



## **(Like David) A Woman After God's Own Heart #8 Title or Testimony**

### **I. From the life of David**

#### A. David's title: King of Israel

- 1 Sam. 16:1-13     Anointed by Samuel
- 2 Sam. 2:4         Anointed King over Judah
- 2 Sam. 5:3         Anointed King over all of Israel

#### B. David's testimony: "A man after God's own heart" (Acts 13:22)

### **II. Titles vs. Testimony**

#### A. Titles: Mother, father, doctor, plumber, dentist, teacher, etc.

#### B. Testimony: "A formal written or spoken statement...evidence or proof provided...a public recounting."

#### C. Some contrasting biblical examples:

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| Pharaoh: cruel ruler of Egypt          | Moses: Leader of the people                       |
| Darius: Babylonian King                | Daniel: Respected leader                          |
| Queen Jezebel: Persecuted the prophets | Elijah: Prophet who defeated the prophets of Baal |
| Pilate: Roman governor                 | Jesus: King of the Jews (Matt. 27:11)             |

#### D. Some biblical examples of testimonies:

- Mary (Luke 1:28): "You who are highly favored."
- Joseph (Matt. 1:19): "Righteous man"
- Simeon (Luke 2:25): "Righteous and devout"
- John the Baptist (Luke 7:28): "Among those born of women, there is no one greater..."

### III. What constitutes a Godly testimony?

- A. Begins with a relationship with Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8)
  - Gal. 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."
- B. Is strengthened through adversity (1 Pet. 1:6-7)
  - Ps. 119:67 "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word."
  - 2 Cor. 4:17 "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."
  - Heb. 12:11 "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."
- C. Has the authority and ability to inspire others
  - Examples: In 1948, the British Army had all the power in India, but Gandhi had the authority. In 1950 in the south, the police had the power but Martin Luther King had the authority.
  - 1. That "authority" is demonstrated through deep sacrifice (2 Cor. 8:9). Consider Abraham's sacrifice for Lot (Gen. 13:9)
  - 2. That "authority" is displayed through character. Consider Daniel (Dan. 6:5-11).
- D. It creates a legacy. It allows people to say their lives are better because of you. It's rooted in relationships.
  - 1. Sometimes that legacy is privately held within a family
    - a. Great marriages
    - b. Great parenting
    - c. Great grandparenting
  - 2. Sometimes that legacy is widely known

### IV. So what? How do you build a testimony?

- A. Invest time and money in things that matter for eternity.
- B. Consider yourself to be a part of the "Rescue Squad." Try to match your God given talents to a meaningful job description in God's army.
- C. Treasure relationships. Show it!

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**Discussion Questions:**

1. In your "world," who do you know that has an excellent testimony? How did they achieve it?
2. Have you given any thought to your own legacy? Any "action items" needing to be accomplished?