

LABORERS FOR EVERY OCCASION

1- Laborers who ask for wisdom from on high



The prayer of Solomon:

"Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties."

1 Kings 3:7, NIV



"Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in."

(NKJV)



"And now here I am: God, my God, you have made me, your servant, ruler of the kingdom in place of David my father. I'm too young for this, a mere child! I don't know the ropes, hardly know the 'ins' and 'outs' of this job." (MSG)



"So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours? 1 Kings 3:9, NIV



"Men are wanted who feel their need of wisdom from above, men who are converted at heart, who understand that they are but sinful mortals and must learn their lessons in the school of Christ before they are prepared to mold other minds." Chl 12



2- Laborers who keep themselves humble at all times



"Those who today occupy positions of trust should seek to learn the lesson taught by Solomon's prayer. The higher the position a man occupies, the greater the responsibility that he has to bear, the wider will be the influence that he exerts and the greater his need of dependence on God.



Ever should he remember that with the call to work comes the call to walk circumspectly before his fellow men.



He is to stand before God in the attitude of a learner. Position does not give holiness of character. It is by honoring God and obeying His commands that a man is made truly great."

ChL 13



"You love praise and excitement and to bring yourself to the front. You care far more for the approbation and praise of men than for the approval of God." ChL 12



"No one must seek exaltation. The more humbly we move and work, the more will we be exalted with God. The return of Jesus Christ to our world will not be long delayed. This is to be the keynote of every message."

ChL 12



3- Laborers who are clad in courage



When a person shows courage, others are stimulated. But when a leader shows courage, others are inspired.



"Great interests are not to be managed by children. An undeveloped Christian, dwarfed in religious growth, destitute of wisdom from above, is unprepared to meet the fierce conflicts through which the church is often called to pass." ChL 73



"[God] will prepare men for the times. They will be humble, God-fearing men, not conservative, not policy men; but men who have moral independence and will move forward in the fear of the Lord." 5T 263



"God will have a man to venture, to risk something; to move out firmly for the right, whatever may be the consequences; to battle against obstacles, and waver not, even though life be at stake." 1TI 320



"There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction." John F. Kennedy



4- Laborers who are faithful and loyal



"Faithful and picked men are needed at the head of the work... Men are wanted who will watch for souls as they that must give an account." ChL 9



No!

...to leadership in the style of Absalom



"He would get up early and stand by the side of the road leading to the city gate. Whenever anyone came with a complaint to be placed before the king for a decision, Absalom would call out to him, "What town are you from?" He would answer, "Your servant is from one of the tribes of Israel." 2 Samuel 15:2



"Then Absalom would say to him, 'Look, your claims are valid and proper, but there is no representative of the king to hear you."

2 Samuel 15:3



"And Absalom would add, 'If only I were appointed judge in the land! Then everyone who has a complaint or case could come to me and I would see that they receive justice." 2 Samuel 15:4



"Also, whenever anyone approached him to bow down before him, Absalom would reach out his hand, take hold of him and kiss him."

2 Samuel 15:5



"Do nothing in an underhanded manner; be open as the day, true to your brethren and sisters, dealing with them as you wish Christ to deal with you... The cause of present truth is suffering for men who are loyal to a sense of right and duty..." LC 34



5- Laborers whose minds think quickly, are analytical and rested



"The cause of God demands men who can see quickly and act instantaneously at the right time and with power. If you wait to measure every difficulty and balance every perplexity you meet, you will do but little. You will have obstacles and difficulties to encounter at every turn, and you must with firm purpose decide to conquer them, or they will conquer you." ChL 50



"[i]t is at this very point that the nicest discrimination is necessary. And if anything is accomplished to the purpose, it must be done at the golden moment. The slightest inclination of the weight in the balance should be seen, and should determine the matter at once. Long delays tire the angels." GW 133

"There is nothing brilliant or outstanding in my record, except perhaps this one thing. I do the things I believe ought to be done. And when I make up my mind to do a thing, I act." Theodore Roosevelt



"It is even more excusable to make a wrong decision sometimes than to be continually in a wavering position; to be hesitating, sometimes inclined in one direction, then in another. More perplexity and wretchedness result from thus hesitating and doubting than from sometimes moving too hastily." ChL 50



"I have been shown that the most signal victories and the most fearful defeats have been on the turn of minutes. God requires promptness of action. Delays, doubtings, hesitation, and indecision frequently give the enemy every advantage..." GW 134



"...God's cause is in need of men and women who possess rare qualifications and good administrative powers; men and women... who have a large capacity for work; those who possess warm, kind hearts, cool heads, sound sense, and unbiased judgment; those who are sanctified by the Spirit of God..." GW 424

Conclusion

The church at this time needs:

- Laborers who ask for wisdom from above
- Laborers who keep themselves humble at all times
- Laborers who are clad with courage
- Laborers who are faithful and loyal
- Laborers whose minds think quickly, are analytical and rested

