

Lesson 1

Where Have the Godly Men Gone?

“What fills the void when godly men fail to exist?”

Intro:

~ Why a study on godliness?

- Consider the difference between a worldly man and godly man
~ Joshua v/s Achan (Josh 1:1-9; Josh 7:10-26; Josh 24:14-15)
- Consider the reality of godliness as a gift and fruit of the gospel
~ 1 Cor 1:30-31; 2 Cor 3:18-4:6; 2 Cor 5:21; Phil 2:12-14; Col 1:21-23; 2 Pet 1:3
- Consider the duty to pursue godliness as a believing man
~ 1 Tim 2:2; 1 Tim 4:7-8; 1 Tim 6:3-7; 1 Tim 6:11; Titus 1:1; 2 Pet 1:3-7; 2 Pet 3:11-12
- Consider the inseparable link between godliness and manhood, being a husband & father
~ Gen 2:15; 1 Cor 16:13-14; Eph 4:13; Eph 5:25-33; Eph 6:4; 1 Pet 3:7
- Consider the foundational nature of godliness in leading the church
~ 1 Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; Acts 6:1-6; 20:17-38; 1 Tim 4:11-16; 1 Tim 6:11; 1 Pet 5:1-5; Heb 13:7,17
- Consider the delight of being a godly man
~ Ps 1; 2 Tim 4:6-8; Isa 66:2; 2 Pet 1:11; 1 Thess 2:4; 2:19; 1 Tim 2:15; Js 1:12

- Consider the difficulty of being a godly man
~ Jerm 17:9; Rom 7:13-25; Gal 5:16-17; Eph 6:10-18; Col 3:5-11; 2 Tim 3:1-9; Js 13-15;
1 Pet 5:6-9; 2 Pet 2:1-3; 1 Cor 11:1-15; Jn 2:15-17; Jn 5:19
- Consider the urgent necessity for you to be a godly man
~ 1 Cor 4:1-2; 2 Cor 5:10

“A Christian man is obligated to lead his family to the best of his ability ... If his family has purchased too many items on credit, then the financial crunch is ultimately his fault. If the family never reads the Bible or seldom goes to church on Sunday, God holds the man to blame. If the children are disrespectful and disobedient, the primary responsibility lies with the father ... not his wife ... In my view, America’s greatest need is for husbands to begin guiding their families, rather than pouring every physical and emotional resource into the mere acquisition of money.” James Dobson, *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* pg. 39

“If I were to put my finger on one devastating sin today, it would not be the so-called women’s movement, but the lack of spiritual leadership by men at home and in Church. Satan has achieved an amazing tactical victory by disseminating the notion that the summons for male leadership is born of pride and fallenness, when in fact pride is precisely what prevents spiritual leadership. The spiritual aimlessness and weakness and lethargy and loss of nerve among men are the major issue, not the upsurge of interest in women’s ministries. Pride and self-pity and fear and laziness and confusion are luring many men into self-protecting, self-exalting cocoons of silence. And to the degree that this makes room for women to take more leadership it is sometimes even endorsed as a virtue. But I believe that deep down the men—and the women—know better.” John Piper, *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* pg. 53

“Where are the men with a moral vision for their families, a zeal for the house of the Lord, a magnificent commitment to the advancement of the kingdom, an articulate dream for the mission of the church and a tenderhearted tenacity to make it real? When the Lord visits us from on high and creates a mighty army of deeply spiritual men committed to the Word of God and global mission, the vast majority of women will rejoice over the leadership of these men and enter into a joyful partnership that upholds and honors the beautiful Biblical pattern of mature manhood and mature womanhood!” John Piper, *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* pg.53-54

~ Examples of godly Men who Walked with God

- Enoch (Gen 5:21-24)
- Noah (Gen 6:9; Heb 11:5-7)
- Abraham (Gen 17:1-2)
- Zacharias (Luke 1:5-7)

~ God's Plan has always been and always will be to do His work in and through godly men!

- The Patriarchs (Job; Enoch; Noah; Abraham; Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses)
- The Prophets (Daniel; Jeremiah; Isaiah; Elijah; Elisha; John the Baptist)
- The Apostles (Peter; John; James; Paul)
- The Elders (1 Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9)
- The Deacons (Acts 6:1-4; 1 Tim 3:8-13)
- The Husband (1 Cor 11:3; Eph 5:23-28, 33; 1 Pet 3:7)
- The Father (Eph 6:4; Dt 6:1-25)
- The Man (Titus 2:1-10; 1 Tim 2:8; 6:11-12; Col 1:7-8, 4:12-13; Col 4:7-8; Acts 4:36-37; 8:2; 9:10-19; 9:27-31; 11:19-26; 12:25-13:4!)

Homework:

1. Read Ps 1 and make 20 observations about the “godly” and the “ungodly” man
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2. Identify any parallels between the godly man and the ungodly man of Ps 1 as compared to Elimelech and Boaz in the book of Ruth (Ruth 1:1-5; 2-4).
3. Read 1 Tim 4:6-10. What was Timothy “trained” in (vs.6)? Find 1 specific reference in 2 Timothy that further clarifies this. Whose example and “doctrine” did Timothy follow (vs 6)? Look at 2 Timothy 1 and 2 Timothy 3. What do we learn from this concerning generational godliness?
4. Find 5 biblical examples of godly men and explain why or how they were men of God
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Memory Verse: 1 Tim 4:7-8