



1 Kings 2:1-9

Approaching Death Sun, July 15th 2007



Open Bibles – 1 Kings 2

- Continue study in the life of David...almost done
- In fact - Next week – we will conclude our study

Finishing study...finishing David's life...he is about to die

- And David knows he is about to die
- Notice with me – **v.1**
- Titled message: Approach Death....his death

As look at David's approaching death...consider ours

- Simple point – everyone dies
- Notice how David describes **v.2– way of all the earth**
- Lots of goofy ways pastors say it – **10 out of 10 die**
- Simple point- every one of you will die – for sure
- True – is possible...even likely some raptured
 - But essentially – same thing as dying- over
- Ecc 7:2 – is the end of all men...Hope – that we take it to heart...learn from it

For David – causes him to articulate his passion and his problems...we will look at both today

I. David communicates his Passion

1. **David charges his son – be a man...God's man**
2. **Keep God's charge...Bible, what was written – obey it**
 - a. Note the 5 repetitions of "His"
 - b. **Consider—as King have own Bible Dt 17:18-19**
 - c. **Question – do you have your own Bible?**
 - i) O, don't have to hand write it...but yours
 - ii) With you today? If not...why?
 - iii) If with you...do you read it – or just Sunday?
 - iv) If don't have one open – using ours? Why not?
 - d. **Why should you? Same reason David gives....**
3. **That – if you do this – two things**
 - a. **One – you will prosper – blessed life**
 - i) This is what God wants for you.
 - ii) Don't misunderstand, not rich necessarily
 - iii) But full, abundant, life at the max
 - b. **Two – have God's will, plan for your life**
 - c. Without this book – reading, obeying – Miss God's blessings, you miss the best
 - i) If have- is this only time open?
4. **Not a new message for David – it is his life**
 - a. Saw last couple studies
 - i) Said to leaders and publicly to Solomon
 - ii) What I like here – private message is same
 - b. In one sense – this sums up David's life-impact
 - c. It is this passion – reality that makes David David

II. David communicates his Problems

1. Here I believe we see the human side of David

- a. **v.1-4** – wonderful – show the passion – good
- b. **v.5-9** – David raises 3 situations for Solomon
- c. **What are these? What is happening**
 - i) Most commentators explained – excused
 - ii) For me – what we have seen all along...
 - iii) David is a great man among men – one of best
 - iv) Yet...David is a man nonetheless—here is flesh
- d. **As we look at this honest snapshot of David's life...**
 - i) This is here— as an encouragement – not alone
 - ii) This is not here to say it is ok- it is bad
 - iii) This is not here as an excuse – some use
 - iv) David would be 1st turn you from this example
- e. **Call these three things unfinished business in David**
- f. **Deal with as an example of what not to do**
 - i) Yet, honestly – most will end with some of this in our lives...key is to have as little as possible

2. David's Undealt with Problem – Joab

- a. Did a whole study on Joab – hard character
- b. David has had a problem with Joab for 33 years
- c. David never confronted, leaves to Solomon
- d. Personally – I think David was wrong about Joab
- e. Yet – leave that to God – who alone can judge
- f. Problem is – David never dealt with – bitter over
- g. **Wonder today...do you have Undealt with problem?**
 - i) Someone at odds with...years...33 years
 - ii) Can I encourage you – deal with it
 - iii) As much as it depends upon you, be at peace
 - iv) In a perfect world – that is all that is needed
 - v) But not perfect yet – possible that you can deal with things...and still be at odds
 - vi) But you can end – knowing peace, leaving to the Lord. What David did not do

3. David Unaccomplished Deeds

- a. See the situation, David committed to bless
- b. David here commands Solomon to do this – why?
- c. It seems – he never got around to it.
- d. Don't think this is just asking Solomon to continue
 - i) Would be others he would add to list
- e. Problem is – I think David meant to...but didn't
- f. **Wonder about you? Unaccomplished deeds?**
 - i) Things you know you need to do – things God has called you to do? Want to...but haven't
 - ii) Can I encourage you today...don't wait
 - iii) Ministry to start? Book to write?

4. David's Unforgiven Debts

a. Situation for David – granted forgiveness

i) But still struggling with

b. Problem – this is real – David bitter

i) David forgave...but he regrets it – not forgot

ii) Wants Solomon to find out a way around

iii) Ugly picture here...but real

c. Unforgiveness is no small matter

i) It is key in our lives, spiritual health

A. Without it – we don't enjoy forgiveness

d. Can I tell you this – forgiveness needs to be continual

i) Have no ability to “forget”– continually forgive

ii) Perhaps why Jesus made part of prayers...

e. Further- Bible warns of the danger of bitterness

i) Heb 12:14-15 – poisons many, around

ii) Solomon is poisoned by David's bitterness

iii) Sadly...many people at the end of their lives, like David, are soured by bitterness

f. How about you? Is their forgiveness needed

i) Is there someone you need to forgive?

ii) Is there forgiveness that needs maintenance

Conclusion

David is dying.

- Still has the right passion, understanding
- Yet – has unfinished business

Truth is all do, will - except Jesus – said It is Finished

- Truly, He did everything God had for Him
- Nothing unaccomplished – perfect

But finishing well – ought to be our goal

- How Paul saw life – **Acts 20:24**
- This is my challenge for today – looking at David's end – hoping the living will take it to heart

Guys – life is almost over

- Some of us may be ending our race soon
- Around the next corner – end of the tape
- May be that way for all – rapture
- Time – to kick it in gear – run for the tape
- This book – lets obey it
- Undealt with problems? Deal with them
- Unaccomplished Deeds? Do them
- Unforgiveness? Put it away

David tells Solomon – prove it, prove yourself a man

- Don't just see this - Don't just know this
- Do it...prove it, live it, show it to all