

# A Father's Charge

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*Now the days of David drew  
nigh that he should die;  
and he charged Solomon his  
son, saying... 1 Kings 2:1*



## Bible Passage to Read: 1 KINGS 2:1-10

When we are young most of us don't see the importance of our parent's advice whether it is fatherly or motherly. Sometimes it is only when we get a little older that we see that a lot of what advice they have given to us makes sense.

Both of my parents have gone on to Heaven and one of the things I miss the most about both of them is that I just can't call them up and ask their opinion about something or see what they think of a situation.

In 1 Kings 2:1-10, we see some advice, a charge really, that David gave to his son Solomon before David died. There are so many good things that he says in this passage.

## **BE STRONG AND MANLY. (VS. 2)**

David knew he was dying so I guess it makes sense that he told his son to be strong. I'm sure we women don't want to be manly or "shew thyself a man"

as the verse says, but we can take from this to be the best godly woman we are able to be and teach our daughters to be godly women.

### **KEEP THE CHARGE OF THE LORD. (VS. 3, 4)**

In these verses David encourages Solomon to strive to do everything he can to keep his life centered on the Lord. He talks about walking in His ways, keeping His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies.

David had some ups and downs in his own spiritual life, so he knew the importance of a close relationship with the Lord.

### **SHOW WISDOM. (VS. 5, 6)**

David encourages Solomon to use wisdom when dealing with Joab and the things that specific situation entailed in verses 5 and 6.

I think wisdom is something we all want for our children. I know I want my kids to use wisdom in their choices and decisions.

### **SHOW KINDNESS. (VS. 7)**

In verse 7, David urges Solomon to show kindness to the sons of Barzillai who had shown kindness to him. Kindness is one of those things that lack in so many people today. I know raising kind children is one of my goals.

### **JUDGE WELL. (VS. 8,9)**

David reminds Solomon of how to deal with Shimei, a man whose life David had spared at one point and time. You really have to go back and read through 2 Samuel 16 and 19, to really understand what the whole situation was about.

I'm not going into detail here but judging and carrying out judgment was to be a big part of Solomon's role as King.

Even in our daily lives knowing how to judge in wisdom is so important. Also knowing that sometimes punishment must be carried out is important as well.

## CONCLUSION:

When we go on down to verse 10 of 1 Kings 2, we see that David died, so these things he said to Solomon were probably some of the last words David spoke.

I think that David's words to Solomon in this passage ended up being one of the most enduring father-son talks. This was right before David's death, and it was from the heart.

David had learned many lessons in his life, and I think he wanted his son, Solomon, to learn to keep his life in tune with the Lord so that his life would be the best it could be.

*Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem. And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour: and Solomon his son reigned in his stead. 1 Chronicles 29:26, 27*

**So, do you take what your  
Heavenly Father tells you to heart?**