



The Prophets & Kings

From Rehoboam To Zedekiah

Book 1

A Daily Devotional Study Guide

Week 37

“The Tables Have Turned”

Study: Isaiah 51:12-23

Reading: Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 5:43-43

Memory: Romans 8:18

Have you ever wondered where we get some of the expressions that we use today? The expression in the title, “The tables have turned” is recorded in a writing from 1612 and probably originated earlier than that. It most likely has its roots in two person board games like chess or backgammon where you could turn the board game table and be on the completely opposite side that you once were.

Today, we are going to see how God was going to turn the tables on the Babylonians. Though they once crushed the Israelites, they themselves would be crushed.

What Does the Bible Say?

God declared Himself to be the One who could bring great comfort to His people. This comfort came when people obeyed and followed Him, but often people would choose to fear men more than they feared God. People will come and go, but God will be forever. Instead of forgetting the One who made them and caring about what He desired, the people were continually afraid of what other men may do. God had a plan do deliver and redeem His people out of captivity. They would not suffer terrible fates, but would be released and sent back to the land of Israel (vs 11-14).

Once again, God made it absolutely clear that He was the One who had the power they needed. He was the God who had control over the oceans and was the Lord over the angels of heaven. God had covered them with His protecting hand and had also given them the power to speak His truth. This same God who created the earth and all that is in it was the one who declared that they were His chosen people (vs 15-16).

That challenge given in verse 17 was for Israel to wake up and turn back to the Lord. Though they had not experienced this tragedy yet, they would and Isaiah is writing this for the exiles in Babylon to read. By that time, they would have experienced the great wrath of God for their sin and God desired to restore them. Most of the young men, the next

generation of leaders, would be killed or taken captive throughout the Babylonian invasions. Jerusalem would be left desolate with no leaders and was going to be completely destroyed. Those two things were going to happen and cause great devastation. This destruction would result in great sadness and immense heartache, with no one to comfort them in their time of tragic loss (vs 17-19).

This did not mean that things were hopeless for them. God was sending this message to them in their affliction. God was going to remove the pain and suffering from them. He was going to cause the Babylonians to experience the great suffering, just like they had done to the people of Judah. Though the Babylonians had walked all over the children of Israel, crushing their body and spirits, God wasn't going to let that go unnoticed. He was going to do the same to them allowing His children to be freed to return to Jerusalem (vs 20-23).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you realize that God has the ability to “turn the tables” in your life? You see examples of this over and over in Scripture where people of the world choose to oppress the people of God. Though the initial oppression is not always easy, God reveals Himself to be in control and often causes the oppressed to experience greater oppression than he had dished out. This doesn't mean that you should be vindictive in your attitude towards others, but should bring you hope knowing that God will repay others for how they treat His children. Romans 12 tells us to love our enemies, but also reminds us that God will stand up for them and take vengeance upon them. The point being made is to choose to love God today and trust Him to take care of those who oppose His Word.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for standing up for you and acting on your behalf.*
- * *Ask God to help you trust Him to be your comfort and help.*
- * *Praise God because He is the Lord of heaven's armies.*

Thought for the day

How did God describe Himself (vs 12)?

What should you not fear (vs 12)?

Why is this much easier to talk about than to actually do?

Who had the Israelites forgotten (v 13)?

What three questions are asked in verse 13?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What was the point (vs 13)?

What was God going to do (vs 14)?

What did God declare about Himself (vs 15)?

What did God do for His people (vs 16)?

What did God declare about Israel (vs 16)?

Why did God want Jerusalem to wake up (vs 17)?

What has Jerusalem experienced (vs 17)?

What happened to many of the children of Jerusalem (vs 18)?

What two calamities had Jerusalem faced (vs 19)?

What happened to their children (vs 20)?

What were the children of Israel drunk with (vs 21)?

How did God describe Himself in verse 22?

What was God going to do for the Israelites and the Babylonians (vs 23)?

“How Lovely”

Study: Isaiah 52:1-15

Reading: Romans 10:1-21

Memory: Romans 8:18

What Does the Bible Say?

