

Keepers of the Kingdom

Members' Duties

Godly Men Are *Gittites*

- What in the world are *Gittites*?
- Do you prefer *Cherethites*? Or *Pelethites*?
- These three divisions of Philistines served David!
- Bodyguards, special ops, couriers, assassins, etc.
- They swore loyalty to David and David's LORD!

Gittites Served David?

- But the Gittites were from Goliath's home town!
- Right! But they still wanted to follow God's man!
- They were hated traitors to their own nation.
- They were feared foreign mercenaries in Israel.
- David had won them by character and conduct.

Learn Fascinating Bible History!

- Ittai the Gittite led his 600 against Absalom.
- Benaiah was over the Cherethites and Pelethites.
- When Joab defected, they installed Solomon!
- Benaiah assassinated both Joab and Adonijah.
- The exploits of David's mighty men is great stuff!

Ittai the Gittite's Oath

16 And the king went forth, and all his household after him. And the king left ten women, which were concubines, to keep the house.

17 And the king went forth, and all the people after him, and tarried in a place that was far off.

18 And all his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the king.

II Samuel 15

Ittai the Gittite's Oath

19 Then said the king to Ittai the Gittite, Wherefore goest thou also with us? return to thy place, and abide with the king: for thou art a stranger, and also an exile.

20 Whereas thou camest but yesterday, should I this day make thee go up and down with us? seeing I go whither I may, return thou, and take back thy brethren: mercy and truth be with thee.

21 And Ittai answered the king, and said, **As the LORD liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in what place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also will thy servant be.** (II Samuel 15)

David's Mighty Men

DAVID

THE KING

Cherethites & Pelethites

Philistine bodyguards under the command of Benaiah

Gittites (600)

Philistine bodyguards under the command of Ittai the Gittite

Joab

Captain of the Host

Benaiah

Captain of the Host
(after treason of Joab)

Three Mightiest Captains

Adino
the Eznite

Eleazar
son of Dodo

Shammah
son of Agee

Three Mighty Captains

Abishai
son of Zeruiah

Benaiah
son of Jehoiada

Asahel
son of Zeruiah

Elhanan, son of Dodo
Helez the Paltite
Mebunnai the Hushathite
Heleb, son of Baanah
Hiddai of Gaash
Eliabha the Shaalbonite
Ahiam, son of Sharar
Hezrai the Carmelite
Bani the Gadite
Ira an Ithrite

Shammah the Harodite
Ira, son of Ikkesh the Tekoite
Zalmon the Ahoite
Ittai, son of Ribai of Benjamin
Abi-albon the Arbathite
Jonathan, son of Shage
Eliphelet, son of Ahasbai
Paarai the Arbite
Zelek the Ammonite
Gareb an Ithrite

Elika the Harodite
Abiezer the Anethothite
Maharai the Netophathite
Benaiah the Pirathonite
Azmaveth the Barhumite
Shammah the Hararite
Eliam, son of Ahithophel
Igal, son of Nathan of Zobah
Nahari the Beerothite
Uriah the Hittite

Christian Men Serve David's Son

- Our sworn allegiance is to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- He assigned us to this church in His kingdom.
- Our duty is to protect His glory, honor, and truth.
- Our duty is to preserve this outpost in the world.
- It is a greater duty than the BSA or US military.

The Apostle Paul's Oath

20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:20-21

Are He and His Church Worth It?

- Jesus is the Son and Lord of David (Ps 110:1).
- He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev 5:5).
- He is the Blessed and Only Potentate (I Ti 6:15).
- On His white horse He has no peer (Re 19:11-16).
- Quit yourself like a man for Him (I Cor 16:13).

The Battle Is Very Real

- If David won their loyalty, what of us to Christ?
- David's men fought fleshly enemies, we spiritual.
- We live in perilous times – the lines are drawn.
- Men knowing God have done exploits (Da 11:32).
- Are you a mighty man of valor for David's Son?

Will You Take Up Your Sword?

- Is your zeal equal or greater than the Gittites?
- Our warfare is spiritual, not carnal or physical.
- We must fight a constant war against the flesh.
- But this study focuses on protecting our church.
- Are you ready and willing to do your full duty?

You Are Your Brothers' Keeper

- Cain tried to excuse himself for Abel (Gen 4:9).
- We are in this body together by Christ's blood.
- By baptism we swore allegiance to Jesus and His.
- Attending, singing, hearing, going home is vain.
- We must help one and all prepare to meet Christ.

Do You Understand Your Duty?

- We forsook family and friends for spiritual body.
- We love the bond of our blood-bought brothers.
- We know the battle individually and corporately.
- We love the blessing of a great church (Ps 133).
- Do you relish the business of keeping it perfect?

I Thessalonians 5:14

“Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.”

- This is not a pastoral epistle, but one to a church.
- These are the duties of members, not pastors.
- Do you understand these duties ... and do them?

I Thessalonians 5:14

- **Warn the unruly** – correct major ungodly conduct.
- **Comfort feebleminded** – encourage, strengthen the weak, old, fearful, oppressed, or cast down.
- **Support the weak** – these are those weak in matters of liberty, so we consider one another.
- **Be patient to all** – put up with personal offences without grudges, bitterness, but rather charity.

