



## A Worthy Inheritance

BY: Chris Harper, AD

King David, knowing death was near, called for his son Solomon and gave him a charge:

"I am about to go the way of all the earth. So be strong, show yourself a man and observe what the Lord your God requires (1 Kings 2:2)."

would effectually hold the same title of king, their paths to said title were polar opposites. David's appointment came as a surprise to everyone, even his own father.

Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The

*Often, when children inherit the physical, financial and spiritual successes of their parents, they grow weak, passionless and wasteful.*

I think it is important to reflect upon David's charge to Solomon. Of all the things a father could say, a legacy of spoken words he could leave, David chose, "be strong, show yourself a man."

There is an Irish proverb that essentially states: *A man must do his own growing, no matter how tall his father was.*

David could have written this. Though David and Solomon

Lord has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives (1 Samuel 16:10-11)."

Even Jesse, David's own father, who apparently forgot he had another son, was surprised that David, the

## Upcoming events

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3/20 – MS Baseball vs. Clarksville, 5:30 p.m.

3/22-30 - Spring Break  
*Athletic Offices Closed*

4/1 – MS Baseball vs. Henryville, 5:30 p.m.

4/3 - MS Baseball vs. Clarksville, 5:30 p.m.

4/4 - HS Baseball vs. Trinity Lutheran, 5:30 p.m.

4/5 - MS Baseball vs. Henryville (Double Header)

4/5 – HS Baseball at Crothersville

shepherd boy, could be the one. David himself must have been in shock because only hours before being appointed king he was in a field, playing a harp, attending his sheep.

When I say Warrior King the picture that comes to mind is not one of a child with a harp in a field surrounded by sheep. Yes, the whole family must have been in shock.

Yet God, as always, knows what He is doing. David rose from the ranks of shepherd defending his sheep, killing lions and bears to slaying the Philistine Goliath. This once shepherd boy wielding a harp became King David, Warrior King, with his band of three hundred.

David literally went from rags to riches, pauper to powerful, shepherd to king. Solomon, on the other hand, went from a jeweled crib to a gold throne. He was a spoiled prince who

became a spoiled king. Same title, but two drastically different paths. It is no wonder that on his death bed David tells his son, "be strong, show yourself a man."

Often, when children inherit the physical, financial and spiritual successes of their parents they grow weak, passionless and wasteful. As parents, we need to carefully monitor what it is we are leaving our children. Are we leaving our children fortune over a solid foundation? A house above humility? Success before the Savior?

Over the next few weeks we will look at the danger in "setting our children up for success" and examine things we cannot leave our children, things they must pick up for themselves along the way.

The most interesting thing about David's charge is that it did not begin with an apology.

David had nothing to be sorry for and nothing left to give. Having presided over many funerals and having offered counsel to families whom have lost or are losing a loved one, it is always heartbreaking when the last days, or words for that matter, need be spent on forgiveness and apologies. To live an entire life only to have to seek forgiveness in its last hour is no way to depart. No matter what you leave your children, remember this, you have one life so don't waste it. Live in such a way that regret and sorrow will not haunt your final days.

I look forward to our conversations.

Be well,

C. Harper