

"David's three mighty men"

A study of the fact that whims can be dangerous

TUESDAY 6th JUNE, 1989

1. Sudden reversals come to all of us (I Sam. 22; 1 Sc. 13/23 etc. 2 Sam. 5; 17; 23; 13, 14)
 - a) They come to wean us from confidence in men and things.
 - b) They come to stay us from settling down too snugly in this world.
 - c) They come to force us to root ourselves in God, alone.
2. A touching incident; the affection and bravery of David's three mighty men (2 Sam 21; 13-17).
3. Whims can be dangerous (2 Sam. 21; 13-1-17);
 - a) It is well to ask whether certain gratifications are not purchased at too high a cost.
 - b) It is a vain regret to try to go back in your life; there are no mighty men strong enough to break through the years and fetch back the past.
 - c) Not in Bethlehem's well but in Him who was born there can a soul's thirst be quenched forever.
4. The lessons of the mulberry trees (2 Sam. 5; 18-25);
 - a) In his perplexity David waited for God and the victory was brought by an assault, then David waited for God a second time and the victory was brought by an ambush.
 - b) Sometimes we have to march, sometimes to halt. Sometimes we are called to suffering, sometimes to wonderful victory. All through we must admit nothing stereotyped in our methods.

"If you think that you know the will of God for your life . . . you are probably in for a very rude awakening, because nobody knows the will of God for his entire life".
(Elizabeth Elliot)

