**Prove Yourself a Man**

*1 Kings 2:1-4 (David to Solomon)*

1. Men are strong.

*“be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man.”*

Strong – fasten upon; withstand

1. Strength to lead your family.

* Joshua 24:14-15; 1 Corinthians 14:34-35 (teaching wives); Ephesians 6:1-4 (teaching children); Hebrews 5:12-14; Ephesians 4:14

1. Strength to be a leader in the church.

* 1 Timothy 3:1-7 (qualification of elders)
  + These characteristics should be an aspiration for all men in the church.
* Titus 2:1-2, 6-8
  + You are never too young to prove yourself a man. Paul told Timothy to *“let no one despise your youth” (1 Timothy 4:12)*.
  + (v. 11-12) It takes strength to live this way in this “present age.”

1. Men walk in God’s ways.

*“to walk in His ways”*

1. Men aren’t wise in their own eyes.

* Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 1:1-7; 12:1

1. Men choose the right path (God’s path).

* Psalm 1; Matthew 7:13-14, 24-27

1. Men obey God’s word.

*“to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses.”*

Keep – *shâmar* – properly to hedge about, that is, guard; take heed to.

* Same word used in Joshua 1:7 *(“that you may observe”)*
* Do not turn from it. Be careful to observe everything. Leave nothing out, and change nothing.

1. Men make no compromise.

* 2 Timothy 4:1-5
  + A man preaches the word regardless of what the audience wants to hear.
  + People will be willing to compromise the truth to relieve an itch. Men don’t give in to the urge!
* Revelation 2:10 (Read context)
  + A man stands for the truth even when his life is a stake.

1. Men make it their aim to keep the whole law.

* James 2:10-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22
* Joshua 1:7-8

1. *“That you may prosper”*

* 1 Kings 2:10-12 (Kingdom firmly established)
* If we prove ourselves men we will prosper (if women follow the same principles they will too.).
  + Revelation 2:10 *(“will receive the crown of life”)*
  + This prosperity is a sure thing!
    - 2 Peter 1:5-11
      * The “call and election” are the predetermined conditions of salvation. When one obeys the gospel (answers the call), God elects him.
      * Faith is man’s part. Faith without works is dead (James 2:26). Man must have a working faith to make his “call and election” sure!
      * If so, he will be supplied entrance into heaven!

**Conclusion**

* A man of God is not the same as a man of the world.
* Men of God prosper.
* Men of the world perish.
* Prove Yourself A Man!