

Making Ready for the test

mark 1:16-118

One trouble with humanity is that it does look daily character building which goes on every day from young childhood to the grave we are prone to preach our character building sermons to high school students.

But this feature of life never ceases as long as we live. Each person is the result of his:

1. Desires
2. Thoughts
3. Decisions
4. Acts.

It is not necessary to be conscious of the process, the consciousness of the process is not one of the factors determining its actuality. A man may go on not thinking what kind of life he is building. In later years he will some how force himself into a spell of richness or tristesse and for the first time realize what he has built.

See - The character of Moses was made in the desert as a herdsman maybe unconscious of what was being built in his life.

So with Daniel - ~~exorcising~~

his muscles, learning bravery in protecting his sheep, developing harmony of spirit by playing his stringed instruments, and coming to know his maker as he watched the stars.

All these things went into the making of David and the chieftain became father to the man.

Tests came in later years but he was ready to meet them. The test **AND** to every man comes the test. It came to Christ (nine months' meaning of language at baptism).

The test does not form your character as much as it reveals yours. It reveals what has been going on.

Ill - 1. Just the sending of Lincoln to White House was not the thing that made him great.

2. Being President while the world was went on did not make Wilson great. Else all rulers would have become great.

3. The world war showed what the world was.

The wise persons will surmise that much of life is made up of the unexpected and will do all he can to be ready -

opportunities come to mature
ideas and they can't hold them
the new opportunity did not defeat him
the misuse of early years worked
his failure

The really great crises are the
moral and spiritual.

Ill - Rufus Jones wrote of a
friend who went to consult
a famous London doctor.

He was a great literary
gifts and was at the begin-
ning of a great career.

The Dr. frankly said, "you
have a dreadful disease that
will destroy your hearing
and your sight."

First despair came on him
but as he meditated a
deep peace came into his
heart because of a deep
spiritual experience of
former years - it had pre-
pared him.

Ill Such an experience
came to the disciples at Pentecost - They were not ready - earthly
power had been their goal - But
Pentecost empowered them
all then they would do for Him.

So our daily desires - thoughts -
decisions and acts form our
resistance -

Ill - one day a physician
visited the family George Mathe-
son.

Putting his hands on his
shoulders and looking him in
the eyes the Dr. said, "If there is
a job you want to look upon
again go look quickly for
your sight is nearly gone -
you will never be able to
gain it back"

Matheson went in and wrote
to her whose face he wanted to see
and told her all - she cut him
adrift forever.

In the greatest agony of his
soul he sat down and wrote;

Oh love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul on thee
I give thee back the life I owe^{thee}
That is thine ocean depth its
may richer fuller be,

A joy that seeketh my thorn pain
I Can not close my heart to thee
I Face the rain how through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall be less be.

