

II Sam. 14-18

ABSALOM

SUBJECT: The Primary  
Character

Handsome Absalom

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II Sam. 14-18

HANDSOME ABSALOM

14: 25, 26 his personal beauty (30 pounds of hair)  
his mother the daughter of a Syrian king

15: 1 athletic, showman

15: 2-6 winsome personality, shrewdness, astuteness

13: 1, 20, 23, 28, 38 cruel as death  
(not a fig. of speech, but forthright)

14: 1 (13: 39), 30-33 unscrupulous

15: 7-9 the war at Hebron (where born)

15: 10-12 the rebellion, Abithophel the wise counsellor

15: 13-23 the loyalty to David, Hui (y. Ruth) with  
more solid after 18: 2. Some of his fall in the  
battle

15: 24-29 Zedek, Abithophel sent back with the ark

15: 30 David's lament

15: 31-37 Hushai returns to Jerusalem

16: 15-19

16: 23 wisdom, shrewdness, Abithophel

17: 1-15 Hushai overthrew Abithophel's shrewd counsel

18: 23 suicide of Abithophel

18: 1-8 Joab, Abasai, 1 Hai. Battle joined

18: 9-17 Absalom slain

18: 19-32 Ahimaez too soft hearted to bear the news  
Cushai shows, for he would say it

18: 33 yep David

19: 6 remembrance of Joab

The gifts, enclosures of God, nothing with me  
devotion  
loyalty  
dedication  
charity  
gratitude

Send not the witness enclosures but Jesus is the end

5/6/61

## The Handsome Boy in Hollywood

II Sam. 14-18

In Kedron Valley, Absalom's Tomb. For  
thousands of years, every jaw that passed by,  
shook a ~~stone~~ ~~eye~~ ~~it~~, spat upon it.

Surely, some deformed criminal, terrible  
to look at. Offense to the sight ... NO!

II Sam. 14:25

His gifts, talents ...

Only one thing wrong. He did not have  
God in his heart.

Without God in your heart, every talent,  
gift you possess is a curse.

## THE PRIMACY OF CHARACTER

Story of II Sam. 14-17

Was brought upon Israel, upon himself, upon David.  
 Made possible by two things - personality, ability > everything he possessed a curse.  
 - lack of character

I. All attainments of Man <sup>native acquired</sup> are a Curse Without Character.

And the greater they are, the more they are to be feared, dreaded.

Can personality, beauty, ability, learning, be a curse?

Seems like possession, inordinate

World today - horror

thesis of sermon - character production  
 II. It is the Quality (Character) of Life that Gives Life Its Meaning.

1. Life is itself

- little or no value

- possessing honor and

- to be destroyed. <sup>x moderate parts</sup>

x Markham man

x Nietzsche

2. Life <sup>is a</sup> burden to the individual <sup>without character</sup>

- a burden

(as 2:2:2)

- missing mark

x Paul in 1 Cor. 13

### The Primacy of Character

I. It must be first considered in Every Decision, Contact

mobile staff

Bank

Impression made no matter

Travel before - friends

what kind books read <sup>see</sup> <sup>then</sup> <sup>again</sup> > <sup>know</sup> <sup>vs</sup> <sup>applies</sup> <sup>x</sup>

II. It must be sustained at any cost

No temptation, no road

Course

Would oppose ...

(a) well, etc.

III. It finds its highest expression in Sacrifice

not get - but give

morals - means - Christ

(a) John Kelly, (b) St. Ignace

We are building every day  
In a good or evil way;  
And the structure as it grows  
Will our inmost soul disclose

Lill in every arch and line  
All our faults and failings shine—  
It may grow a castle grand,  
Or a wreck upon the sand.

Do you ask what building this,  
That can show both gain and bliss—  
That can be both dark and fair?  
Lo, its name is character.

Build it well whatever you do,  
Build it straight and strong and true,  
Build it clean and high and broad;  
Build it for the eye of God.

— Elsie Dundy

Luke 4: 16-30 "But he, passing through the midst of them went his way."  
as I might say anything to help with the boys?

THE PRIMACY OF CHARACTER

What is this, to gain a subject for a Baccalaureate address?  
 A picture; the mob, their madness; the man, his grace, his dignity - a something restraining. A like picture in John 18: 2-6. The soldiers, temple officers, mob; the man, his purity, holiness - a something prohibiting, restraining. What was that something in the man Jesus? All the attributes, goodness, holiness, righteousness, grace, dignity; but for lack of a better and a more comprehensive, we shall call it character. Jesus possessed the authority of character, back of his every word, deed, and even in private with, and all the attributes we have named.

