

# IMPACT

**I** **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday  
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.  
Proverbs 3:5-6

**Passage:** Hebrews 11:32 “And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of...David...”

**Quote:** “Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall keep it to the end.” David (Ps.119:33)

**C**hosen by God to replace Saul one day as King of Israel, David was a remarkable man who had strengths and weaknesses like us all. Samuel had told Saul, “The LORD has sought for Himself *a man after His own heart*, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.”<sup>1</sup> As Samuel viewed Jesse’s sons, God said, “The LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but *the LORD looks at the heart.*” God told Samuel that David would be king. “Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and *the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.*”<sup>2</sup> David’s reputation spread. Someone told King Saul, “I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, *a mighty man of valor, a man of war*, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and *the LORD is with him.*”<sup>3</sup>

When Goliath humbled the army of Israel, David said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine... The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.”<sup>4</sup> As Goliath scorned him, David said, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied...”<sup>5</sup> Throughout a lifetime of war, David knew that “God does not save with sword and spear; for *the battle is the LORD’S.*”<sup>6</sup>

It was because he had been a man of war that God would not allow David to build a house for the ark of the LORD. David said to Solomon: “My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the LORD my God; but the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘You have shed much blood and have made great wars; you shall not build a house for my name

Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. He shall build a house for My name...”<sup>7</sup> Without questioning God, David gathered resources for Solomon to build the temple.

David committed adultery and murder, yet the Bible states that the *pattern of his life was one of “following God fully.”* He confessed his sins and sought God’s forgiveness.<sup>8</sup> He said, “I have chosen the way of truth; Your judgments I have laid before me. I cling to Your testimonies; O LORD, do not put me to shame! I will run the course of Your commandments, For You shall enlarge my heart. *Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall keep it to the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.*”<sup>9</sup>

## David’s Warfare

David’s last words speak volumes. “Thus says David the son of Jesse; Thus says the man raised up on high, The anointed of the God of Jacob, And the sweet psalmist of Israel: The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue. The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me: ‘He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God. And he shall be like the light of the morning when the sun rises, A morning without clouds, Like the tender grass springing out of the earth, By clear shining after rain.’ *Although my house is not so with God, Yet He has made with me an everlasting covenant, Ordered in all things and secure.* For this is all my salvation and all my desire; Will He not make it increase?”<sup>10</sup> Long after David died, God said, “He kept My commandments and followed Me with all his heart, to do only what was right in My eyes.”<sup>11</sup> David was an example of devotion, obedience and dependency upon God. *He was a man of steel and velvet whose blend of courage, conviction and compassion made him the “gold standard” for kings who would come after him.*

1 | Sam.13:14 2 | 13:16 3 | 16:18 4 | 17:32-37 5 | 7:45 6 | 17:32-47 7 | Chron.22 8 | Ps.32 9 | Ps.119:30-36 10 | II Sam.23:1-5 11 | I Kings 14:8