Life Link

Video Illustration: " Man Of Steel"

Title: "God Doesn't Need Men of Steel "

Big Idea: *Introductory Illustration:* Marvel Comics first published the "Superman" comics in 1933. It became a smashing hit with many of all ages. There were comic books, animated cartoons, movies and tv series. Superman TV series opened with a narrator asking what is "faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, able to leap tall building with a single bound? "Superman! But today we don't need supermen but we need "Godly Men" who are willing to live each day of their lives for God. While Marvel Comics may have changed the entertainment industry with the character of Superman God is looking for ordinary men who are "totally sold out to God". Dwight Moody once said, "The world has yet to see what could be accomplished by one man, who was totally sold out to God."

As Godly men we must realize the impact we can make on our families, community, county, state, and nation.

Run Video: "In His Shoes"

Read Sermon Text:

Psalms 101:1-6 (A Psalm of David.)

101 I will sing of mercy and justice;

To You, O Lord, I will sing praises.

2 I will behave wisely in a perfect way.

Oh, when will You come to me?

I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.

3 I will set nothing wicked before my eyes;

I hate the work of those who fall away;

It shall not cling to me.

4 A perverse heart shall depart from me;

I will not know wickedness.

5 Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor,

Him I will destroy;

The one who has a haughty look and a proud heart,

Him I will not endure.

6 My eyes shall be on the faithful of the land,

That they may dwell with me;

He who walks in a perfect way,

He shall serve me.

NKJV

1. Proclaim and Honor God (vs. 1-2)

Psalms 101:1-2 I will sing of mercy and justice; To You, O Lord, I will sing praises. 2 I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. NKJV

a. The twofold song of the Godly man

The twofold song of the believer: -- A man who is a believer will have a song on his heart a song that is twofold. First it is a song of the mercy of a loving God who has sent His Son to redeem us from the penalty of sin. He may sing of expensiveness of Gods sacrifice, and the abundance of God's blessings, and the cost to God which was great and the priceless free gift of salvation through Christ Jesus. The Godly man would sing of the unlimited and inbounding mercy God has shown him through His Son Jesus Christ.

I. MERCY.

- 1. What is it? Goodness and kindness to the undeserving.
- 2. What is there in mercy, of which we ought to sing?
 - (1) The marvellousness of its origin.
 - (2) The expensiveness of its sacrifices.
 - (3) The abundance of its blessings.
 - (4) Its universality and freeness.
 - (5) As to other special distinctions of mercy.

Its length -- from eternity to eternity. Its height, -- higher than the heavens, and above the clouds. Its perpetuity -- it endures forever. Besides, it is said to be strong, rich, tender, faithful; and above all, God Himself delighted in it. What a theme then for holy contemplation and joyous song.

Secondly the Godly Man would sing of the righteous judgment of God.

II. JUDGMENT. The Godly man will tell all he comes in contact with of the judgment of God for this man has nothing to fear from God. For he knows that God only want the best for him and when a man's heart is right with God there is nothing else in this world that matters to him. The Godly man proclaims the righteousness of God. The Godly man delights in the law of God (His Word). The Godly man has no fear in the wrath of God because he is a child of the King.

Conclusion.

- 1. Have we not a keynote which ought to suit every heart and voice?
- 2. The advantages of this joyous course will be many.
 - It will lighten the load of sorrow.
 - It will sweeten the bitter potion.
 - It will while away the dreary hour.
 - It will exhilarate the oppressed and fainting heart.

- It will, by a kind of divine chemistry, bring new elements of health and comfort out of nauseous medicines.
- It will cheer the soul, honor religion, glorify your Father, and aid greatly in your spiritual and upward flight to the land of eternal joy and everlasting glory.
- 3. May some now learn to sing the Lord's song in a strange land.
- 4. Sing on the way to heaven, in the expectation of singing there, forever and ever. (from The Biblical Illustrator Copyright © 2002, 2003, 2006 Ages Software, Inc. and Biblesoft, Inc.)

2. Avoid Evil (vs. 3-4)

Psalms 101:3-4 I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me. 4 A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness. NKJV

a. The Godly man would keep all wickedness from before his eyes, his mouth and his heart. He would hate the ways of the world and the ways of those who practice such wickedness in their life. He would avoid at all cost falling into the trap set by the tempter. He would be on guard and observant for the pitfall that are in our paths to cause us to stumble. David did not see the problem looking at a beautiful woman on the roof of her house, but that look cost a man's life, a new born child's life, and the king his reputation for a quick look. On the other hand Joseph fled from sin and was rewarded for his faithfulness to God.

Illustration:

In the mind's eye: -- On one occasion Sir Thomas Lawrence, the great painter, then President of the Royal Academy, visited the studio of a struggling young artist. He had noticed the young man's work, and thought it had some promise; but when he saw the sketches tacked up on the walls of the bare little room, he shook his head. They were rough, clever examples of the Flemish school, striking but coarse. "If I were you," said the great painter to the beginner, "I would not allow my eye to be familiarized with any but the highest forms of art. If you cannot afford to buy oil paintings, buy good engravings of great pictures. If you allow your eye to become familiar with what is vulgar in conception, however free and dashing the handling, and however excellent the feeling for colour, your taste will insensibly become depraved; whereas, if you habituate your eye to look only upon what is pure and grand, or refined and lovely, your taste will insensibly be elevated." It was sound artistic advice, and the young painter profited by it. It remains, also, sound moral advice for all young people. Our mind's eye needs training as much as our physical vision. If we hang pictures in the halls of our brain that are not elevating, our moral perceptions will become lowered. The best thoughts are within our reach. Why should we choose, instead, thoughts that are flippant, vulgar, or worse? Every time we put an undesirable picture in our mind's eye, where it will be often in view, we deprave our own understanding. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." If we wish to elevate and strengthen our souls, we must be careful in our choice of habitual thoughts. "Whatsoever things are true," etc. It is well-known advice -- but can it be bettered? (from The Biblical Illustrator Copyright © 2002, 2003, 2006 Ages Software, Inc. and Biblesoft, Inc.)

3. Be Humble (vs. 4-5)

Psalms 101:4-5 A perverse heart shall depart from me; I will not know wickedness. 5 Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, Him I will destroy; The one who has a haughty look and a proud heart, Him I will not endure. NKJV

The Godly man will resist the proud heart and maintain a humble heart. He will avoid wickedness and avoid those who practice and follow the ways of the world. The Godly man understands that all he is of God and not himself.

Conclusion:

Even though Superman was able to leap tall building, fly faster than a speeding bullet and more powerful than a locomotive, he also had his weakness, kryptonite. Kryptonite brought Superman to his knees, just as Delilah was able to learn the secret of Samson's strength and bring him down. The Godly man knows that his strength and power is not in himself but in God. As long as Godly men keep their eyes on Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith we shall not be brought down.

Text Illustration:

Too many times people want glory just for themselves.

Sometimes football players score a touchdown and do a dance wanting everyone to applaud them and their greatness.

Sometimes baseball players hit a homerun and prance around the bases. They want the crowds to worship and adore them.

If we want to stay on the right road, we need to seek to glorify God with our lives.

I was looking at the full moon a while back. So full, so bright. Then I realized it is only bright because of the sun. In our lives, we need to reflect the light and glory of God in our lives.

The Godly man must lead by following King Jesus. He realizes that he is the only Jesus that people may see this side of heaven. Each person, wheather it be man, woman, boy or girl we have a responsibility let them see Jesus