21 RESOLVES OF LEADERS

Introduction: The success of leadership will not be in the running of the race, but in the finishing. In the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico, the runner from Tanzania, John Akwhari seriously injured his knee and the officials tried to get him to quit. Even though he was far behind the other runners, he refused to quit. With bandaged knee, he hobbled over seven miles to the finish line, arriving an hour after the winner had finished the race. He limped around the almost empty stadium and over the finish line. Later, a reporter asked him why he had not dropped out when he realized his injury would keep him from winning. Akwhari replied, "My country did not send me to start the race. They sent me to finish." To finish right should be the goal of every leader. The race must be run according to the rules established by the God who called us. As leaders, you must run your race according to the resolves to which you are committed, run according to the non-negotiables that you will not compromise under pressure, change under busyness or neglect under the routines of life. What are your never-let-go-of resolves?

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

2 Samuel 23:10-12 And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. The Philistines had gathered together into a troop where there was a piece of ground full of lentils. Then the people fled from the Philistines. But he stationed himself in the middle of the field, defended it, and killed the Philistines. And the Lord brought about a great victory.

I. LEADERS KNOW THE TIMES

A. THE ISSACHAR LEADER

1 Chronicles 12:32 Of the children of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command.

- Tribesmen were skilled in reading the signs of the times
- Leaders who understood the requirements of the times
- Leaders who discerned what course Israel should follow
- Leaders … who knew the best course for Israel to take
- Leaders who knew when Israel should take action and the way to do it
- Men who had wisdom to discern the times and see the right course to take on each occasion.
- All these men understood the temper of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.