

Last Words - cont.

(Matthew 22:37; John 4:24; I Peter 1:22).

Fourth, David encouraged his son to act wisely in his dealings with others: be just, right, and fair (I Kings 2:5-9). Don't overturn or ignore the righteous actions that need to be taken (Proverbs 20:26). Don't undue the righteous policies and principles of the former generation (Proverbs 27:10; 28:17; Ecclesiastes 8:11). Don't forsake the charge of the former generation (I Timothy 6:13-14).

Our Last Words

Consider again David's final words to his son:

"Show thyself a man..."

"Walk in his ways..."

"In truth with all ... heart"

"Do according to thy wisdom"

Now, here is something to ask ourselves: Do we say things to our children that emphasize the material and the temporal only? Or, do we say things to our children that emphasize the spiritual also? Do we say things that will help them to become a Christian and go to heaven?

When we die, what will our final words be to those whom we love? How about this? Tell them: Be strong, be obedient, be right and sincere, and be wise!

- Chris Reeves -

Sentence Sermons

- No man's character is better than his word.
- No dirty stories are told in heaven, or on the way there.
- The law of love and the love of law go hand-in-hand together.
- The greatest need in America today is to have more godly homes and families.
- Genuine appreciation is a rare, but most beautiful virtue.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Famous Last Words

Have you considered that one day the last thing you say to others will be the last thing you say? What will be your last words?

Some Famous Last Words

Here are a few examples of some “famous last words” from others.

“Pardon me, sir. I did not do it on purpose.” *Said by:* Queen Marie Antoinette after she accidentally stepped on the foot of her executioner.

“I should never have switched from Scotch to Martinis.” *Said by:* Humphrey Bogart.

“I live!” *Said by:* a Roman Emperor, as he was being murdered by his own soldiers.

“Don’t you dare ask God to help me.” *Said by:* Joan Crawford to her housekeeper who began to pray aloud.

“I am perplexed. Satan, get out!” *Said by:* Aleister Crowley, famous occultist.

“Now why did I do that?” *Said by:* General William Erskine, after he jumped from a window in Lisbon, Portugal in 1813.

“Hey, fellas! How about this for a headline for tomorrow’s paper? ‘French

fries!’” *Said by:* James French, who shouted these words to members of the press who were to witness his execution.

“It’s stopped.” *Said by:* Joseph Henry Green, upon checking his own pulse.

“LSD, 100 micrograms I.M.” *Said by:* Aldous Huxley (author) to his wife.

“You have won, O Galilean.” *Said by:* Emperor Julian, having attempted to reverse the official endorsement of Christianity by the Roman Empire.

“I feel ill. Call the doctors.” *Said by:* Mao Zedong, Chairman of China.

“Tomorrow, I shall no longer be here.” *Said by:* Nostradamus.

“Now, now, my good man, this is no time for making enemies.” *Said by:* Voltaire when asked by a priest to renounce Satan.

Last Words in the Bible

There are also “famous last words” recorded in the Bible. Consider for example, Jacob’s last words to his sons (Genesis 49:1-33), Moses’ last words to Joshua (Deuteronomy 31:1-8; 32:44ff), Joshua’s last words to Israel (Joshua 23:1-16; 24:1-28), Jesus’ last words to his Apostles (John 14:2,15,19-21), Paul’s last words to the elders (Acts 20:17-38) or to Timothy (2 Timo-

thy 4:1-8), and Peter’s last words to his brethren (2 Peter 1:13-15).

David’s Last Words

Let’s focus now on one more example of “famous last words”. What can we learn from David’s final words to his son Solomon (1 Kings 2:1-9; 1 Chronicles 22-29)? Consider four important admonitions that David gave his son...

First, David encouraged his son to have a strong and mature character (1 Kings 2:1-2). Strong character is need to stand against sin and error (1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 4:14; Hebrews 5:14; 1 Peter 1:13; 2 Peter 1:5; 3:18).

Second, David encouraged his son to obey God’s word and do it exactly as it was revealed to him (1 Kings 2:3). Precise and exact obedience to God’s word is essential to proper fellowship with God (1 John 2:3-4; 2 John 9) and prosperity from God (1 Peter 1:9).

Third, David encouraged his son to walk in God’s “ways” not his own ways (Prov. 14:12; Jer. 6:16; Eph. 4:1; Gal. 5:16). He wanted his son to obey God “in truth” - the right pattern, and with all his heart and soul - the right attitude (1 Kings 2:4; see 1 Chron. 28:9). Both the right pattern and the right attitude are important in serving God today