

Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

The Upright and Pleasing Life

- Vocabulary
 - Upright: יָשָׁר (yashar) straight, right.
 - Pleasing: טוֹב (tov) pleasing, agreeable, good.
 - These two words appear together in 14 verses of the O.T.
- Development
 - The Lord is good and upright and teaches us accordingly [Psalm 25:8].
 - The Lord expects his children to be good and upright in their walk and not turn aside to wicked ways [Psalm 125:4-5].
 - The upright and pleasing life is one which serves God and obeys His commands [Deut 6:17-19].
 - ✦ This requires paying careful attention to what the Lord is saying to us [Deut 12:28].
 - ✦ We will not achieve this by doing what is right in our own eyes [Deut 12:8; Jdgs 17:6; 21:25; Prov 21:2].
 - The upright and pleasing life must be taught by those who communicate God's word and exemplified by older believers [1 Sam 12:19-25].
 - Only two kings of Judah were upright and pleasing in the sight of the Lord.
 - ✦ King Asa [2 Chr 14:2-5].
 - ✦ King Hezekiah [2 Chr 31:20-21].
 - ✦ Thus, these two kings were the true heritage of King David [1 Kgs 11:31-38; 14:7-10; 15:1-11].
 - Unbelievers may sometimes find themselves at the mercy of the good and upright judgment of believers [Josh 9:1-27].
 - Believers may sometimes find themselves at the mercy of the good and upright judgment of unbelievers [Jer 26:10-16].
 - Unbelievers will have their own concept of what the upright and pleasing life is [1 Sam 29:6-10].
- Conclusions
 - God's perfect righteousness is the standard of uprightness for our lives.
 - When we follow God's righteous commandments we will be pleasing in His sight.
 - We are fallen creatures who must learn God's standard of righteousness from His word and by the example of other believers.
 - Many people (believers and unbelievers alike) follow their own standard of righteousness, but this always falls short and will never please God.
 - In this life we may find ourselves subject to the judgment of others which we hope will be good and upright, but when we face judgment before God Almighty we know it will be good and upright.