Jerusalem was going to be ransacked and destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians. It would be left mostly desolate for over 50 years and would start to be rebuilt when the Persians began to rule. From that time until now, Jerusalem has gone through several periods of destruction and rebuilding. This will not be the case in the future. One day the city will be clothed in majesty and splendor. One day there will be no more destruction and no more war. Those who are full of sin will not inhabit the city and the Jews would no longer be captive or under the oppression of another nation. This is because they were going to be redeemed, but not with money. The ultimate redemption when the Messiah returns will be an amazing one (vs 1-3).

The Israelites had been redeemed from Egypt in the past and during the time this was written, many Jews were scattered over the known world because of the Assyrian destruction of the northern tribes. This caused the name of God to be degraded and people viewed the God of Israel just like any other god. One day, this will change as the people of the world will recognize the great power of the God of Israel (vs 4-6).

This restoration will cause messengers to travel to the area claiming the news of peace and happiness. They would declare how the Messiah had come and that salvation was here for the Jews. They would let everyone know the God of Israel was the God who reigned over the whole world. The watchman, who were guards posted on the walls of a city, would announce the news of the coming of the Messiah and would greatly rejoice to see that the Messiah was coming to the city to establish His kingdom (vs 7-8).

All of Israel will break forth in singing because Jerusalem would be restored. This would bring great comfort to the people of God and the nations of the world would see the salvation that God brought to His people (vs 9-10).

The Israelites were told that they would be able to get out of their

captivity where everything they touched was unclean, but they did not have to rush like they were escaping. Instead, the Messiah will go before them and behind them, protecting them and guiding them under complete protection. There was a short term fulfillment to this prophecy when Cyrus sent around 50,000 Jews back to Jerusalem, but this prophecy points to a greater time when there will be a greater return back to Jerusalem (vs 11-12).

Verse 13 then transitions to a prediction about the Messiah, but this is not the picture of a triumphant return. The Messiah will be lifted up and exalted in a positive and negative way. When Jesus came the first time many believed and exalted Him, but He was also lifted up on the cross to die. This death astonished many people because he was beaten to the point where he could not be recognized. This image of a suffering Messiah would startle many people, especially Jews who traveled from all over to come to Jerusalem. The word of His death is still spreading today and astounding many nations. He will also astound the world when He returns in great glory (vs 13-15).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Prophecy is a wonderful thing for believers to cling to because we see how God has fulfilled it in the past and will fulfill it in the future. At the same time, we must be careful that we don't become so overwhelmed with prophetic predictions today. There are ministries and churches where all they do is try to fit current events into prophecies that have been given. Though this is not wrong, prophecies like what you read today reveals that it is hard to know the exact meaning of some prophecies until they happen. The prophecy in today's reading was mixed with future times that have not happened along with historical data of what has already happened, It is all mixed together. The New Testament writers through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit helped us to see the parts of the prophecies that Jesus has fulfilled already, but there are many parts that He did not. This is why many of the Jews missed what God had for them when Jesus came. They had in their own minds their version of how God would fulfill prophecy and they missed the Messiah. I think this can be very true today. People get in their minds what they think God should do so they often spend so much time on that, they miss out on what He wants to do in their lives each and every day. I believe that prophecy is not given for us to know every little detail, but for us to have hope in the future so we choose to live for God today.

Who will not enter Jerusalem in the future (vs 1)?

How was Jerusalem going to rise from the dust (v 2)?

What do you think God meant when He said he didn't get any money when He sold them into exile and he would not need money to buy them back (vs 3)?

What experiences had Israel gone through (vs 4)?

What was going to happen to them again (vs 5)?

What would the people know when God chose to act (vs 6)?

What good news would the messengers share (v 7)?

What would he declare (vs 7)?

How would the watchman react (vs 8)?

What would God bring to His people (v 9)?

What do you think the beginning of verse 10 means?

What were the Israelites ordered to leave (vs 11)?

****This was a picture of them headed out of captivity.*

Why wouldn't they have to rush get out of captivity (vs 12)?

How would many view Jesus (vs 13)?

Why would many people be shocked (vs 14)?

What does this reveal about how awful the crucifixion was (vs 14)?

What would the Messiah cause many kings to do (vs 15)? How?

Why would Jesus amaze so many people (vs 15)?

“By His Wounds”

Study: Isaiah 53:1-12

Reading: John 19:1-42

Memory: Romans 8:18

What Does the Bible Say?

