

There Are No Minor Servants of the Lord by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

There are no minor servants of the Lord. David made this very clear when, after a victory over the Amalekites, upon his return:

Then David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those other livestock, and said, "This is David's spoil."

Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary that they could not follow David, whom they also had made to stay at the Brook Besor. So they went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. And when David came near the people, he greeted them. Then all the wicked and worthless men of those who went with David answered and said, "Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man's wife and children, that they may lead them away and depart."

But David said, "My brethren, you shall not do so with what the LORD has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us. For who will heed you in this matter? But as his part is who goes down to the battle, so shall his part be who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike."

So it was, from that day forward; he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day. (1 Samuel 30:20-25)

Those who had gone "down to the battle" were no more important than those who had stayed "by the supplies." The front line soldiers put themselves in harm's way, but might have had nothing to come home to if their "base" had not been protected! David's declaration was fair and equitable enough that "he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day." A military phrase for this is "I've got your 6," meaning, "I'll protect you from behind." Pilots in combat called out positions of attacking aircraft in terms of a clock face. If "12" was attacking, then position "6" needed defending, so a buddy would call this out. Police also use the expression. Those who cover the "6" are just as necessary as those doing the fighting.

God has made this a part of His Plan:

But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner. For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. (Hebrews 6:9-12)

God remembers nameless brethren unfailingly doing unknown good things to numberless saints. It is easy for the Devil to diminish one's obedience, disparage efforts and discourage Christians from completing their course. The Devil's work stopped the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem in **Ezra 4:1-5:2**; the Prophet Zechariah was sent to say: "For who has despised the day of small things?" (**Zechariah 4:10**) Every person who either was active in the rebuilding, providing meals, caring for their children, or in whatever way encouraged that effort, was doing essential service for the LORD.

In Heaven, in addition to the 144,000 from the tribes of the children of Israel, John pictured those surrounding The Throne of God thusly:

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Revelation 7:9-10)

AND they have work to do:

Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"

And I said to him, "Sir, you know."

So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them." (Revelation 7:13-15)

"Where did they come from?" This question is answered that, because of the Resurrection of Christ,

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

"They" are "disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19) whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. Ancient Egypt had a Book of the Dead, but the Living Lord has His Book of Life.

And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life. (Philippians 4:3)

Some are named in Scripture, but the vast majority are not. While the Apostles, Prophets, Preachers, Elders, and Deacons in the church of Christ may be known to us, the "great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues" will stand "before the throne and before the Lamb." Everyone who serves the Christ will make up that "multitude." There is no job, work, or effort any Christian may do that is not be noticed by God, and no one is more impressive than any other of us,

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

It is as Peter said:

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him." (Acts 10:34-35)

David may have been foreshadowing the church of Christ, for:

As his part is who goes down to the battle, so shall his part be who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike. (1 Samuel 30:24)

is still God's Rule.

This is why edifying words are found in the New Testament: Hebrews 6:9-12;

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (**Ephesians 6:10-11**)

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. (Colossians 3:23-24)

Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, who have borne witness of your love before the church. If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well. (3 John 5-6)

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. (Galatians 6:9)

——- jjttjII