Warn the Unruly - 1

- This is how to keep your church holy and growing.
- If the offence is personal, then Matt 18:15-17.
- If the offence is sin, then Gal 6:1-5 & Jas 5:19-20.
- This is true brotherly love (Lev 19:17; Pr 27:5-6).
- Imagine the growth in purity if members did this!

Warn the Unruly - 2

- Rebuke backbiting by face or words (Pr 25:23).
- Inquire and exhort those missing assemblies.
- Rebuke any texting or reading in assemblies.
- Reading the Bible in church is questionable?!
- Correct those talking only about jobs or health.

Warn the Unruly - 3

- Correct those with regular angry or moody faces.
- Do not participate in thankless talk of anything.
- Exhort the thankless to get right with the Lord.
- Bring conversations back to spiritual topics.
- Correct any foolish talking or jesting (Eph 5:4).

Warn the Unruly - 4

- Rebuke criticism or disagreement with pastor.
- Exhort the withdrawn about loving and exhorting.
- Encourage every man to participate regularly.
- No one gets to sit in their car after an assembly.
- Inquire of any brother void of praise or thanks.

Warn the Unruly - 5

- Tell husbands/fathers about immodest attire.
- Inquire about too many friends in the world.
- Inform husbands/fathers to help godly authority.
- Encourage late-arrivers to honor the great King.
- Inquire of song-mumblers or head-down-readers.

Warn the Unruly - 6

- Do not dispute about matters of liberty (Ro 14:1).
- We are not talking about being holy nit-pickers!
- Make sure you are free from beams for nit-work!
- Wisely remember gentleness and mercy always.
- Do not be a wasted life by not getting involved.

James 5:19-20

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”

- This rule applies to every church member – *any*.
- Erring from truth is very similar to being unruly.
- This is one-on-one labor without pastor or others.

James 5:19-20

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.”

- This work of conversion must point out the error.
- This work of conversion must show the right way.
- You can save a brother from death and sin.
Glory!

Galatians 6:1

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”

- This man is not a first offender, but overtaken.
- A fault is a sin, not personal offence or stupidity.
- The more spiritually minded are more obligated.

Galatians 6:1

“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”

- Restoration here is not to church membership.
- Meekness is gentleness and humility in helping.
- This is also one-on-one work by church members.

Hebrews 3:12-13

“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.”

- Any brother is capable of any sin at any time.
- This danger can extend to departing from God.
- Care for “one another” should cause you to heed.

Hebrews 3:12-13

“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.”

- A remedy for this great danger is daily exhorting.
- Hardening through sinning can overthrow sense.
- Sin is deceitful and lies to men allowing it room.

Hebrews 10:24-25

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

- Slow down to consider others – know and adjust.
- Recall the “one another” studies we have had.
- The goal is to provoke to love and good works.

Hebrews 10:24-25

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

- You can provoke by example (Rom 11:11,14).
- You can provoke by exhorting (10:25; Rom 15:14).
- You can provoke by commendation (Prov 31:31).

Hebrews 10:24-25

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

- This starts by attending every church assembly.
- But you must attend for “one another” duties.
- We must do it for perilous times and His coming.

Matthew 18:15-17

“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.”

Matthew 18:15-17

- These are only personal offences between two.
- The best action is to forgive offences (Pr 19:11).
- However, if serious or troubling you, do this here.
- Go in private without telling one other person.
- Tell him his fault to try to restore the relationship.

Matthew 18:15-17

- If an ugly spirit of war exists, you will expose it.
- Then you take one or two more as witnesses.
- If he rejects you and them, bring it to the church.
- Let the church judge the matter one way or other.
- Either he submits, or we all get rid of a problem.

The Role of this Duty

- The church is a body – the pastor is one member.
- Pastors seldom get to see and hear what you do.
- A united church against a sinner is a solid wall.
- A church builds itself by every part (Eph 4:16).
- Everyone wins big when members do their duty.

The Benefit of this Duty

- Hopefully the efforts will save a brother from sin.
- Our goal should be to save every soul possible.
- Yet, it may drive away the haughty and/or carnal.
- Yet, it may expose a rebel sinner to public view.
- In any of these three outcomes, the church wins!

A Few Final Thoughts

- You must grow in ability to admonish (Ro 15:14).
- You must wisely decide compassion or snatching.
- If committed to this duty – will you receive it?
- Bite a reprovener – you hate you and hurt a saint.
- Church membership is serving, not receiving.

For Further Study

David's Mighty Men ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/davids-mighty-men.pdf>.

Am I My Brother's Keeper ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/am-i-my-brothers-keeper.pdf>.

What Is a Church? ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/what-is-a-church-ppt.pdf>.

Male Leadership ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/male-leadership.pdf>.

One Another Duties ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/one-another.pdf>.

Kingdom Duties ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/kingdom-duties.pdf>.

Greatness in the Sight of God ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/greatness-in-the-sight-of-god.pdf>.

Who Is on the Lord's Side? ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/who-is-on-the-lords-side.pdf>.

Managing Your Life ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/pdf/managing-your-life.pdf>.

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