



## ... Heart to Heart ...

When it comes your time to die, what kind of advice would you give your children? Would you talk to them about taking care of each other? Would you speak about your possessions? What would you say? We have King David, advising his son Solomon, before his death. He was an old and experienced warrior and king, but he knew his own mortality.

David knew Solomon would take over his reign, but he didn't advise him on how to rule. He didn't talk to him about what to do with the family inheritance. He pointed Solomon in the path that all men should take because we all will face this death. Just listen to his words:

**“I am going the way of all the earth.”** That's hard for some to accept. Let's listen a little closer. **“Be strong, therefore, and show yourself a man. Keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the Law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn.”** (I Kings 2:2-3)

Of all that David could have spoken, the last words Solomon would hear from the mouth of his father, David, pointed his son to the Lord and His ways! He wanted his son to be a person of character, to be strong and to act like a man should act. He wanted his son to be self-controlled, fearless, relying on the Lord and doing what is right according to God's Holy Scriptures. He didn't want his son to be a coward! Any coward can follow the crowd, but it takes a godly man to stand up and do what is right in the sight of God! To turn from the pressures of the world by doing right takes a man of conviction and faith in the Lord.

Many years later, the apostle Paul wrote two inspired letters to his spiritual child Timothy. Paul was getting close to the end of his life and rang out clearly with these words of advice: **“For bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.”** (I Tim. 4:8) **“In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award me on that day; and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.”** (II Tim. 4:8)

Let me ask you again, as your life approaches its end, what will you advise your children? Think about it!!!

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