Chapter 51 started out by asking who believed the report that was given. This seems to imply the idea that very few people would understand who the Messiah was when HE came. He would grow up in the midst of the Jews, but would grow up in relative obscurity. Jesus would come from a place where no one was expecting, like a green plant in the middle of an arid land. Instead of being praised and exalted like He should have been, He was despised by many of the leaders and eventually by many of the people. Even in his own town He was rejected with many people wanting to stone Him to death. Instead of being greeted with praise and adoration, He ended up facing great sorrow and shame (v 1-3).

Jesus bore the weight of the sin of the world on His shoulders and even throughout His earthly life He knew He was destined to die an awful death. Though He was doing this, most people did not realize what was taking place. Instead of being exalted to a throne, He was lifted up on a cross. Everything that Jesus went through was for the sins of men. He was beaten and battered physically, even having a spear thrust in His side. He was crushed emotionally, as He was betrayed and abandoned by most of His followers. Yet, His choice to continue through with the actions of the cross are what allowed all men who believe on Him to have peace with God. By His choice to suffer and die, it made a way for us to be healed from our sin and have eternal life. All men on the earth are like sheep who choose to go their own way and disregard their shepherd, but even in this sinful state, God loved the people of the world and had compassion on them. He chose to allow Jesus to suffer and die so that He could pay the price for our sin (vs 4-6).

The greatest example of love and humility can be seen in how Jesus chose to suffer. While He was falsely accused and beaten, He did not try to defend Himself or fight for His own rights. Even when Pilate begged Him to stand up for Himself, He chose to answer with very few words.

He was being led to slaughter, but unlike sheep, He knew exactly what was going to happen. His life was taken and He experienced all of this because of the sins of all men. He died hanging among common criminals and was only given burial in a rich man's tomb because it was close to the cross. All of this was done to Jesus, but He did nothing wrong (vs 7-9).

As awful as this was, it was all part of God's plan. He made an offering for the sins of all men. It was this offering that allowed men to become sons of God and give men eternal life. Though His soul was in great torment, the outcome of it was worth it for Jesus. Because of this righteous act on the cross, many would become right before God because He took their sin upon Himself. Even when He was dying many people rejected Him. Even to the point where they gambled for some of His clothes. He was treated like a common criminal, even though He was the King of the world. He chose to bear the sins of men and interceded on behalf of all who had sinned (vs 10-12).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you realize that this was written over 700 years before Jesus died? Because of the accuracy, many people wanted to claim that Isaiah was written after the death of Jesus, but there is great evidence to reveal that it was written well before His death by Isaiah as recorded in the Scripture. This reveals to us the great love of God and that Jesus knew exactly what He was doing. Though many would reject Him, this offering made a way for many people to accept Him and the sacrifice He made for their sin. Take time today to think about the crucifixion and focus on the fact that Jesus knew all that would happen. Focus on the love of Christ as He chose to humble himself and quietly do the work God called Him to do. Then ask yourself if you are humbly and quietly doing the work that Jesus called you to do, just as He did for you.

Suggestions for Prayer

* *Thank God for His choice to die and deliver you from your sin.*

Thought for the day

What does verse 1 seem to indicate?

How was Jesus going to grow up (vs 2)? What do you think this meant?

Why do you think there was very little recognition of who Jesus was while he was growing up?

Why do you think it was important the He grew up this way?

How did many people view Jesus (vs 3)?

Why do you think He is described as a "man of sorrows" (vs 3)?

Does this mean that Jesus was always sad? Explain your answer.

Why do you think most people didn't realize who Jesus was though He fulfilled many prophecies (vs 3)?

What did Jesus bear for us (vs 4)?

How did Jesus suffer for our sins (vs 5)?

What brought us peace (vs 5)?

How are people described (vs 6)? Why?

What did God do (vs 6)?

What did Jesus not do (vs 7)? Why not?

What did people not realize about the death of Jesus (vs 8)?

How did Jesus die? How was He buried (vs 9)?

How was God in control (vs 10)?

What was the result of the death of Jesus (vs 11)?

What did Isaiah say would happen to the garments of Jesus (vs 12)?

