

INTRODUCTION

A. WPLR (see Acts 6:4; 2Tm.3:14-17)

B. DEMANDS & EXPECTATIONS: IMPOSED & SELF-IMPOSED (Is.22:24,25)

I. THE STORY OF ELIAKIM (Is.22)

A. THE ASSYRIAN DISCIPLINE (see Is.10:5f; c.36,37; 2Kngs.17:6 & chp.)

B. THE DEPOSITION OF SHEBNA (19; see 15-21)

1. over the king's household (15; see Gen.41:40; 45:8; 1Tm.3:5,15)
2. foreign intruder (15,16; compare v.20)
3. usurper and abuser (16; see 2Chr.32:33; inscription "Tomb of the Royal Steward")
4. from here to there (16-18; windup)
5. from high to low (15,19)

C. THE ORDINATION OF ELIAKIM (20-25)

1. called by God to serve (20; see Heb.5:4)
2. authority for compassionate service (21; see Gen.20:2; Ps.103:13)
3. key of the kingdom entrusted (22; 9:6; Rev.3:7; see Mt.16:19)
4. established by God (23, "Eliakim")
5. house: glory vs. shame (23,24 vs. 18)
6. all the glory: old & young; male & female; small & great (24)
7. the load will break the peg in a firm place (25; 23f)

D. SUMMARY: UNWORTHY FORFEITS & WORTHY BROKEN (i.e., discipline in covenant curses)

II. THE LESSONS OF ELIAKIM

A. USE AUTHORITY FAITHFULLY OR LOSE IT JUSTLY (15f; see 1Cor.15:22; Gen.49:4; Acts 1:20f; Rom.11:17f; see 1Tm.3:12; 5:19f)

B. PERSEVERE IN YOUR CALLING (15f, 20f; see 36:3f; 37:2f; 2Kngs.18:18f; 19:2; see Jer.45:5; Mt.23:12; Lk.14:10,11; 18:14)

C. SEE THE ULTIMATE SERVANT OF THE LORD (20; chps.41-53; e.g., 41:8f; 42:1f; 49:3f; see 22:20-25; (20,21 & 9:6); (22 & Rev.3:7); (23 & Lk.1:32,33))

D. SEE THE SUFFERING SERVANT (24,25 & 53:4-12; Lev.16:21; see Rom.6:3f)

E. PREVENT BREAKDOWN IN THE CHURCH (23-25; **(1)** 23; Rom.6:3; Eph.2:4f; 3:16f; **(2)** Gal.6:5; 1Th.4:11,12; 2Th.3:12; **(3)** Gal.6:2; 1Th.4:9,10; 2Th.3:13 (Mt.22:37-39); **(4)** 24; Ex.18:17; Acts 6:1f; Col.3:21)

Brethren, what shall we do? (see Acts 2:37f)