

SHEARER FCA

‘KNOWING CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN’

March 15, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome to our worship of the living and true God through His Son Christ Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. As we gather, keep in mind that the Father seeks such to worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:23–24), so worship is our most important response to God’s Word.

In keeping with the Fanning the Flame emphasis on becoming a godly leader, we are looking at the examples of leadership, as illustrated in our verse for today from 2 Chronicles 27:6: *“Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.”* (NKJ)

*Hymn of Worship # 56

“To God Be the Glory”

1. To God be the glory—great things He has done; So love He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the lifegate that we may go in

Refrain: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory—great things He has done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood—to every believer the promise of God:

The vilest offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [refrain]

3. Great things He has taught us; great things He has done, and great our rejoicing thro’ Jesus the Son;

But purer and higher and greater will be, Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.

WE PRAY TO THE LORD WHO HAS ESTABLISHED HIS THRONE IN HEAVEN

Sharing of our Praises and Concern

Pastor Stout

The Lord’s Prayer from Matthew 6:9–13 (KJV)

*Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”*

WE HEAR THE LORD WHO HAS ESTABLISHED HIS THRONE IN HEAVEN

* Memory verse: “*Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.*” (2 Chron 27:6 NKJ)

* Memory verse for next Lord’ s Day, “*The LORD humbled Judah because of Ahaz ..., for he had brought about a lack of restraint in Judah and was very unfaithful to the LORD.*” (2 Chron 28:19 NAS). The sermon will cover 2 Chronicles 28,

* Scripture Reading from 2 Chronicles 27

WE GIVE TO THE LORD WHO HAS ESTABLISHED HIS THRONE IN HEAVEN

*Hymn of Strength # 353

“Victory in Jesus”

1. I heard an old, old story, How a Savior came from glory,

How He gave His life on Calvary To save a wretch like me;

I heard about His groaning, Of His precious blood’s atoning,

Then I repented of my sins; And won the victory.

Chorus:

O victory in Jesus, My Savior, forever.

He sought me and bought me With His redeeming blood;

He loved me ere I knew Him, And all my love is due Him,

He plunged me to victory, Beneath the cleansing flood.

2. I heard about His healing, Of His cleansing power revealing.

How He made the lame to walk again, And caused the blind to see;

And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, Come and heal my broken spirit,"

And somehow Jesus came and brought To me the victory. *Chorus:*

3. I heard about a mansion He has built for me in glory.

And I heard about the streets of gold Beyond the crystal sea;

About the angels singing, And the old redemption story,

And some sweet day I’ll sing up there The song of victory. *Chorus*

WE LEARN FROM THE LORD WHO HAS ESTABLISHED HIS THRONE IN HEAVEN

Learning of God from 2 Chronicles 27

See sermon notes on the theme, When your way is slippery, how can you remain strong?

WE SERVE THE LORD WHO HAS ESTABLISHED HIS THRONE IN HEAVEN

* Hymn of Strength # 746

"He Keeps Me Singing"

1. There's within my heart a melody; Jesus whispers sweet and low,

"Fear not, I am with you, peace, be still," in all of life's ebb and flow.

Refrain:

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, sweetest name I know,

fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go.

2. All my life was wrecked by sin and strife, discord filled my heart with pain,

Jesus swept across the broken strings, stirred the slumbering chords again. [Refrain]

3. Though sometimes He leads through waters deep, trials fall across the way;

though sometimes the path seems rough and steep, see His footprints all the way. [Refrain]

4. Feasting on the riches of His grace, resting 'neath His sheltering wing,

always looking on His smiling face, that is why I shout and sing. [Refrain]

5. Soon He's coming back to welcome me, far beyond the starry sky;

I shall wing my flight to worlds unknown, I shall reign with Him on high. [Refrain]

- Invitation to Respond and Benediction from Jude 20-25 (NKJ)

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

²² And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen."

Song of Parting # 426

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

"Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds, Is like to that above."

"Shearer is a Church committed to serving the Triune God by loving Him and others and sharing the good news of Christ to all people."

Sermon Notes on 2 Chronicles 27:6, "Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God." (NKJ)

Context: Jotham, the 12th king in David's dynasty, ruled from BC 759-743 in a reign that was marked by construction projects (27:3-4) and defeats of the Ammonites (v.5). While Jotham "did what was right in the sight of the Lord" (v.2), rather ominously, "the people acted corruptly," indicating his rule was one of personal successes despite surrounding slipping by others.

Theme: When your way is slippery, how can you remain strong?

[1] Jotham avoided slipping by growing in a strong Manner (vs. 7a, "Jotham became mighty")

A] This common Hebrew verb (355 times) in this form means 'to become strong,' as also in 1 Sam 30:6, from weakness to strength

B] We start salvation in weakness (Rom 5:6) and continue in "weakness of flesh" (Matt 26:41)

C] Strength is a matter of admitting weakness in self and growing in Christ (2 Cor 12:9-10), so are you doing so?

[2] Jotham avoided slipping by planning for a strong Way ("he prepared his way")

A. Another common Hebrew verb (221 times), *kuwn* means 'to be established': "The Lord has established His throne in heaven" (Ps 103:19)

B. Jotham planned his ways by what his ancestors had written:

Ps 57:7

Ps 37:23

Ps 90:17

Prov 12:3

Prov 16:3

Prov 24:3

C. Many fail to plan their ways and thus slip in weakness (Jer 23:12)

D. Instead, "ponder the path of your feet and let all your ways be established" (Prov 4:26)

[3] Jotham avoided slipping by living in a Strong Place ("before the Lord his God")

A. This common Hebrew expression "before the eyes of the Lord" (224 times) reminds that "all things are open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account" (Heb 4:13)

B. "The Lord" (Yahweh) is understood in the NT as referring to the Lord Jesus (Rom 10:13, quoting Joel 2:32), so make sure He is your Strong place (Prov 14:26)

C. The strong place is living before your God (John 20:17), so are you doing so in these slippery days?

Closing Application: In these slippery times, make sure your feet—and life—are firmly planted on the Living God!