

"God Helps Those Who Obey"

Part three of the series: "Trending Truths: That's Not in the Bible"

Sunday, July 22, 2018 • Pastor Norman Nakanishi

"...And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward...¹⁴Now the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the Lord tormented him. ¹⁵And Saul's servants said to him, 'Behold now, a harmful spirit from God is tormenting you. ¹⁶Let our lord now command your servants who are before you to seek out a man who is skillful in playing the lyre, and when the harmful spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will be well.' ¹⁷So Saul said to his servants, 'Provide for me a man who can play well and bring him to me.' ¹⁸One of the young men answered, 'Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence, and the Lord is with him.' ¹⁹Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, 'Send me David your son, who is with the sheep.' ²¹...And David came to Saul and entered his service. And Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer. ²²And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, 'Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight.' ²³And whenever the harmful spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the harmful spirit departed from him." (1 Samuel 16:13-19, 21-23 ESV)

Our current assignment is always our most important assignment.

"But David said to Saul, 'Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.'" (1 Samuel 17:34-35 ESV)

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much." (Luke 16:10 ESV)

Character determines capacity.

"Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Romans 5:3-5 ESV)

The mundane becomes an altar.

*"The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup...⁶The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance... **I have set the Lord always before me...**⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure." (Psalm 16:5-6; 8-9 ESV)*

"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him..." (2 Chronicles 16:9 ESV)

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