

THE LESSER TO THE BETTER

1. Text: I Samuel 17:34-37
2. This passage is in the contest of the famous confrontation of David and Goliath.
3. Notice the logic of young David. (verse 37) If the Lord delivered him from the lion and bear, He would deliver David from the giant. So we see the principle of the lesser to the greater (in dealing with God)
4. Lets apply it in some biblical ways:

I. **Concerning God's Provisions**

1. Again with David and the text.
2. If God was with him earlier He would still be there. The continuity of God.
3. James 1:17 With God no variation or shadow of turning.

II. **Concerning Worry**

1. See Matthew 6:26
2. Passage dealing with worry (verses 25 to 34)
3. One argument: If the Father feeds the birds, He will you. Are you not of more value? We often forget this.

III. **Concerning Salvation**

1. Paul in I Timothy 1:15-16 calls himself the chief (protos) of sinners.
2. But he continues on to say Christ set a pattern in mercy and longsuffering in him for later believers.
3. Point: If the Lord could save Paul, He can save you.

IV. **Concerning The Old And New Testaments**

1. Hebrews makes the distinction between the two. A theme of the book is "better." What we have in the New covenant is far superior to the old.
2. Notice Hebrews 8:6: A better covenant with better promises. Continue on with 7-13.
3. Why in the world would anyone retreat back to the old one?

V. **Concerning Challenges**

1. See Jeremiah 12:5 "If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you, then how can you contend with horses?"
2. God is answering the prophet: if this discourages you, what will you do with a real challenge?
3. Easy to apply:

VI. **Concerning Prayer**

1. In Matthew 7:9-11 the Lord compares earthly fathers (lesser) to the heavenly Father (greater). If children asked for one good thing, would the father give a bad thing? No.
2. If we who are evil give good things, won't our Father in heaven give good things also? "God is good."
3. Easy to apply:

VII. **Concerning Stewardship**

1. Notice Matthew 25:14-30. This parable of the talents has the master saying to the man who had five and earned five more: "You have been faithful over a few things, I will make you a ruler of many things."
2. Stewardship is the care and management of another's property or affairs. All belongs to the Lord; how are we using it?

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
Northwest Church of Christ - Sunday Evening, August 5, 2007