His life of Jesus was more powerful than any other. His blood more efficacious, his cross the symbol of our salvation because of his character, his purity, his character. A life in itself may be of little value - an insect has life, a toad, a dog; a life in itself may be decidedly harmful - a germ, a rattlesnake, a criminal; a life may be marvellous in its power and influence - an artist, doctor, preacher, missionary, teacher. The quality, character, of life makes the difference between positive good and absolute harmfulness. There are many things worse than the loss of life itself, things worse than death.

(a) the Jews home near King's church. The family breaking into tears after prayer. The son, in pain, studying Charles, Turkey. 1878, baby, janitor church. (b) a home, poor. No, against father. Loss of respect. Husband, brother cruel. Children afraid. Sick, painful. Rather to die. at hospital. Family didn't want him. Cruel, cursing, drinking. Had his own. (c) Jesus, death sweet to the loving hell of facing the imminent man he betrayed. It is not life, it is the quality, the character of life that renders every human relationship beautiful and makes life itself supremely valuable.

Character, then, is primary, and this is our subject: the Primacy of Character.  
 1. It must be first considered in every contact, <sup>second, third</sup> made in life. A first consideration about effect will this find, both, but thought, born upon my life, and so within into what I am, my character. We are made of malleable stuff; anything will leave its imprint upon us. We are soft as clay, and are moulded by the hands of friends and acquaintances by the things of daily life. Men are as hard as marble, the chords of tissue, environment, desire, thought as steel would carve us into some kind of a figure. There is a Greek word χαρακω, which means "cut," "impress." The Greek word for the engraved mark is χαρακτηρ. A letter of the alphabet cut on a wheel, a mark in clay with a stamp, was a " " . And so the word was applied to the life of a man: the summation of imprints, marks, made the character of the man. Everything I come in contact with leaves some kind of an indelible impression upon me. It leaves it in the brain's memory, in the nerve growth in the way I think, act, make decisions, my likes, dislikes, wishes, aspirations. Every man has some kind of an influence upon me, and the closer he is to me the deeper his imprint upon my life. What kind of friends do I have? and what kind to seek? (a) Mrs. Kimball, '08, boys, the wrong crowd."

Every thought I think, every imagination that dwells in my thinking, what  
kind of thoughts, the good? <sup>what kind of thoughts, the good?</sup> What gives you  
attention, your imagination, gets you, <sup>gets you, the good?</sup> <sup>gets you, the good?</sup> <sup>gets you, the good?</sup>  
beard which will, like a jolly swine. <sup>the outworking of spiritual thoughts,</sup>  
ideas. <sup>to Socrates, at least.</sup> Every book I read, what kind of books,  
therefore? <sup>to me, to be limited.</sup> Read the book, can't read that. <sup>child, no time for</sup>  
cheap literature, nor for most modern fiction. <sup>So called realism.</sup> <sup>Everything?</sup>  
see. <sup>shows.</sup> If all has any exalting influence, may I committ to you a  
friend and Fellowship, might with others will leave you for the  
depleat and most precious mark. I refer to Jesus, and His Heavenly Father. <sup>where</sup>  
I assent with them. <sup>talk in prayer to Him - read His word this is something</sup>  
that becomes a part of my being, as that something is much more than all the world.  
Character made in the presence of God. <sup>Great character gained from our place, God.</sup>  
This far, it must be considered first is all our choice, contacts.  
<sub>(a) to him</sub>

2. It must be sustained out any cost. <sup>No temptations submitted to that</sup>  
would weaken the quality of my life. <sup>No inward from sources that would leave</sup>  
me broken in self-respect or less stalwart in following the highest ideals. <sup>this means</sup>  
that a boy, full of great character is not of great courage. <sup>It takes more courage to</sup>  
be morally fearless than it does to be physically brave. <sup>(a) Dora, night -</sup>  
harder cut & Malheur was. <sup>Milting before wickedness, those coward,</sup>  
Can you be true to your ideals? <sup>(a) Lucy Malt, offered place in school of dance.</sup>  
Dorson: "young people of our age do so. <sup>Mrs. You would lead in this social grace.</sup>  
But, loyalty to ideal, many great boys. <sup>(a) Leslie Malt brown. "let me out. I'll walk</sup>  
back to town." <sup>Hot essay - a force account. "not asceticism." (a) Putting out</sup>  
footprints in sand? <sup>Egypt. But courage is a world of evil. The sustains of</sup>  
in no man. <sup>To give our lives to an ideal of righteousness, holiness. Some things</sup>  
I want do. <sup>Refuse to compromise. Self-sacrific. God's favor.</sup>  
<sub>The ones are getting better - are</sub>  
<sub>temptations influence.</sub>

