

Beloved of the Lord – Spiritual Nobility

Nobility is defined by Merriam Webster as 1: the quality or state of being noble in character, quality, or rank; and 2: the body of persons forming the noble class in a country or state : aristocracy - Nobility. Wikipedia says this - Nobility is a social class normally ranked immediately under royalty and found in some societies that have a formal aristocracy. Nobility possesses more acknowledged privileges and higher social status than most other classes in society.

In the Bible nobility is from a Greek word that could be translated *well born*. A derivative of this word means *strongest*. Throughout the history of the world we see the royals and the nobles ruled over the people, that was until we get to the United States in 1700'. In the United States we were constitutionally very much against the use of either royals or nobility and most important that aristocracy not be allowed any special rights or even place in our government. In Article I section 9 of our constitution concerning the congress we state the following:

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince or foreign State.

We see that in the Church Epistles nobility was not a part of the structure of house hold of God.

1st Corinthians 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*:

No matter ones “class” in the world's society, in the body of Christ we are all, by grace, one body and all joint heirs with Christ. We have receive in the new birth the gift of holy spirit from God and are each, by grace, made as righteous as God almighty. That is as spiritually *well born*, as spiritually *noble* as a person can get. All men and women born again of God's spirit are truly God's nobility here upon the earth. Yet God tells us in His Word that some are more noble.

Acts 17:10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming *thither* went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica,...

In Thessalonica Paul with Silas had spoken the Word of God. Paul showed the people from the available written Word of God what the prophesied Christ was to go through and that Christ would be raised from the dead. And he told them that this Jesus, that he preached to them, is the Christ. Some believe and associated with Paul and Silas. Those who did not attacked the believers and the believers then sent Paul and Silas away to Berea; where they were more noble.

This more nobility in Berea can not be in physical birth or spiritual new birth. It must be in application or in living spiritually noble. Just how is it then that these Saints of Berea became more noble? It is... “in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so”.

What does it mean to receive the word with all readiness of mind. One root word, that relates to the word *receive* that used here, is the word for passion. It means heavy breathing and is translated anger at times¹. It means to have a passionate desire concerning something.

Think of David when he faced Goliath in 1st Samuel 17. He stood face to face to Goliath, close enough to talk to him, looked him right in the eye and said, I am going to kill you, right now. And then David ran straight at him. All David had in his resume is “shepherd boy; that saved a sheep from a lion and a bear”. Goliath resume read: trained killer from his youngest days, from a family of trained killers, so tall that when he plays basket ball he runs into the backboard, in armor he weighs about the same as a

small Buick, armed with the best weapons, defended with the best armor and backed by the biggest army. I know David had gotten five smooth river rocks to take to the fightⁱⁱ but that kind of statement, to that kind of man, takes a lot of stones.

1st Samuel 17:45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.....
48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

If the philistines defeat the army of Israel they will go on to Jerusalem. The road to Jerusalem from the valley where they were fighting goes directly past David's home. As they pass the philistines will kill or make slaves of anyone they find and take everything of value and destroy the rest. Yet David is not fighting to save his daddy's land, the King or even Israel. He is fighting for God. This same passion David had when he faced Goliath and save Israel is the same passion the people of Berea had to receive the Word of God.

Looking at the words "searched the scriptures" we see in a word, which this phrase is translated from, the idea of a complete and thorough search. If you have ever seen in the movies or on TV someone searching in an apartment for something they desperately want to find. They go through all the drawers and ever cut open the seat cushions, they go through everything in the frig and freezer and look under and in every place. With the exception of the mess this is how the believers and Berea searched the scriptures. The checked everything Paul was saying, every detail, every bit, from every side of every word, all against the known scripture. And they did this with complete diligence.

Lastly we look at the great purpose of the believers at Berea in the the phrase " those things were so". The believers at Berea want to know one thing. Is this word they have received with passion and examined with painstaking diligence, is this the Word of God? The people of Berea do not care about Pauls Resumeⁱⁱⁱ. As great as his resume might be, they only want to know: is this teaching the Word of God, rightly divided. That was their purpose in their passionate receiving and their tireless relentless search. This is what made them more nobility.

When we confess Jesus as Lord and believe in our hearts God has raised him from the dead we become born again^{iv}, joint heirs with Christ^v, having the righteousness of God Almighty^{vi}. We are then the "well born", we are all then the true nobility on the earth, the Sons of God with power.

We become more noble as we do one thing. We with the passion which Gideon had when he defeated Midian with trumpets, pitchers and lamps. With the same passion and diligence Samson had when he killed a thousand men with the jaw bone of an ass. With the same passion Jesus Christ had when he raised his friend Lazarus from the dead. With that same passion we go to God's word and we search as Calab search the promise land, as the wise men search for the new king and as the shepherd searched for the lost sheep, we search the scriptures to know one thing; God's Word. For we want to know and live God's will. Then we are God's more noble ambassadors here upon the planet earth.

With that Word of God we stand and face the Goliaths of the world today and proclaim that we serve the one true God in the name of His son our lord and savior Jesus, who is the very Christ. This day we will believe God's Word, which we know to be true and we will see deliverance and God's blessings on ourselves and all God's people. Today they will know there is a God in every place a son or daughter of God stands upon His Word.

i Strong's dictionary

ii¹ 1st Samuel 17:40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling *was* in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

iii Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. In labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. 24 Of the Jews five times received forty *stripes* save one. Thrice beaten with rods, once was stoned, thrice suffered shipwreck, a night and a day in the deep; *In* journeyings often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils by countrymen, *in* perils by the heathen, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon him daily, the care of all the churches.

iv Romans 10:9 & 10

v Romans 8:17

vi Romans 3:20 & 21