“No Earthly Weapon”

Study: Isaiah 54:1-17

Reading: Revelation 20:1-21:27

Memory: Romans 8:18

In 2011, the nation of Israel first started using a defense system called “The Iron Dome.” The purpose of this system was to shoot down any incoming missiles or rockets that would be launched into Israel from other countries. Over the years the system has been put to use several times with around a 90% success rate. Between 2011 and 2021 over 1,600 rockets had been sent into Israel from the Gaza strip and only a handful of those landed and caused destruction.

Today, we are going to see that though 90% is a good rate, one day God will establish a defense for Israel which will block out 100% of the attempts of their enemies.

What Does the Bible Say?

The Assyrian and Babylonian captivities caused Israel to become a very desolate place. Though when Isaiah was writing this only the northern tribes had been destroyed, both would end up the same. Though the nation would be barren like a woman who had no children, there would be a time where she could rejoice again because in the restoration the nation would be greater and stronger than it was before the destruction. They were told to make their tents bigger, which would be like adding an addition on a house today because of a growing family. The nation of Israel will spread and fill the land. There were times of restoration where the Israelites expanded in the land, even today, the Jews are filling the land, but one day the borders will expand (vs 1-3).

Once this restoration takes place, there will no longer be a reason to fear or be ashamed. Their sins would be forgiven and the shame and disgrace it caused would be like a distant memory. They would be like a widow who would remarry, causing her to forget the misery of her widowhood. She wouldn't just be marrying anyone, but Israel would be marrying the God of the universe as described in verse 5. God would call Israel to Himself even though the nation would be like a woman who had been divorced and humiliated. Even though He had put her away for

destruction because of her sin, God would bring the nation back to Himself. His anger would be turned away and He would love her with an everlasting love. He would be her Redeemer. Most of this appears to be a look into the future during the millennial kingdom. Though some restoration did take place, an even greater restoration will take place in the future (vs 4-8).

God compared the destruction of Israel to the flood of Noah's day. Just as God promised to refill the earth and never to send a flood again, He promised He would refill Israel and they would not have to face that destruction again. Even if the earth were destroyed and everything we know as humans was changed, God would not remove His covenant of peace He made with Israel (9-10).

It is interesting to note that Isaiah was writing this around 100 years before Judah would go into captivity, but this was something that the Israelites would be able to cling to and find hope in while in Babylon. They would be afflicted, but would also have something to look forward to. Verse 11-12 described how the foundation of the city would be laid with precious stones. Indicating not only a restoration, but a beautiful restoration. During this time of restoration, their children would be continually taught about God and the nation would live in righteousness. They would not need to be afraid of foreign nations since there would be no powers to conquer them. Even if someone tried to stir up trouble, they would be stopped. The armies and weapons of God would be too powerful for any foe to be able to overcome. No weapon that was formed by the hand of men would have the power to succeed. No enemy leader, no matter how strong and persuasive will be able to rise against them. God would enact judgment on anyone who would want to battle or oppose Israel (vs 11-17).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Though much of this is meant to bring hope to Israel as the great peace and safety of the millennial kingdom is described, it can't be overlooked that this same peace and safety can exist in your spirit today. No earthly weapon can do you harm if God does not allow it to happen. He can stop any earthly force, no matter how powerful it may be. This does not mean that God will always spare the lives of believers in today's world. We are still living in the earthly kingdom and will not always be physically spared from problems. Yes, we can have mental and spiritual peace when we trust in the power and sovereignty of God.

Who was the barren woman compared to (vs 1)?

Why were they told to enlarge their tents (vs 2)?

What will happen to the land of Israel in the future (vs 3)?

Why were they told not to fear (vs 4)?

How did God describe Himself in verse 5?

Why would this have been such a great comfort to Israel?

What did God compare His calling to (vs 6)?

What did God have to do (vs 7)? Why?

How did God describe His love for His people (vs 8)?

What did God compare His destruction and restoration with (vs 9)?

What did the beginning of verse 10 emphasize about God's power?

What was God going to lay the foundation with (vs 11-12)?

Why do you think He stated this?

What would their children experience (vs 13)?

What would they not need to be afraid of (vs 14)?

What would happen to anyone who tried to cause trouble (vs 15)?

What did God say He would create (vs 16)?

What would not be able to succeed (vs 17)?

Why do you think God referenced "vindication" in verse 17?

What lesson do you think God wants you to learn from this passage?

