

A Father's Advice

I Chronicles 28:9-10

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Introduction: David is approaching the end of his reign & his life. He takes this opportunity to tell Solomon, his son, as well as a great assembly of people, about the building of the Temple. He explains that though it was his desire to build God's Temple, he would not be allowed to do so. But David does make adequate preparation for its building, not only by collecting all the materials ahead of time, but by challenging his son with this important responsibility before him. Verses 9 & 10 contain words of advice from a father to a son. But these words were spoken for all to hear there at that time as well as for us today to heed. Dad, could you give this sort of advice to your child or grandchild? Consider David's solemn charge to Solomon, "*And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, & serve Him with a perfect heart & with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth al hearts, & 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.*"

I. **Study** ("know") God

"The God of thy father" - the passing down of a goodly heritage (Psalm 16:6).

[Boaz > Obed > Jesse > David > Solomon]

A. **K** - **knowledge** of God (Solomon is to study):

1. Know God as Savior (cf. Isaiah 45:22 & Psalm 37:3-4 with John 14:6).
2. Know God as Sustainer (cf. Psalm 37:5 with Philippians 4:13).
3. Know God as Supplier (cf. Psalm 37:23-25 with Philippians 4:19).

B. **N** - **nearness** to God (Solomon is to pray):

1. Consider an exhortation to prayer (cf. II Chronicles 7:14 with Hebrews 4:16).
2. Consider the expectation of prayer (cf. Psalm 66:19-20 with I John 5:14).
3. Consider an example of prayer (I Chronicles 4:10 - prayer of Jabez > he prays for blessing, increasing, residing, & keeping).

C. **O** - **obedience** to God (Solomon is to obey):

1. The command of obedience - Joshua 1:8, cf. John 14:15
2. The cost of obedience - I Samuel 15:22-23, cf. Acts 5:1-11
3. The consequence of obedience - Deuteronomy 6:24, cf. I John 5:3

D. **W** - **worship** of God (Solomon is to worship):

1. He is worthy of our adoration - I Chronicles 29:10-13
2. He is worthy of our supplication - Psalm 66:18-20
3. He is worthy of our devotion - Psalm 89:7 (& cf. Matthew 4:10, "worship" with Deuteronomy 6:13, "fear").

Dad, could you say to your child, "Know thou the God of your father as I know Him"?

II. “Serve” God

- A. “*With a perfect heart*” (speaks of our **sincerity**)
1. An exhortation - I Kings 8:61, Scofield's note on the word "perfect" says, "The word implies whole-heartedness for God, single-mindedness, sincerity - not sinless perfection."
 2. An example - I Chronicles 29:9 & 19 -- A reflection of obedience; not a replacement for God's righteousness.
- B. “*With a willing mind*” (speaks of our **service**)
1. There is an expectation:
 - a. “*For (because) the Lord searcheth all the imaginations of the thoughts...*”
 - b. He knows our thoughts, our motives, our dreams & our aspirations.
 2. There is an explanation:
 - a. That which is voluntary, not compulsory.
 - b. That which asks, “Why do you come to church?” - see Psalm 27:4. Illustrate: “A Father’s 10 Precepts.”

Dad, could you say to your child, “Serve thou the God of your father as I serve Him”?

III. “Seek” God (cf. Isaiah 55:7)

- A. We have a **choice** (:9b) “*...if thou seek Him...*”
1. Consider this promise - Jeremiah 29:13, “*And ye shall seek Me, & find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.*”
 2. Consider this prediction - “*...but if thou forsake Him, He will cast thee off for ever.*”
- B. We have a **challenge** (:10) “*Take heed now...*”
1. Note the privilege:
 - a. Solomon is chosen to build God's house
 - b. The believer has been chosen to be God's house (I Cor. 6:19, we are to be His temple, treasure, & tool).
 2. Note also the responsibility:
 - a. There is an exhortation > 'Be aware' (“*take heed*”)
 - b. There is an expectation > 'Be busy' (“*build*”)
 - c. There is an encouragement > 'Be strong' (“*and do it*”) - cf. Daniel 11:32, “*But the people that do know their God shall be strong, & do exploits.*”

Dad, could you say to your child, “Seek thou the God of your father as I seek Him”?

Conclusion: Could you say to your son (child, grandchild), **study** (“*know*”) God as I do? Could you say, **serve** God as I do? And could you say, **seek** God as I do? Are you able to give this advice to your child? These 2 verses contain good fatherly advice to a son, as well as good heavenly advice to us all. If you are not saved, heed first Isaiah 55:7, “*Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near.*” Dad, what kind of heritage are you leaving to your children? Closing illustration: “Ten Most Wanted Men.”