

# THE 3 "B's" AND ME

Anthem - July 31, 2016

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# MARATHON / IRONMAN

- 12 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

# INTRODUCTION



- Concordance Search - Total Search Results "0"
- Rounding the bend ... heading for home.
- Who do you see in that great cloud of witnesses?

# B1 - BENAIAH



- 20 Benaiah was the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man from Kabzeel, who had done many deeds. He had killed two lion-like heroes of Moab. He also had gone down and killed a lion in the midst of a pit on a snowy day. 21 And he killed an Egyptian, a spectacular man. The Egyptian had a spear in his hand; so he went down to him with a staff, wrested the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and killed him with his own spear. 22 These things Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did, and won a name among three mighty men.

**2 SAMUEL 23:20-22**

# COURAGE & ZEAL

- **Settler or Pioneer?**

- There are two views of life and two kinds of people. Some see life as a possession to be carefully guarded. They are SETTLERS. Others see life as a fantastic, wild, explosive gift. They are PIONEERS. The visible church is an outfit with an abundance of settlers and a few pioneers. The invisible church is the fellowship of pioneers. To no one's surprise there are two kinds of theology. Settler theology and pioneer theology. Settler theology is an attempt to answer all the questions, define and housebreak some sort of "Supreme Being," establish the status quo on Golden Tablets in cinemascope. Pioneer Theology is an attempt to talk about what it means to receive the strange gift of life and live! The pioneer sees theology as a wild adventure, complete with indians, saloon girls, and the haunting call of what is yet to be.

- THE CHRISTIAN

- IN SETTLER THEOLOGY--the Christian is the settler. He fears the open, unknown frontier. He stays in good with the mayor(God) and keeps out of the sheriff's (Jesus) way. "Safety First" is his motto. To him the courthouse is a symbol of security, peace, order, and happiness. He keeps his money in the bank. The banker is his best friend.
- IN PIONEER THEOLOGY--the Christian is the pioneer. He is a man of risk and daring--hungry for adventure, new life, the challenge of being on the trail. He is tough, rides hard, knows how to use a gun when necessary. The pioneer feels sorry for the town folks and tries to tell them about the joy and fulfillment of a life following the trail. He dies with his boots on.

- **Who did God choose to use?**
- God found Gideon in a Hole / He found Joseph in a Prison/He found Daniel in a Lion's den.
- Next time you feel unqualified to be used by God Remember this, He tends to recruit from the pit, not the pedestal. Jon Acuff
- **David's Mighty Men and the 3 D's -**
- 1 David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. So when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him. 2 And everyone who was in **distress**, everyone who was in **debt**, and everyone who was **discontented** gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him. **1 Samuel 22:2**

# B2 - BARTIMAEUS



- 46 Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"  
48 Then many warned him to be quiet; **but he cried out all the more**, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"  
49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you." 50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.  
51 So Jesus answered and said to him, **"What do you want Me to do for you?"** The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."  
52 Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight **and followed Jesus on the road.**

**MARK 10:46-52**

# CHUTZPAH

- Passion / Zeal / NO religious spirit ... Blind Bart did not speak "*christianize.*"
- Talmidim - a follower on the road / part of a movement

# B3 - BARNABAS



- 36 And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated **Son of Encouragement**), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, 37 having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. **ACTS 4:36**
- 26 And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 **But Barnabas** took him and brought him to the apostles. **ACTS 9:27**

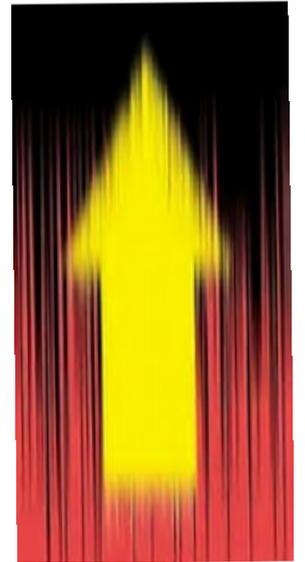
# HEART

- The power of encouragement!
- Shame on YOU! vs YOU CAN DO IT!
- We live in a culture that excels in “put downs”
- The power to EDIFY

# WHO AM I?

- I am but One yet belonging to many
- I am the only son of an aged mom
- I am a husband of my best friend in life
- I am the Father of 3 boys
- I am a Saba of 6 GRANDies
- but I am even more than that for I am ...