"True Fulfillment"

Study: Isaiah 55:1-13

Reading: Revelation 3:14-22

Memory: Romans 8:18

I find that when we have guests, the ones who often make the most of their time are the ones who ask me questions. Because I have vacationed and lived in the area for many years, I have many ideas and shortcuts that lead people to a greater experience because I can help direct them into what they really want to do and where they want to go.

Today, we are going to see that when we follow the directions of God in this life, we experience life in a greater way than those who try to do it on their own.

What Does the Bible Say?

God called all those who were hungry and thirsty, but had no money to purchase and drink, to come to Him and be satisfied. Though God has promised spiritual provision for His people, this is an invitation for more than that. It is an illustration of spiritual hunger and spiritual thirst. The Israelites were giving themselves to false idols and things of the world that could not satisfy them. They were like hungry people spending all their money on the wrong things that didn't cure that hunger. It often did the opposite and made them more hungry. Instead of feasting on the wonderful food that would satisfy, they feasted on things that left them wanting for more. God was calling on them to turn to Him and do what He said. By trusting in Him and obeying His Words, they would find a deep spiritual satisfaction that could not be found anywhere else. They would find real life in this world and everlasting life in the world to come. God loved His children and had so much to offer to them if they would simply turn to Him and follow Him (vs 1-3).

To help the people understand what God was calling them to, He used the example of David. When David followed God he became a leader for others to follow. God blessed him and nations came to him offering their tribute without him having to ask for it or conquer them. God wanted to do the same for those who followed Him. God wanted to be on their side (vs 4-5).

This is why they were challenged to "Seek the Lord." He was not far

off, but was near and ready to respond to their call. In order to follow the Lord, they needed to turn away from their wickedness and choose to do what God desired. If they chose to do this, God would have compassion on them and would offer abundant forgiveness for their sin. This is because God thinks so differently than we think as people. We have a hard time forgiving ourselves and forgiving others. God does not. His thoughts are about compassion and mercy and He has the ability to completely forgive. His ways and His thoughts are so much greater than our thoughts. No matter how many wrong things a person has done, no matter how big of a sinner a person feels he or she is, forgiveness is always available through God (vs 6-9).

The One thing that we can trust in is God's Word and the fact that He will do what He says. This was illustrated by the fact that rain that came down from heaven watered the earth and helped the crops to grow. These crops would provide more seed to grow more crops in addition to providing food for the person doing the work. It was the rain that made everything work together and God compared that to the Words of His mouth. When God's Word went out it would be profitable. It was following His Word that made a difference and those who chose to follow His Word would experience all the blessings associated with it (vs 10-11).

This chapter has presented many contrasts and it closed with the same thing. The people were told if they chose to follow God, they would experience joy, peace and great wonder in life. Instead of briars and thorns (pain and heartache) their lives could be filled with beautiful cypress and myrtle trees. They would experience the everlasting love of God and all the benefits that go with it (vs 12-13).

How Does this Apply to Me?

This chapter gave several illustrations to help describe the benefits of following God and His Word. The ways of God are so different than the ways of man. The world often presents so many things that seem right, but God's ways are often very different than man's ways. It is so important to realize this and to choose to think the way God things and live the way God desires. Most people will simply live the way everyone else does, falling into the foolishness of the world's thinking only to find themselves empty and unfulfilled. Those who recognize there is a better way and choose to follow God and His Word understand that there is a much better way to live.

Why is food and drink being offered to those who have no money to buy it (vs 1)?

What were the people spending their money on (vs 2)?

What was this an illustration of?

What would God do for those who listened to Him and obeyed Him (vs 3)?

Who did God use as an illustration (vs 3-4)? Why?

How had God blessed David when he was king of Israel (vs 5)?

Why is it important to realize that David's physical success was only achieved because of his obedience to God (vs 5)?

What does God challenge all men to do (vs 6)?

What does seeking after God involve (vs 7)?

What will God display towards the repentant (vs 7)?

What does God declare about His thoughts (vs 8-9)?

What do you think this means in light of the context of the passage?

Why is it so important to understand that God thinks so differently than you do?

What illustration was used in verse 10?

What did the illustration mean (vs 11)?

Why is it so important to realize the supremacy of God and His Word?

What will be one of the rewards for following God (vs 12)?

What contrasts are presented in verse 13?

