

Who is That and Who Cares?

Benaiah: The Bad Ass-assin

1 Kings 2, 1 Chronicles 11 and Judges 7

*The most important thing about you is what comes to mind
when you think about God. A. W. Tozer*

So what do you think about God?

If we are able to answer that question completely,
we can easily predict our spiritual future.

*1 When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. 2 “I
am about to go the way of all the earth,” he said. “So be strong, act like a man...*

*8 “And remember, you have with you Shimei son of Gera, the Benjamite from Bahurim,
who called down bitter curses on me the day I went to Mahanaim. When he came down
to meet me at the Jordan, I swore to him by the Lord: ‘I will not put you to death by the
sword.’ 9 But now, do not consider him innocent. You are a man of wisdom; you will
know what to do to him.*

Bring his gray head down to the grave in blood....

STORY OF DAVID TO SOLOMON

*46 Then the king gave the order to Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and he went out and
struck Shimei down and he died. The kingdom was now established in Solomon’s
hands. 1 Kings 2:1-2, 8-9 and 46*

****A good day for Solomon #BLESSED. But there was still work to be done.**

****Why did God wait to establish Solomon until Benaiah killed Adonijah, Joab and
Shimei?**

— Not because they insulted David or irritated Solomon,
but because they were a threat to God’s plan.

Music

Message Part II

Who is That and Who Cares?

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1 Kings 2, 1 Chronicles 11 and Judges 7

22 Benaiah son of Jehoiada, a valiant fighter from Kabzeel, performed great exploits. He struck down Moab's two mightiest warriors. He also went down into a pit on a snowy day and killed a lion. 23 And he struck down an Egyptian who was five cubits tall. Although the Egyptian had a spear like a weaver's rod in his hand, Benaiah went against him with a club. He snatched the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear. 24 Such were the exploits of Benaiah son of Jehoiada; he too was as famous as the three mighty warriors. 25 He was held in greater honor than any of the Thirty, but he was not included among the Three. And David put him in charge of his bodyguard. 1 Chronicles 11:22-25

Let's Meet Benaiah

- One of David's group of 30 (mighty men)
- Benaiah means "the Lord has built."
- eight other 'Benaiahs' appear briefly in the Old Testament.

"Normal people run away from lions. They run as far and as fast as they possibly can. But Benaiah was a lion chaser and he was wired differently."

1. God often works through 'the impossible'. (Judges 7 - Gideon's Army)

***There is a pattern** in the Bible: Sometimes God won't intervene until something seems impossible. Then he does it just in the nick of time.

*In Judges 7, Gideon's army of thirty-two thousand men is extremely outnumbered by the Midianites. They were already underdogs when the Lord gave a counterintuitive command:

"You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands." Judges 7:2

— **Benaiah found himself in three impossible situations.**

(Two Moabites, the 7.5 foot Egyptian and the Man eating Lion)

— God is in the business of strategically positioning us
in the right place at the right time.

— The right place often seems like the wrong place,
and the right time often seems like the wrong time.

2. When God gets the credit - great things can happen.

(Benaiah gave God the credit for his three victories.)

*Many times our prayers revolve around asking God to Put the odds in our favor - in our lives. But God often stacks the odds against us so we can experience a miracle of divine proportions.

*A couple of short verses after killing the Lion, Benaiah
was appointed head of David's bodyguard.

3. Little things (when no one is looking) become big things - over time.

Benaiah went on to have an amazing military career.

He eventually became commander in chief of Israel's army.

But it all started with 'being in the wrong place at the wrong time'.

Early in his life, Benaiah was faced with a choice that would determine his destiny.

He would either chase a lion or run away.

Two kinds of regret:

1) regret of action - wishing you hadn't done something. (commission)

2) regret of inaction - wishing you had done something. (omission)

— Goodness is not the absence of badness.

— You can do nothing wrong and still do nothing right.

— Running away from sin is a good start, but it's only half way there.

The issue is not how many obstacles are in your path,
but how big is your God?

***Followers of Christ chase lions.**

