

## When Disaster Threatens

### 1 Kings 1

When disaster threatens, God's people take initiative to preserve what's important to God.

- **Truth #1: GOD'S KINGDOM FREQUENTLY PASSES THROUGH PRECARIOUS MOMENTS.**

Now King David was old and advanced in years. And although they covered him with clothes, he could not get warm. <sup>2</sup>Therefore his servants said to him, "Let a young woman be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait on the king and be in his service. Let her lie in your arms, that my lord the king may be warm." . . . <sup>5</sup>Now Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king." And he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. <sup>6</sup>His father had never at any time displeased him by asking, "Why have you done thus and so?" He was also a very handsome man, and he was born next after Absalom. <sup>7</sup>He conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest. And they followed Adonijah and helped him. <sup>8</sup>But Zadok the priest and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and Nathan the prophet and Shimei and Rei and David's mighty men were not with Adonijah. <sup>9</sup>Adonijah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fattened cattle by the Serpent's Stone, which is beside En-rogel, and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah, <sup>10</sup>but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benaiah or the mighty men or Solomon his brother. 1 Kings 1:1-2, 5-10 (English Standard Version)

Every test that you have experienced is the kind that normally comes to people. 1 Corinthians 10:13a (Good News Bible)

The kingdom of God is the reign of God, first in their lives and secondly, in the world in which they live.

- **Truth #2: EVEN ONE OF GOD'S SERVANTS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CRISIS.**

Then Nathan said to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, "Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith has become king and David our lord does not know it? <sup>12</sup>Now therefore come, let me give you advice, that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon. <sup>13</sup>Go in at once to King David, and say to him, 'Did you not, my lord the king, swear to your servant, saying, "Solomon your son shall

reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne"? Why then is Adonijah king?' <sup>14</sup>Then while you are still speaking with the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words." 1 Kings 1:11-14 (ESV)

And Nathan said, "My lord the king, have you said, 'Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne'? <sup>25</sup>For he has gone down this day and has sacrificed oxen, fattened cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's sons, the commanders of the army, and Abiathar the priest. And behold, they are eating and drinking before him, and saying, 'Long live King Adonijah!' <sup>26</sup>But me, your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon he has not invited. 1 Kings 1:24-26 (ESV)

- **Truth #3: GOD'S SERVANTS ARE STIRRED TO ACTION ONLY WHEN THEY CARE ABOUT WHAT GOD CARES ABOUT.**

Then King David answered, "Call Bathsheba to me." So she came into the king's presence and stood before the king. <sup>29</sup>And the king swore, saying, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my soul out of every adversity, <sup>30</sup>as I swore to you by the LORD, the God of Israel, saying, 'Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,' even so will I do this day." . . . <sup>32</sup>King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." So they came before the king. <sup>33</sup>And the king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord and have Solomon my son ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon. <sup>34</sup>And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet there anoint him king over Israel. Then blow the trumpet and say, 'Long live King Solomon!' <sup>35</sup>You shall then come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne, for he shall be king in my place. And I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah." 1 Kings 1:28-30, 32-35 (ESV)

Then Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!" <sup>40</sup>And all the people went up after him, playing on pipes, and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth was split by their noise. 1 Kings 1:39-40 (ESV)

- **Truth #4: WHEN THE CRISIS IS OVER, WISDOM IS STILL NEEDED.**

Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they finished feasting. And when Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, "What does this uproar in the city mean?" . . . <sup>43</sup>Jonathan answered Adonijah, ". . . Our lord King David has made Solomon king, . . ." <sup>49</sup>Then all the guests of Adonijah trembled and rose, and each went his own way. 1 Kings 1: 41, 43, 49 (ESV)