be a member of the church?” One by one they said “little” or “nothing.” One, however, said “it will cost your all.” “That is the one for me” said the rich man.
3. Christianity demands our all.
   a. Rom. 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”
   b. Mat. 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
   c. Mat. 22:35-40 “Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, 35 Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 36 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 37 This is the first and great commandment. 38 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 39 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”
   d. Rev. 2:4-5 “Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.”

VI. HE HAD AN INTEREST IN THE HOUSE OF GOD.
A. 1 Chr. 22:6-8 “Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the Lord God of Israel. 6 And David said to Solomon, My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the Lord my God: 7 But the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not build an house unto my name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in my sight.”
B. 1 Kings 8:18 “And the Lord said unto David my father, Whereas it was in thine heart to build an house unto my name, thou didst well that it was in thine heart.”
C. Even though David was not permitted to build the house of God, still he took great interest in it.
1. 1 Chr. 28:9-12 “And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever. 10 Take heed now; for the Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it. 11 Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, 12 And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the
house of the Lord, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the
treasuries of the dedicated things:"

1. He had an interest that it should be done.
2. And that it should be done according to the pattern.
   (1) 1 Chr. 28:11-12 “Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the
houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the
inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, 12And the pattern of all that he had
by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the Lord, and of all the chambers round about, of the
treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things:”
   (2) 1 Chr. 28:19-20 “All this, said David, the Lord made me understand in writing by his hand upon
me, even all the works of this pattern. 20And 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.”

2. He collected a tremendous amount of materials and precious items for the house.
3. 1 Kings 6 shows us that this house was the temple (note verse 17 “And the house, that is, the
temple before it, was forty cubits long.”

D. The house of God today is the church.; 1 Tim. 3:15 “But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know
how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar
and ground of the truth.”

1. It is also spoken of as God’s temple; 1 Cor. 3:16-17 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God,
and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy;
for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”
2. Significance of temple and house.
   a. This was the place of worship to God.
   b. This was the place of service to God.
3. David’s interest therefore was in worship.
   a. Psa. 9:1 “I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.”
   b. Psa. 122:1 “I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.”
4. David’s interest was in service.
   a. 1 Chr. 23:25-28, 32 “For David said, The Lord God of Israel hath given rest unto his people, that
they may dwell in Jerusalem for ever. 26And also unto the Levites; they shall no more carry the
tabernacle, nor any vessels of it for the service thereof. 27For by the last words of David the Levites
were numbered from twenty years old and above: 28Because their office war to wait on the sons of
Aaron for the service of the house of the Lord, in the courts, and in the chambers, and in the
purifying of all holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God;... 32And that they should
keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the holy place, and the charge
of the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the house of the Lord.”
   b. 2 Chr. 8:14 “And he appointed, according to the order of David his father, the courses of the
priests to their service, and the Levites to their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as
the duty of every day required: the porters also by their courses at every gate: for so had David the
man of God commanded.”
5. So also should our interest be there.
   a. In Worship.
      (1) John 4:23-24 “But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the
Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24God is a Spirit: and
they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
      (2) Rev. 14:7 “Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his
judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains
of waters.”
(3) Rev. 19:10 “And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

b. In service.
   (1) Rom. 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”
   (2) One of the things the church at Thyatira is praised for is their service; Rev. 2:19 “I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.”

6. Mat. 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

7. Song: “I Love Thy Kingdom Lord.”
I love thy kingdom, Lord, The house of Thine abode; The church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood, I love Thy church, O God! Her walls before Thee stand, Dear as the apple of Thine eye, And graven on Thy hand.
For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend; To her my cares and toils be giv’n, Till toils and cares shall end; Beyond my highest joy I prize her heav’nly ways, Her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
Jesus, Thou Friend divine, Our Savior and our King! Thy hand from every snare and foe Shall great deliv’rance bring; Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv’n The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heav’n.

VII. HE WAS OF A PENITENT HEART.
A. David committed sin.
   1. 2 Sam. 11 records David’s adultery and murder.
      a. 2 Sam. 12 Nathan tells David the parable of the ewe lambs.
      b. 2 Sam. 12:13 “And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.”
   2. 2 Sam. 24 records David numbering the people.
      a. 2 Sam. 24:10 “And David’s heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the Lord, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O Lord, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.”
      b. Often people cannot understand out text in light of David’s grievous sins.
      c. While David did commit sin, he always confessed his sin.
   3. Psa. 32:5 “I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.”
   4. Psa. 51:3-4 “For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. ‘Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou Judgest.”

B. Every man sins: but the one God approves is the one who repents and obeys.
   1. Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
   2. Acts 8:22 “Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.”
   3. 1 John 1:8-2:2 “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 21My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus
Christ the righteous: "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

VIII. HE RECOGNIZED THAT GOD ALONE COULD SAVE.

A. Notice what David said.
1. Psa. 27:1 "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"
2. Psa. 51:1-7, 12 "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."

B. No man can earn salvation it is a gift of God.
1. Eph. 2:7-9 "That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."
2. Tit. 3:5 "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"
3. Rom. 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

C. Today God saves through Christ.
1. Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."
2. John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
3. Heb. 10:19-20 “Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;"

D. While no man can earn salvation, still man must comply with the conditions Christ established in His last testament; Heb. 9:15-17 “And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.”

Conclusion: Would you be “a man after God’s own heart”? The traits that made David’s life outstanding will make our lives great also.