

Serve God's Purpose

Part 1

“For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation.” (Acts 13:36a NIV)
“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God.” (Acts 13:36a KJV)

King David lived his life in serving God and doing God's purpose and plans. He served his generation and the people around him by the will of God. That really should inspire you to do the same; to live your life for God it means that you will be used to do God's purpose and what he had plan for you to do and to be for the period that you live on earth. God's word in this message is to inspire you to be in God's will and to walk in God's ways. Jesus said in **John 14:6** **“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”** As we abide in God's purpose and in God's will we are on the way that make us reach God the Father in heaven; as we serve God's purpose in our own generation by His own will then we have eternity and we will live with God forever.

We will look here to various aspects of king David life and we will see how he serve God's purpose in his own generation in doing God's will, and that will motivate us and mobilize us to do what is right and just.

1- David worked faithfully in his secular job: David before God's called him as king and shepherd for Israel he was working as a shepherd tending the sheep of his father. Did he work faithfully? Yes, and we can be sure of that from reading the Scripture. One day God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint David as king. Samuel invited Jesse and his son for the sacrifice. David did not leave his job responsibility; he waited caring for the sheep until they called him in as we can read here: **“¹¹ So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?” “There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered, “but he is tending the sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.” (1Samuel 16:11)**

King Saul knew that David is a shepherd and he is attending his job well, because he mentioned that when he sent for him, **“¹⁹ Then Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, “Send me your son David, who is with the sheep.” (1Samuel 16:19)** Here David was called for service, **“²⁰ So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine and a young goat and sent them with his son David to Saul. ²¹ David came to Saul and entered his service. Saul liked him very much, and David became one of his armor-bearers.” (1Samuel 16:20-21)** Therefore part of his time was with God's service and the other time was still with his secular job, **“¹⁵ but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem.” (1Samuel 17:15)** When his father sent him to look after his three brothers who where in the battle field he was still doing his job well, tending the sheep, **“¹⁷ Now Jesse said to his son David, “Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. ¹⁸ Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them. ¹⁹ They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines.” ²⁰ Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry.” (1Samuel 17:17-20)** David here showed his concern as well to the secular work that he has when he put another shepherd in his place to care for the sheep. Your secular job is your responsibility before God. Even when God called you for God's service, you need to attend your secular duty well, because that what God is expecting from you. As well as you need to do your secular job well to avoid people criticism, especially those who are trying to find fault on you, as it happened to David when his brother accused him of his negligence, **“²⁸ When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, “Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to**

watch the battle.” (1Samuel 17:28) David was excellent in his secular job and he achieved well. He was faithful to the task entrusted to him in protecting the sheep that were entrusted to him. We can conclude that from what David said to Saul when he was willing to go out and fight Goliath. Saul was questioning if he could do that, David said I have done that before in protecting the sheep under my care as we can read here: **“³³ Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth.” ³⁴ But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you.” (1Samuel 17:33-37)**

God will give you time to do his service as we can see how David was directed to do God's service, as well as you need to keep doing your duty well in the secular job that is entrusted to you. The following references will help you to realize that well, (**Genesis 3:17-19; Colossians 3:22-25; Titus 2:9-10; 2Thessalonians 3:6-15**) Some people they use God's service as an excuse for them to be away from doing any secular job; this is laziness and God is not agreeing about that, and you can read the following verses to realize that (**Proverbs 24:30-34. Proverbs6:6-8. Proverbs 13:4. Proverbs 14:4. Proverbs 19:24. Proverbs 22:13. Proverbs 26: 13-16. Matthew 25:26**) When God call someone for service there will be a transition from secular job to, secular job and service together. And then if that is God's will, the Lord then will make a way that he will be in full time in God's service. If that happen then we can see clearly that the Lord is providing for the needs fully. Even Paul in part of his service time he was working as we can read in the following verses (**Acts 18:1-4; Acts 20:34**) Many whom God's call they quit their secular job and their income prematurely without God's signal or his new provision for them to sustain them and sustain the ministry. And they will suffer with their families and those who depend on them. Your job is part of your ministry, and you should love your job as you love God and to be faithful because he is the one who put you there. When God wants you to be in full time for God's service, then He should be the one to make a way for that, as we know that when He guide He will provide as well. It is good to desire it to be in full time in God's service, but wait upon God to do it by Himself

David after his victory over Goliath, was taken permanently from tending the sheep and put in his new God's service as we read in **1Samuel 18:2-5** **“From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house. ³ And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. ⁴ Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt. ⁵ Whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul's officers as well.”**

My Dear and Beloved: “It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way” (Proverbs 19:2) Take heeds and prayerfully applies the message in your life as you agree to pray **My Prayer:** **“Father God in heaven, I come before you in Jesus name who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your clear word to me. I will obey what you said, grant me success and clear direction in what I am about to do in serving you and doing my secular job, this is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.**