

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Hebrews 12:1-3**.
- B. A couple of years ago there were a series of commercials featuring Michael Jordan and the slogan was, "I want to be like Mike."
- C. I am not going to preach about Michael Jordan today, but I want to talk about being like some faithful people as found in the Scriptures.

I. I WANT TO BE LIKE....

- A. **Enoch**, and walk in daily fellowship with my heavenly Father.
 - 1. See Gen. 5:21-24.
And Enoch lived sixty-five years, and became the father of Methuselah. **22** Then Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had other sons and daughters. **23** So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. [24] And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.
 - 2. So little is known yet so much is said. What a commentary on a life!
 - 3. He was found to be pleasing unto God (Heb. 11:5).
By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death; **AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP**; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God.
- B. **David**, and lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence comes my help.
 - 1. See Psa. 121:1-122:1.
I Will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From whence shall my help come? **2** My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. **3** He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber. **4** Behold, He who keeps Israel Will neither slumber nor sleep. **5** The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade on your right hand. **6** The sun will not smite you by day, Nor the moon by night. **7** The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. **8** The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever. **122:1** I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
 - 2. David knew where his strength lied, and it was not in himself.
 - 3. Acts 13:22 tells of the great, overall quality of David's life. He did many things well, but this is his "claim to fame." Is it ours?
"And after He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.'
- C. **Paul**, and forget those things which are behind and press forward.
 - 1. See Phil. 3:7-14.
 - 2. Paul understood the great value of having X in his life.
 - 3. He knew that God forgave his past, and it was time to live life from today onward.
- D. **Jehoshaphat**, and prepare my heart to seek God.
 - 1. See 1Kgs. 22:1-7.
 - 2. The king of Israel was trying to persuade Jehoshaphat (king of Judah) to go to war with him against the king of Aram. While 400 uninspired men said to go to war, Jehoshaphat wanted to hear what the Lord had to say.
 - 3. When we must make difficult decisions in life, may we also not listen to the many voices out there, but give ear to the Lord.
- E. **Moses**, and choose rather to suffer than enjoy the pleasures of sin.
 - 1. See Heb. 11:23-26.
By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. **24** By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; **25** choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the

people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin; **26** considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward

2. Moses made a very difficult choice because there was great material and political loss in following the Lord. And he chose a very hard life over a very easy one.
 3. But the choice was the correct one. To do what is right is always the correct action.
- F. **Andrew**, and strive to lead my brother to a closer walk with Christ.
1. See Jn. 1:37, 40-46.
 2. Andrew was a believer in Jesus, by the message he heard.
 3. Andrew persuaded Simon Peter, and then persuaded Philip, who in turn got Nathaniel.
- G. **Daniel**, and commune with my God at all times.
1. See Dan. 6:3-4, 10.
Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom. **4** Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him. **10** Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.
 2. Daniel was distinguished, had an extraordinary spirit, no evidence of corruption or negligence, and prayed continually three times a day.
 3. Daniel was a man of great integrity. He kept a close relationship with God.
- H. **Job**, and be patient under all circumstances.
1. See Jas. 5:11.
Behold, we count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.
 2. Job endured because he had great faith in God. He knew that God was not the source of his problems and that God would be the only way out of his troubles.
 3. May We always have the same attitude (Job 1:21).
And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD."

II. I WANT TO BE LIKE... CHRIST.

- A. God's ultimate plan was for the redeemed to be like His Son (Rom. 8:30).
- B. The NT speaks of our being like X (Col. 1:28-29; 2:5-7; 3:1-4).
(Col 1:28-29) And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. **29** And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.
(Col 2:5-7) For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ. **6** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, **7** having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.
(Col 3:1-4) If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. **3** For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.