

Richmond Hill Baptist Church
June 19, 2011
The Measure of a Man (1 Samuel 16:7)

Prelude & Prayer Time

Call to Worship: *Rock of Ages*

Welcome: Happy Father's Day! It is good to see you. If you are a guest thank you for joining us today. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate when it comes by.

Let's take a moment and greet one another.

Sing: *How Can I Keep From Singing, Blessed Be Your Name, Lead Me*

Children's Corner: (Bottles & Book Give Away)

Offering: CNBC (Cubans, Mission Focus, Volunteer Sign Up, Engage, Equip)

Offertory: *You Raise Me Up*

Sermon: **The Measure of a Man**

I hope you enjoy this book. I have read it numerous times and gone through it several times with groups of men. It is practical, Biblical, and insightful.

I like this picture. It reminds me of my dad. My dad prefers to work with steel over wood. If you cut a piece of metal too short you can always add to it by welding another piece. When it comes to wood it is hard to add to a piece that is too short.

Men like to measure things!

We like to measure size, distance, capacity, consistency, speed, weight, pressure, power, sound, volume, light, temperature, time, and aptitude.

It doesn't matter whether it's a kid, a car, a computer, or a calorie. We like to measure it.

I wonder if any of you ever confused with Metric vs. Imperial measurements?

For a free tape measure can anyone tell me what three countries still do not use the Metric System?

Answer: US, Burma, and Liberia!

Two Questions:

1. How do we measure ourselves?

We measure ourselves in different ways. We measure ourselves by our:

Stature: Height & Weight

Strength/Speed

IQ

Net Worth

Possessions: Number of Toys

Positions & Titles

Accomplishments (Grant Maxey, Motocross Trophies, 9th Nationals)

The real question is: How does God measure us?

2. How does God measure us? (1 Samuel 16:7)

In 1 Samuel 16 God sends Samuel on a mission to locate a king for Israel. Samuel is looking for a great man to lead his country and God sends him to the family of Jesse in Bethlehem. Jesse has eight sons and some of them were big and stout but God chose the youngest and the smallest of Jesse's boys. God chose David. In verse 7 we told the criteria and way in which God measures us.

1 Samuel 16:7:

the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

God does not look at the outward and exterior things. God looks at our hearts.

God chose David because of his heart. In 1 Samuel 13:14 we are told that God chose David because he was a man after His own heart.

As it relates to the heart let me give you two considerations.

Two Considerations:

1. God is looking for a clean heart. (Matthew 5:8)

Matthew 5:8:

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

We know that David was not always pure. In fact he messed up big time when committed adultery with Bathsheba and Murder with Uriah.

Unlike many others David knew when he was wrong. He was able to set aside his pride and own up to his mistakes and try to make them right.

Psalm 51:7-10:

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Cleanse me with Goo Goo!

⁹ Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

We all make mistakes. I regularly pray asking God to help me be the best husband, dad, and pastor and I quite regularly mess up. I am not always the best husband, dad, or pastor. I do my part to ask for forgiveness and make things right. I want a clean heart before God.

God is looking for a clean heart.

2. God is looking for a committed heart. (2 Chronicles 16:9)

2 Chronicles 16:9:

For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

David was passionate and expressive. He held nothing back and I gave God all that he had.

Psalm 9:1: *I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart*

Psalm 119:10: *I seek you with all my heart*

1 Chronicles 28:9:

*“And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with **wholehearted** devotion and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever.*

We are prone to serve God with a half heart.

Jim Carey did a great job in portraying **the Grinch** who had a heart two sizes too small. Thankfully the Grinch discovered that Christmas was more than gifts and decorations and his heart grew three sizes larger. Thankfully our hearts have the capacity to expand.

We are also prone to a hardening of the heart.

Hebrews 3:13: *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.*

One of the toughest father's days that I ever had to deal with a man who had a Hard Heart. **Duane was a big man.** He was overbearing, proud, an alcoholic, and hard as a rock. He certainly was not open to God. Each week his wife and two children prayed for him at church that God would soften his heart. I remember the day when we got the call that his son had taken his own life. I thought to myself this will break Duane and yet it did not happen. Like Pharaoh his heart got harder.

John Eldredge, ***Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul***, Chapter 5: *The Battle for a Man's Heart*, page 87:

Most men have never been initiated into manhood. They have never had anyone show them how to do it, and especially, how to fight for their heart. The failure of so many fathers, the emasculating culture, and the passive church have left men without direction.

There is a battle for the hearts of men and we need men, husbands, fathers, who have clean and committed hearts before God.

In 2001 a movie came out entitled a ***Knight's Tale*** featuring Heath Ledger, It is the story of William Thatcher, a peasant masquerading as a knight, along with his companions in the world of medieval jousting. Upon discovery William Thatcher is arrested and imprisoned. His chief jousting rival Count Adhemar comes to him in jail and says:

"You have been weighed, you have been measured, and you have been found wanting."

Those words were later turned on the count Thatcher using his lance took him off his horse.

"You have been weighed, you have been measured, and you have been found wanting."

Like many quotes this one has its roots in the Bible. This quote comes from Daniel when the Babylon King Belshazzar desecrates the things of God and he sees a hand writing on the wall. Unable to translation the inscription he calls on Daniel who tells him:

Daniel 5:25-29: "This is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN ²⁶ "This is what these words mean: *Mene*: God has numbered the days of

your reign and brought it to an end. ²⁷ *Tekel: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.* ²⁸ *Peres: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.*”

“You have been weighed, you have been measured, and you have been found wanting.”

Men some day God is going to take a look at your heart and he is going to measure it and weigh it. I hope your heart is pure and full for the things of God.

Whatever you do in this life - don't come up short.

Response: *Take My Life*

Last verse: *Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.*

1. Clean Heart
2. Committed Heart
3. Soften Your Heart (loving, merciful, kind)
4. Strengthen Your Heart
5. Grow Your Heart
6. Give Your Heart to God

If you know of a man who could a copy take one and give it to them.

In honour of our dad stay and have a doughnut hole from the Glanmorgan Bakery.

Have a great Father's Day!

Postlude: *Lion of Judah*