

**I. Introduction.**

**II. David's three friends offer needed help east of the Jordan. 17:27-29**

- A. Who are these three men? v. 27**
- 1. Shobi the Ammonite. 10:2ff 12:29-31 I Sam. 11:1-2**
  - 2. Machir from Lo-debar. 9:4-5**
  - 3. Barzillai, the Gileadite. 19:31ff I Ki. 2:7**
- B. Why did they help David?**
- 1. They have compassion on him and his men. v. 19b**
  - 2. They are loyal to God's anointed King, even when all others are against him.**
  - 3. They stand in stark contrast to David's deceitful self-seeking 'friend' Ziba and David's enemy Shimei. 16:1-14**
  - 4. They also stand in contrast to David's fair weather friends among the general population of Israel. 15:6,12 19:9-10**
- C. What did their help cost them?**
- 1. They were feeding an army of hundreds, if not thousands, of people.**
  - 2. What will happen to them if Absalom prevails?**
- D. In the end those who are loyal to the LORD's anointed King are rewarded. 19:31ff**

**III. David's friends exemplify Christian charity.**

- A. Do you have compassion for the needy? v. 29b Rom. 12:15 Isa. 58:6ff Luke 10:29ff**
- B. We are called to love those in need. Js. 2:14ff I Jo. 3:17f Ro. 12:10 Acts 2:45 4:32ff I Tim. 6:17ff**
- C. True love may be costly. Heb. 13:16**
- D. We also must be prepared to receive the loving help of others.**

**IV. David's friends make us think of Christ.**

- A. David's friends exemplify the love of Christ.**
- 1. He has compassion on needy sinners.**
  - 2. He saw us in our abject spiritual poverty and met our need at the greatest possible cost. II Co. 8:9**
  - 3. Jesus fed the hungry - literally. Mt. 15:32ff**
  - 4. Jesus feeds the hungry - spiritually. John 6:48-51**
  - 5. The Lord's Supper is a reminder of how He has fed our souls. I Co. 11:23ff**
- B. David's friends exemplify the love we are to have for Christ.**
- 1. We should remain loyal to Him regardless of His apparent fortunes in the world.**
  - 2. We may pay a price for our loyalty.**
  - 3. We will never do as much for Him as He has done for us.**
  - 4. When we help those in need we do it for Him. Mt. 25:40**
  - 5. And we can anticipate a future reward. Mt. 25:34ff Pr. 19:17**