# PART OF A MOVEMENT



- I am following Jesus and the one thing that I know is that HE is always moving. Most of the time I think I know where He is going but often times I am surprised.
- It is too easy to become a “religious” settler and a “critical” church spectator!
- From my observation Jesus was and is more of a pioneer than a settler and He seemed to be always on the move.

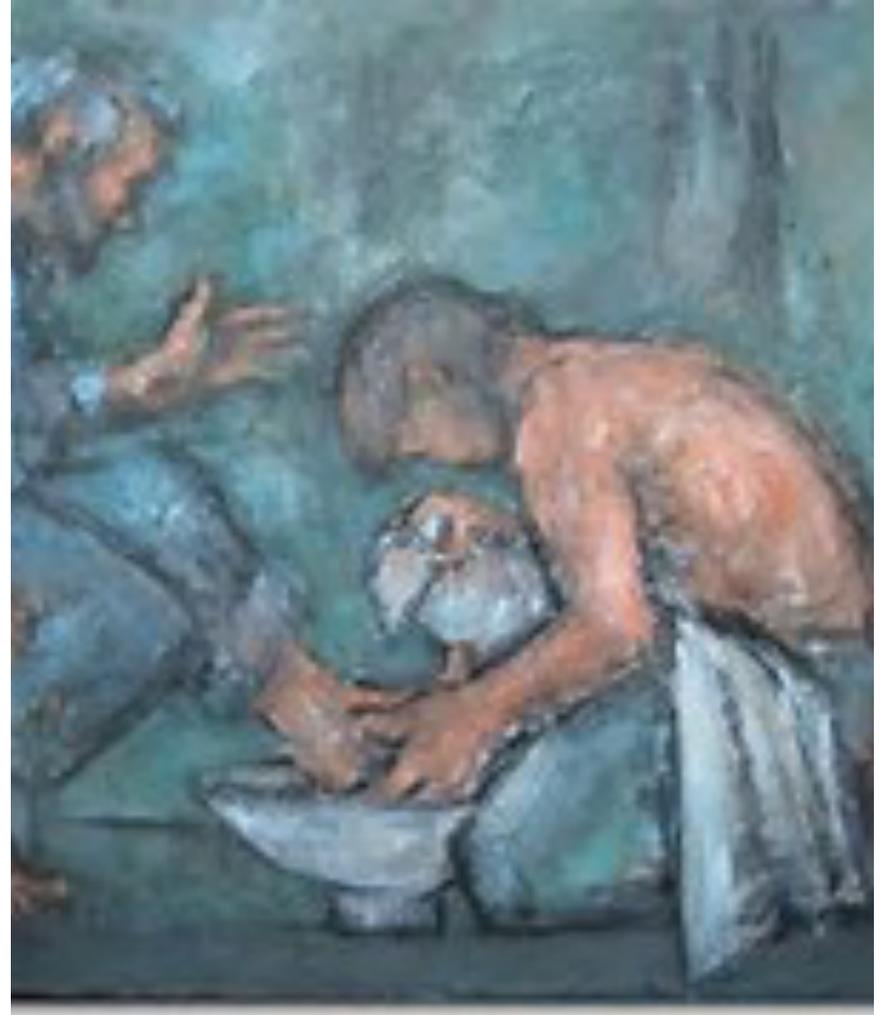
# SEEKING JESUS

- It really is AAJ
- As we learned in Colossians EVERYTHING is held together by Him.
- The world and the enemy will always throw up other focal points but in the end it is all about Jesus.
- He is the IMAGE of the INVISIBLE God

All  
About  
Jesus

# SERVING OTHERS

- Let's face it ... Serving is in our DNA.
- Those that seem to have it all lead the suicide list. IT is not about fame or fortune - the great ones in the kingdom are those who serve!
- Our movement is UPSIDE-DOWN!
- Who are you serving?



