A man after God's Own Heart

Acts 16:14-15

 "But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets the synagogue officials sent to them, saying, Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it."

Introduction by Paul

- Paul offers a brief history of the Hebrews.
- About verse 22, Paul speaks of David the son of Jesse.
- "And after He (God) had removed him (Saul), He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He (God) also testified and said, I (God) have found David, the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do My will"

1 Kings 15:5

- "because David did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and had not turned aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except in the case of Uriah the Hittite."
- What we have is a man who only committed one sin in his life according to God.
- We might think of a few things that David did that might not be right, but they fell into God's plans. He lied, he pretended, he killed others, even his own kinsmen, and quite a few other things.

King Saul

- Failed to keep God's commands
- Was actually rebellious towards God.
- Saul was removed from being King because of Amelek and Agag
- David was a complete contrast to Saul
- By observing some of David's actions and characteristics, we too may be a people after God's own heart.

DAVID LOVED THE WORD OF GOD

- Psalm 119 is attributed to David, all 176 verses speak of some form of God's word.
- What do some people put before the Bible today?
- Just about any and everything: TV, Schoolwork, Recreation, Work, etc.
- Many know more about the laws and bylaws of clubs and lodges than they do about the Bible.
- Some women put their household duties ahead of the Bible, witness the case of Mary and Martha as is found in Lk. 10:38-42.

. DAVID HID THE WORD OF GOD IN HIS HEART

- Psa 119:11 "So that I might not sin against thee"
- David wanted to please God, and the best way to do that was to learn all of God's commandments or teachings.
- The word of Christ is to "dwell in us richly."
 Col. 3:16.
- We are to receive the word implanted James 1:21

DAVID CONFESSED HIS SINS AND ACKNOWLEDGED THEM

- Psa. 51:2-4; 2 Sam. 12:13
- He did not talk of the sins of others, and try to blame them for his condition.
- He said, "MY sin is ever before me." See 2 Sam. 11:2-12, 15.
- David did not say that Bathsheba was at fault, even though she was partly to blame. Acts 10:9.
- It was a custom in that day to walk upon the housetop.
- He was forgiven of his sins, but God did not promise that David would be able to forget his sins.
- Adam blamed Eve, Gen. 3:12, Eve blamed the serpent, Gen. 3:13, King Saul blamed the people, etc. 1 Sam. 15:15.
- Jas. 5:16, tells us to confess our faults.
- The first step on the road to conversion is to acknowledge that we are sinners. Rom. 3:23.

DAVID LOVED TO PRAISE GOD

- Psa. 139:14.
- David praised God with instruments of music.
 Psa. 150. May we do the same?
- He also offered animal sacrifices and burned incense. May we do so? Col. 2:14.
- According to 2 Jno 9, we must find the authorization for our religious activities in the N.T.
- David, the KING, said "I will praise thee."
- Do you know of a ruler today that praises God and gives Him glory?

DAVID HATED EVERY FALSE WAY

- Psa. 119:104.
- David has been upholding the word of God and telling how he loved it and how that through it he gained understanding, "therefore he hated every false way."
- B. Did David hate sinners? No! He hated sin.
- Every false way, takes in everything religiously that is not according to the doctrine of Christ.
- There are false teachers among us today!

DAVID LOVED UNITY

- Psa. 133:1-3.
- Notice what David said about unity: It is:
- Good -- Pleasant.
- Some things are good but not pleasant -- medicine.
- Some things are pleasant but not good name your poison (sin).
- Who promotes unity?
- A person who is always fussing, quarrelling, picking fights, he thrives on unrest.
- Or a person who does everything he can to promote unity in the family, workplace, church.

Conclusion

- Paul tells us in Rom. 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that through patience and through comfort of the scriptures we might have hope."
- So, this that we have learned concerning David, a man after God's own heart, should be helpful to us in ordering our lives.
- You have the opportunity today to become a man or a woman, a boy or girl, after God's own heart.
- This can be accomplished by obedience to His will and steadfastness in His service.
- Why not seek a closeness and reconciliation with God today while you have the opportunity to do so?