

any society because of its sin. Please consider the context of **Ezekiel 22**. Ezekiel was a “watchmen on the wall” and clearly spoke the message God gave with clarity (**Ezekiel 3:17-21**).

MEN OF PRAYER

Godly men are men of prayer. Even though Daniel was taken in captivity to Babylon as a young boy he was purposed in heart to serve his God, **Daniel 1:8**, “*But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.*” He lived to be over 80 years of age and he never wavered in his faith. His life and ministry bridge the entire 70 years of captivity in Babylon. He never got to go back to his homeland, but stayed true to his Lord in a foreign land. When he was threatened with death (**Daniel 6**) for praying, he faithfully continued seeking the Lord. May we learn from this great prophet?

MEN OF ENDURANCE

Godly men are men of endurance. The apostle Paul is a good example of endurance. His life’s testimony is given to us in **II Timothy 4:7**, “*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.*” He told Timothy in **verse 16** that at one point in his life, no man stood with him. Paul was no quitter even though he endured many trials and tribulation in his life (**II Corinthians 11:23-33**). The Lord told Paul from the very beginning of his conversion that he must suffer many things for the kingdom’s sake. It seems that no one stays with anything any more. No endurance in church, jobs, marriages, etc. May we follow the example of Paul and complete our lives with the Lord’s blessing upon it. Amen.

“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.”

I Corinthians 16:13



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*“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”*
Acts 16:31

The RICHES OF GRACE

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"hath appeared to all men." Titus 2:11

Godly Men

+ The Marks of Godly Men +

This article will speak of the marks or characteristics of godly men. The Scripture not only gives us a definition of a godly man, but also gives several examples from its pages. The word godly denotes piety, a godward attitude, or to be devout. Those who are conformed to God’s law are considered as godly. In **Psalms 12**, David saw the rise of wickedness and corruption in his day and the difficulty of finding godly men. His cry in **verse one** is that the godly men ceaseth and faithful men fail. We see the same in our generation. We must cry out to the Lord today for more godly men. The words of the wicked (**verse 1-5**) are contrasted with the words of the Lord (**verse 6-8**) in the chapter. The problem with our society is not the economy but the lack of godly people, it is time to cry.

*“I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands,
without wrath and doubting.”*

I Timothy 2:8

This article will consider several examples of godly men from Holy Writ. The importance of this subject cannot be overemphasized. Manhood in this day and age is measured with a false balance. The world sees a “man” as one who can run the fastest, lift the most weights, drive the fastest, punch the hardest, swim the farthest, dive the deepest, kick the pig skin through two up-right poles the straightest, slam dunk the best, hit a ball the fastest and farthest, etc.! The Lord describes manhood quite differently from this.

MEN OF FAITH

Godly men are men of faith. A good example of faith is seen in **Hebrews chapter eleven**. In **Hebrews 11:8-10**, Abraham by faith was obedient to God in that he followed the Lord by leaving his place of dwelling and going to the land of promise, *“By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”* Abraham is called a Friend of God in **James 2:23** and is considered the father of all who are of faith (**Romans 4:11-13**). The words worship and obeyed are found in **Genesis 22:5,18** for the first time in association with the faith of Abraham. God used Abraham in a mighty way because he knew that he would walk before him in the faith, **Genesis 18:19**, *For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.”* This is one of the reasons that Abraham is my favorite Old Testament character.

MEN OF STRENGTH

Godly men are men of strength. That is, they are strong in the Lord with no compromise of the truth. The man, Joshua, stood firm in his conviction and led his family in the ways of righteousness. He was a leader and a soldier among the Israelites but most of all he was a saint of God. He enjoyed the presence of God (**Deuteronomy 34:9**) and followed the commandments of God (**Joshua 1:11 & 5:10-15**) in his farewell address to God’s chosen people Israel) we see a true man of God (**Joshua 23 & 24**). He had a profound effect upon the whole

nation (**Joshua 24:17-31**). Most impressive was his statement concerning his family, **Joshua 24:15** *“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”* He told them that his household served the Lord God.

MEN OF COURAGE

Godly men are men of courage. A wonderful example of courage is found in David, the young shepherd boy. He killed Goliath the giant because of his passion for God and his people (**I Samuel 17:26**). In **I Samuel 17:29**, David cried out, *“Is there not a cause?”* At 17 years of age, David is willing to stand tall among the children of Israel and do battle with God’s enemies. His trust in the Lord gave him great courage even when the odds were against him. This young shepherd boy from Bethlehem, who was skillful in harp and song, can teach us all something about being courageous warriors for the Lord God.

MEN OF INTEGRITY

Godly men are men of integrity. Through all the tragic things that happened to Job, he never gave up the faith nor blasphemed God (**Job 1:20-22**). One of the most impressive chapters in the Bible is **Job 29**. This chapter is Job’s testimony of his life before the events of **chapter one and two** came about. Please read it carefully and consider the characteristics of a godly man. It shows his concern for the poor, widows, and the fatherless, and how he had walked in righteousness before the Lord. It reveals how he stood against sin and gave counsel to those in need of godly directions. Job was indeed a man of integrity before the Lord.

MEN OF PRINCIPLE

Godly men are men of principle. Ezekiel was a man of principle standing in the gap. He lived about 600 years before Christ. In his day, truth had been thrown out and the Lord looked for someone to avert the crisis that was to come upon the nation, **Ezekiel 22:30**, *“And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.”* Today we need men to stand in the gap as in days gone by. Godly men are needed to stem the tide, for the Lord will destroy