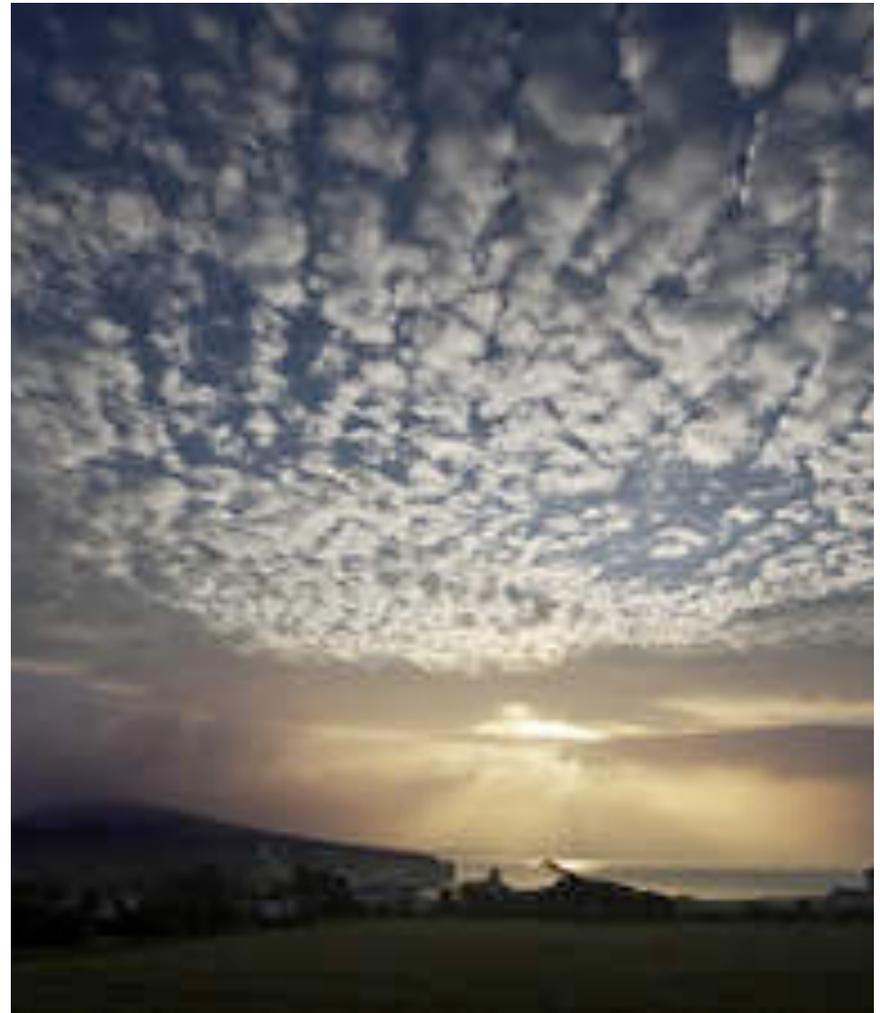
# KEEPING IT REAL

- Christianize and Religion are nauseating to God.
- Keeping it real sometimes is MESSY. Often times it requires one to descend into the muck and the mire or everyday life!
- Beauty arises out of ashes it is not a replacement!
- Sometimes a hug and tears are better than quoting Romans 8:28.
- Life is not fair / Bad things do happen
- Shiva is better than flowers



# EMBRACING CHANGE

- Change requires Faith.
- Tradition must be flexible in terms of reaching the ultimate goal



# VALUING ALL GENERATIONS

- Parker's smile
- Goals by Jackson and Hayden
- Hugs from Colton and Finley
- And of course Juliana's tinker bell pose!
- The zeal and passion of the young bucks
- The quiet wisdom of the sages
- Friends we need all of these!



# KEEPING IT SIMPLE



- Read your Bible
- Talk to God
- Make real friends

# GIVING AS HE GAVE



- He never stopped giving
- Freely you have received so freely GIVE

- Hi - my name is Dan Stolebarger and this is my anthem.



# CONCLUSION

- I got one more face in the crowd
- He's 85 - Jaques Hamel
- He said mass for five people before