3. It reaches its most beautiful preparation in moral fitness in giving, in altruism.  
Character is not built upon the principle that I will <sup>take</sup> this and put it  
into my life, and then hold this and this and this. <sup>rather the reverse, I will take</sup>  
what I have, and give it in service to God and to the man <sup>God has made.</sup>  
Moreover are usually women of great character: <sup>their sacrifices, devoting love make</sup>  
them so. <sup>Missionary "....."</sup> <sup>a loyal friend ...</sup>  
<sup>(a) Mrs. Washburn, at Kelly.</sup>  
<sup>In Jesus. Greatest character, part of His</sup>  
<sup>Spirit to give His life a ransom for many.</sup>  
<sup>Praying for them.</sup>



Every thought I think, every imagination that dwells in my thinking. What kind of thoughts, the good? What kind of thoughts, the bad? What gets your attention, your imagination, gets you, like a boy crazy, boy girl crazy. Something lewd, wicked, vile, like a filthy swine. Like the outwinking of youthful thoughts, ideals. As Lancelot, at the market. Every book I read, what kind of books, therefore? Some, I'm limited. Read the book, can't read that. Can't see for cheap literature, nor for most modern fiction. So called realism. Everything I see. Shows. If all has any exalting influence, may I commend to you a friend and a Fellowship, might with others will leave you for the daylight and most precious work. I refer to Jesus, and His Heavenly Father. I associate with them. Talk in prayer to them - read His word this is something that becomes a part of my being, as that something is much more than all the world. Character made in the presence of God. <sup>Great character gained from our Jesus Christ.</sup> <sup>(a) Work out Annelle's saying, put not to get. But!</sup> Thus far, it must be considered first is all our choice, contacts.

2. It must be sustained at any cost. No temptations submitted to that would weaken the quality of my life. No inward from sources that would leave me broken in self-respect or less stalwart in following the highest ideals. This means that a boy, full of great character is one of great courage. It takes more courage to be morally fearless than it does to be physically brave. As Peter, night - handed out to Malchus ear. Wiping his face with his blood-stained hands. Can you be true to your ideals? As Lucy Webb, offered placing school of dance. "Yes, you people of our age do so. Yes. You would lead in this social grace." But, loyalty to ideal, many great? Boy. As Leslie Melbourn. "Set me out. I'll walk out to town." Not easy - a force around. Not asceticism. As Putting out feet joints in sand of Egypt. But courage is a world of ours. The sustenance of it is no mean. To give our lives to an ideal of righteousness, holiness. Some things I want do. Refuse to compromise. Self-sacrifice. <sup>The power of getting better - our temptations overcome.</sup>

3. It reaches its most beautiful preparation in moral fitness in giving, in altruism. Character is not built upon the principle that I will take this and put it into my life, and then hold this and then and then. Rather the reverse, I will take what I have, and give it in sacrifice to God and to the man God has made. Mothers are usually women of great character: their sacrifice, denying love make them so. Missionaries "....." a loyal friend... (a) Mrs. Washburn, at Kelly. In Jesus. Greatest character, part of His spirit to put His life a ransom for many. Praying for them.

## THE PRIMACY OF CHARACTER

### Introduction

1. Text
2. Jesus more valuable, because of character
3. Life is itself stakes, good, good. Character makes difference.
4. Many things more than death.
  - (a) Jesus born
  - (b) Hospital men
  - (c) Jesus.

### I It Must Be First Considered.

- what effect on life? we see mobile
  - Mr. Wood & d. p. d. 11-17. Power matters
1. Friend some kind of influence.
    - (a) Mrs. Wood
  2. thoughts, imaginations. Life but outworking?
    - (a) Luther
  3. Books show
  4. Impact with God - only some of true character  
    - (a) Councils did not forget.

### II It Must Be Sustained at any Cost.

- more courage
- (a) Bible
  - (b) Long suit
  - (c) Luther's Millers - not silly, but life & death.

### III It Reaches Its Most Beautiful Proportion in Unselfishness

- Not built upon privilege, it all, keep all. Luther vs.
- mother, missionary, loyal friend, great character.
  - (a) Mrs. Wood, Ab. Kelley.

So Jesus, greatest character, is keeping with the spirit  
the living for him. At game, Mrs. for him.