

Daily Devotional



David Welsh | He Went Out Singing | 2 Sam. 22:21-25 | August 21 . 22

■ day one { last words }

Have you ever given any thought about what you would like your last words to be? Do you think they might be words of fear, anxiety, or could they be words of encouragement? What do you think determines what your last words might be? Consider the last words of these once famous people: P.T. Barnum, "How were the receipts today at Madison Square Garden?" Winston Churchill, "I am bored with it all." King David, in 1 Chron. 29: 10-11, "Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting...we give you thanks and praise your glorious name. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours..." David went out singing. How could he do that in spite of all the pain – both physically and emotionally? In order to go out singing, one must hear God's song in the heart.

■ day two { blameless before God }

Will you be found blameless when you stand before God? Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Yet read what David, who committed some BIG sins, had to say about himself at the end of his life, "For I have kept the ways of the Lord; I have not done evil by turning from my God. All his laws are before me; I have not turned away from his decrees. I have been blameless before him and have kept myself from sin." (2 Sam 22:22-24). How could David call himself blameless? How can you be called blameless? How can we in our sins stand before the judgment seat of God and claim to be blameless? Read 11 Sam. 2:25. We can only be found blameless in His sight.

■ day three { God's redemptive plan }

What do you think causes God to see us as blameless? It is God's redemptive plan that enables us to have eternal fellowship with Him. He wants us with Him but His holiness cannot view sin. Consider the following questions: What took Jesus to the cross? (Not Roman soldiers) What held him on that cross? (Not Nails) What brought Him back to life? (Not magic). The answers to these questions give us the answer to our standing before God. The shadow of the cross covers our sins.

■ day four { religion or relationship? }

What is the difference between religion and relationship? Is Christianity a religion or a relationship? What are the elements that make up a religion? What are the elements that make up a relationship? Do you have a good relationship with your spouse? What could change that? Do you have a relationship with God? Is there anything that could change that? Our Christianity should sustain us and grant us the courage to face death. It removes the fear of the unknown so that when we die, the only part of life that doesn't change is our relationship with God.

■ day five { summary: lessons from the life of King David }

What lessons have you learned from David's life? Meditate on the meaning of the following:

- *Hope in spite of our humanity.*
- *Courage in the midst of fear.*
- *Encouragement and praise in the songs that grew out of his hours of despair.*
- *Forgiveness in his dark moments of sin.*
- *Value in serving the purpose of God in our lives, even though personal dreams may not be fulfilled.*

King David left a great legacy and he went out singing God's praises. What will be your legacy? How will you be remembered?

■ a word from the writers

This daily devotional and a weekly bible study for Life Groups that coincides with the current sermon is also available on the church website: ccc.org. We loved to hear your comments or suggestions. Email the writing team at: lampr@ccc.org.