

# BE A PREPPER

## Christian Character in Action: Lesson 26

19 August 2022

### The Lord has prepared some things for those that are His:

- He has prepared for us a table in the presence of our enemies (Psalm 23:5).
- The Lord Jesus Christ has gone to prepare a place for us (John 14:1-3).
- God prepares mercy and truth as we need it daily (Psalm 61:7).

### FIVE THINGS WE ARE TO PREPARE FOR:

#### 1. PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD (Amos 4:12).

- a. **Many uncertain events are prepared for in vain:** People prepare for many things “*just in case,*” but often the thing you prepared for never happens.
  - b. **This is certain:** it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment (Heb 9:27). No matter who you are, one day you will meet God. Are you prepared?
    - The only way to prepare to meet God is to put your faith and trust in in the Savior that God provided for you, the Lord Jesus Christ.
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#### 2. PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR THE TEMPTATIONS AND TRIALS THAT ARE GOING TO COME.

- a. **In 1 Samuel 7:3,** people who have gone astray from God are preparing their hearts, hoping to return to a right relationship with God.
  - b. **In 1 Chronicles 29:18-19,** a father is praying to God that his son will never go astray.
  - c. In our daily lives, there are going to be many opportunities to turn from God and turn aside to sin.
    - At the start of each day, we need to prepare our hearts for the possibility of coming across an opportunity to sin. If our heart is already prepped, we'll not be taken by surprise.
      1. Be prepared for opportunities that may come to you which would destroy your marriage.
      2. Be prepared for opportunities that may come for you to partake in drink, drugs, pornography, etc. which would destroy your life, your family, your testimony, your friends, or your reputation.
      3. It is certain that Satan is going to tempt you. Be prepared.
        - a. Prepare your heart to say no to sin and to stay true to the Lord.
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#### 3. PREPARE A WAY FOR SINNERS TO GET TO JESUS WHEN THEY REALIZE DEATH IS AFTER THEM.

- a. The Old Testament Israelite **Cities of Refuge** provided a safe place for the person who committed manslaughter. (**Deuteronomy 19:1-8**).
  - Jesus Christ is our refuge. We are guilty, death is pursuing us, but we are safe in Christ.
- b. The Israelites were instructed to prepare a WAY for the slayer to flee to the cities of refuge (**vs 3**). All hindrances and obstacles along the way needed to be removed.

- c. **Christian parents:** you ought to remove all obstacles and hindrances that might prevent your child from coming to Jesus Christ by faith.
- **Things you might remove:** TV, computer, Video games, movies that attempt to indoctrinate kids to accept worldly philosophies, superhero programs and movies that promote idolatry, your bad attitude that may cause your child to view Christians as hypocrites, etc. Prepare the way for your child to get to Jesus Christ!
- d. **Christian adults:** Make sure your manner of life does not hinder a person from coming to Jesus Christ. Prepare the way for your co-workers, family members, neighbors, and friends, to get to Jesus Christ for salvation.
- **Things you might remove:** bad habits, bad conduct, bad attitude, bad testimony, worldly language. Don't let your life be the thing blocking their way to Jesus.
- e. **John the Baptist:** The Old Testament foretold of one who would be called upon to prepare the way of the LORD and make straight paths in the wilderness for people to get to Jesus.
- **Isaiah 40:3, Matthew 3:3.**
  - Jesus Christ is the place of refuge for all who would seek Him. We need to make it as easy for sinners to get to the Savior as we possibly can.
  - **Things to clear from the path:** worldly entertainment, love of money, false religion, philosophy or humanism that replaces bible preaching, compromise in the church (Christian rock, unbiblical praise and worship music, corrupt bibles, immodest dress, unbiblical practices, etc.).
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#### 4. PREPARE YOUR WORK (BEFORE STARTING A FAMILY OR RETIRING).

- a. **Proverbs 24:27,** don't build a house until you have a way to pay for it.
- Don't start a family if you're not currently able to support a family. If you can't take care of yourself, you're not ready to take care of a wife.
  - Don't plan to have children if you're barely able to pay the rent.
  - **Prepare first:** education, skills training, employment, savings, prioritize (life preparation before fun and sports and leisure).
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#### 5. PREPARE FOR THE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST.

- a. **Isaiah 62:10-12.** Jesus Christ is coming again. Are you living your life with the understanding that if you're going to do anything for the Lord or for the lost, it must be done today?
- You have no guarantee you'll still be around tomorrow (James 4:13-14).
  - We don't know the day or the hour of the Lord's return (Matthew 24:36).
  - Are you preparing today so that you'll receive a full reward at the Judgment Seat of Christ? (1 Corinthians 3:11-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10).
  - You know the Lord is coming. You don't have any excuse not to be prepared.
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