

(1). "The Greatest Thing a X'n can Do."

Introd:- (1). ~~Tonight~~..TOPIC. What think that would be?  
Not easy to guess.. "Be a missionary" No. Great, but not  
greatest. "Go to B. School." No. Hope you do..but..  
"Give lot of money to Lord's work." No..Needed ~~but~~ not gree  
(2). There is one thing God wants ev. X'n to do..expects..  
has right to ask for it. Want ev. X'n here..espec. those  
who are new X'n ~~this week~~..to learn this bef. go home.

I. ~~Tonight~~..back into O.T. read story of another man.

(a). Not great strong man like Samson..or kind like David..  
Didn't have very good start in life. Father was immoral  
and wicked..home unhappy. Listen to this..Judges 11:1-2  
Poor Jephthah! What an awful state in that home. Step-mothe  
hated him..and half=~~brothers~~ finally pushed him out of the d  
door one night..threw clothes after him..locked him out.  
Homeless, friendless, despised Jephthah!

(b). Where did he go? Picked himself up off road where fallen  
Where go now? Don't really know..except that he went to a  
strange place called "Tob"..wherever that was. That name  
means "A good place"..but it was full of bad companions..  
many like today's hippies..Vs. 3. J. ~~got~~ in with wrong  
crowd..a gang of hooligans..pool-hall gang..tough crowd.  
J. became leader, so he must have been a pretty tough one to  
Gang went with J..I suppose to movies, dance halls, night  
clubs..Rough and tough. Poor outlook for J!

II. But, thank God, there came wonderful days into life of J

(a). In nation of Israel a great need arose..their enemies  
decalred war on them. If read newspapers of those days..  
you would see headline.."AMMONITES INVAD E ISRAEL"..  
GREAT ARMIES GATHERING...ISRAEL SHORT OF GENERALS...and  
then this one.."WAR DEP'T ISSUES SPECIAL CALL". And that  
call was for despised Jephthah to come and lead the army!  
Here it is..vs. 6. They knew he was tough, strong. leader.

(b). And that call changed J. in many ways. And he set out  
to be a good leader of men..lead right way.

NOW:- Isn't that what God wants us to be..to lead men the  
right way..to be a good soldier of J.C.? II Tim. 2:3-4.  
We are called to be good soldiers like J. was. Yes, we had  
a poor start..born into world as sinners..but God called so  
many of us..first to salvation..and now to be soldiers.

III. Now let's learn from J. what made him a good soldier.

(a). First I read that he PRAYED..vs. 11. Laid all his plans  
before God. Be sure you do that..plans for each day..for  
life..home..partner..employment..His service.

(b). Then came great things he did..that gave him mighty victory over enemy..vs. 30-31. Some people call him silly for doing that..But God honoured him..gave him victory..sent Spirit of power on him..and wrote name in Heb. 11....  
 (c). NOW..end of story..vs. 34-35 His only daughter! Dearest treasure of heart. Did he think of her when he made his vow? I think so. But per. hoping for something else..sheep..chicken..cow..as all lived together..  
 NOW:\* for what he did we ought to respect and honour..  
 "I have opened my mouth to the Lord, and I cannot go back. L. Kept his word. No, his daughter was not killed. Ev. unclean, unsuitable sac. had to be redeemed at price set by priest...but she was also vowed to the Lord, and served Him in Tab. as long as ~~she~~ she lived. J's home quiet, lonely BUT HE DID THE GREATEST THING ANY X'N CAN DO..He gave all he had to God..without any reservation or holding back. This was not just profession..but practice!  
 c/f Woman with alabaster box of ointment..BROKE IT!

Conclus:- 1. Will you dare do what J. did? Saved? Thank God if that true. Now will you give your LIFE to God..body, soul, spirit, possessions, hopes, ambitions..with no holding back? What will YOU say to the Lord Jesus? Love Him? More than parents..children..home? Rom. 12:1-2  
God wants you!

2. WAIT A MOMENT! Easy to say yes..and then forget it..draw back. Bef. open mouth, think of J. again..  
 "I CANNOT GO BACK". Don't lie to God. Don't say yes, and then go back on solemn promise made to Him..not to me. If mean business..God will take you at your word..test..  
 search..try..and call per. to hard and diff, task..FAR...  
 "Illus:- David Livingstone..offered earldom, wealth, fame by Stanley.."No, my work for God is here in Africa"  
 Found dead on knees. Today body lies in Westminster Abbey in London..tomb sought by more people than any other..  
 of great kings and queens of Britain. He gave all he had to God..like J..THE GREATEST THING A X'N CAN EVER DO  
 Will you do it?

Coronation - Oct 23/76  
 Meadows Cr. B. Camp Mar 11/73  
 Ross Haven B. Camp - July 13/72  
 Chinese Pentecostal - Calgary Mar 21/71  
 South. Alta B. Camp - July 9/70 - many dedications