“A Good Watch Dog”

Study: Isaiah 56:1-12

Reading: Matthew 26:20-28, John 13:1-20

Memory: Romans 8:18

Over the years our family had a few cats that we kept in the garage. I am not a big fan of cats, but one of the selling points my children used was that it would catch the mice. The cats would often start out catching mice, but after a little while, they would become lazy and realize there was a much easier way to get good.

Today, we are going to see how Isaiah used an illustration of watchdogs who would rather sleep than do their job. He compared them to the leaders who failed to lead with love and compassion, but instead led by seeking selfish pursuits.

What Does the Bible Say?

When everything seems to be falling apart around you and the world seems to be getting worse and worse, it is tough to keep following God. This is the condition that many of the Israelites were experiencing. Yet in the middle of a vile and perverse generation they were challenged to continue to live for God by focusing on justice and living in righteousness. We have seen an emphasis on these ideas throughout our study of the prophets. Basically, the people were challenged to continue to love others and treat others around them with respect and fairness. This, along with the desire to keep God’s law and keep their hands from doing what was declare to be wrong, is what God desired from His people (v 1-2).

One of the ways the people of God could show mercy was to embrace and accept the foreigners and those who were eunuchs. According to the Old Testament law, foreigners could not take part in the Passover and those who were eunuchs could not have a part in the regular Israelite worship. In general a eunuch is described as a person, who normally by choice, chose to have their testicles cut off and would be unable to produce children. Sometimes this would be the result of a birth defect and other times it would be the result of an accident. In a broad sense a Eunuch could also be a reference to a person who chose to remain single.

The point that was being made was that those who chose to follow God would be blessed, even those who were not part of the “normal” societal path that most people followed. Though the foreigners and Eunuchs were not allowed to do certain things in the Jewish worship system, if they chose to follow God, they would receive extra blessings. Though God ordered the outcasts to be excluded from some of the worship practices, God also revealed that He loved the outcasts and had a special place in His heart for them. This also appears to be a challenge to the “normal” Israelites to love the person who was an outcast, just as God loved them (vs 3-8).

The challenge for the people was to be opposite of the leaders who were in charge of Israel. The leaders were like wild beasts who devoured those who were under them. Those who were supposed to be watchmen and look out for their followers, were blind and couldn’t see the dangers. He compared them to silent watchdogs who choose to sleep rather than guard their owners. They just eat what they can, taking advantage of their owners, but not fulfilling their duties. The leaders were also compared to shepherds who did not know what they were doing. They did not think about the future, but only cared about fulfilling their personal pleasures that day and hoped to do the same the next (vs 9-12).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you show love and compassion to the outcasts? Maybe you feel you are the outcast? What a great joy it is to know that all people who seek after Him have a special place in His heart. Perhaps you feel you don’t fit in and that very few people love you. Hopefully, the church is the one place you do find that love, because it is the way that God loved. You also need to take note of the way that God loved those who were not part of the normal society. You should realize the importance of treating others like God chooses to treat them even though they were different.

The second part of the chapter focused on the importance of godly leaders. Most people in one way or another will be a leader of others throughout their lives. Whether it is just the leader of a family or the leader of a large organization, the Scripture is filled with valuable advice about leadership. One of the main things a leader is called to do is look out for those who are following. There are often certain perks with leadership, but the responsibility of serving others should far surpass the focus on the benefits.

What did God challenge His followers to do (vs 1)?

What will be the result of following verse 1 (vs 2)?

What else does a person need to do to be blessed (vs 2)?

What was a foreigner or eunuch not to do (vs 3)?

How would a foreigner or eunuch be defined?

What did God want the eunuchs to do (vs 4)?

What did God promise to them (vs 5)?

Why do you think He promised this?

What did God promise to the foreigners (vs 6)?

What did God say He would do for the foreigners (vs 7)?

What do you think verse 8 means?

What did God compare the leaders to (vs 9)?

Why did God compare the leaders to watchmen (vs 10)?

How were they not fulfilling their role (vs 10)?

What do you think the beginning of verse 11 means?

How else did God describe the leaders (vs 11)?

How can you tell the difference between a good leader and a bad leader (vs 11)?

What are bad leaders often focused on (vs 12)?

How can you make sure that you are a leader that is leading those under you in a proper way?

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. 12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, In 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. 18 Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.