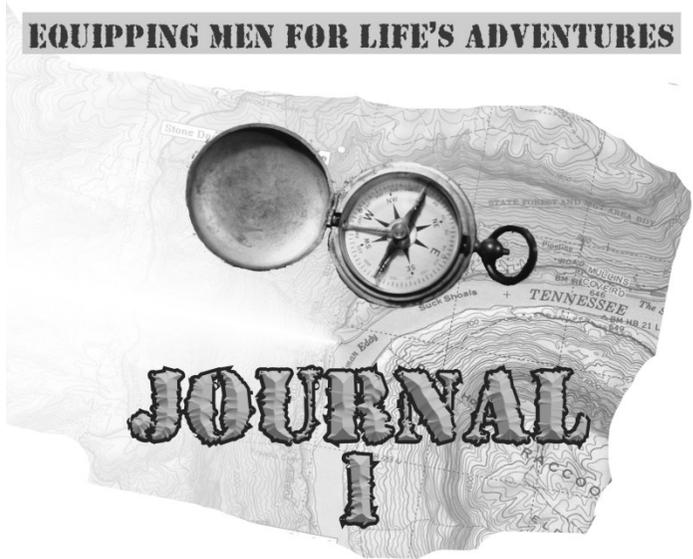


# *Outdoorsman's Chronicles*

**EQUIPPING MEN FOR LIFE'S ADVENTURES**



**BY EDGAR PIERCE**

## **EQUIPPING MEN FOR LIFE'S ADVENTURES**

### *Outdoorsman's Chronicles*

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## EQUIPPING MEN FOR LIFE'S ADVENTURES

### Using the Material

Outdoorsman's Chronicles is written with the hope and prayer that it will give resources for spiritual growth. There are several ways the material can be used.

- 1- Sportsman's Sunday School/Small Group- A class such as a traditional Sunday School Bible study time designed for outdoorsmen or a small group meeting during discipleship time.
- 2- Individual Study- Study the individual lesson on your own.
- 3- Mentoring- You and someone you are mentoring go through the material together once a week or whenever is convenient. It will allow discussion that is natural.
- 4- Community Bible Study- Start a group on Tuesday night or whenever in the community and study together.

### About the Author



**Edgar Pierce** has been hunting since childhood and has had the opportunity to hunt in several states and a wide range of game. Any given time you will find him in the squirrel woods, rabbit thicket, duck blind or deer stand. He has fished in the fast flowing cold mountain streams, muddy rivers and the wide blue ocean.

He is co-founder of Harvest 365  
([www.harvest365.net](http://www.harvest365.net)).

He is the author of "*Pursuing Fresh Tracks*"  
and co-author of "*The Sportsman's Seasons*" and "*Base Camp*"  
men's Bible studies.

He is the Pastor of East Union Baptist of Jackson, TN and has a Dr. of  
Ministry from Southern Baptist School, Jacksonville, FL.

He has been married to his lovely wife Joyce for 35 years. They  
have two sons, Daniel (Jill) and Cody (Emily)  
and one Grandson, Lincoln.

## **Forewarned**

Yea, I know it is usually called a Forward or some other thing but I chose to call it Forewarned. I did this because I wanted you to be forewarned that my prayer for you as you study is to encounter the Living and True God.

I pray God by the Holy Spirit moves in our hearts as we study these lessons together or individually to equip us for life. I also want us to be forewarned this God we encounter will want more from us than we can imagine. Be forewarned that God will want to use you to reach other men with the gospel.

As we are equipped for life, it will help us to be equippers of other men for life who will in turn equip others. Just be forewarned when you see this happen, in fact, be prepared and look for it.

I do not have any delusion that my words will have an impact on any life but the Scriptures that lie before us will certainly impact us. The Bible says this in **Isaiah 55:11 NKJV So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**

Another warning that I must give is that the Word of God will search out the places that exist that we do not want to admit. The Bible tells us that God's Word will accomplish this. Notice **Hebrews 4:12-13 NKJV For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.**

So you have been forewarned....are you up to the challenge? Jump right, in life is happening fast and we need equipping.

## EQUIPPING MEN FOR LIFE'S ADVENTURES

### Lay of the Land

There are many elements in each of the Chronicles that are common. These are designed to make the material easier to comprehend and use. The common elements will appear in the following order in each Chronicle.



**JOURNAL ENTRY** is a parabolic story of an outdoor adventure or related to the outdoors much like you would enter into a journal. You will find that you identify, and connect with the story because of similar events from your life. The **JOURNAL ENTRY** is not just a story however, its purpose is to begin to lead us into an understanding of a spiritual truth.



**THE QUEST** is the place where the Bible teaching will be developed. The focal passage is for exploring plus we will use other biblical text to give insights and equip us for life's adventures.

There are points within The Quest that we need to stop and think about before moving forward. These are called **PROVING GROUNDS**. You will find this logo next to them.



**COURSE CORRECTION** is the wrap up of the lesson. There are additional Proving Grounds questions here, as well. These questions may be personal questions or group discussion questions.

# CHRONICLE

## I

### **FALSE WITNESS**

#### **"Guarding our Testimony"**

*Genesis 19:12-14 NKJV*

### Journal Entry

The hunter smiled to himself as he slowly made his way just inside the tree line in the early morning. Dawn was just breaking and it would not be long before fly down time. He had roosted the gobblers the night before. If they did what they had been doing for days, it would not be long until his old twelve-gauge barked marking the end of another longbeard's life.

His smile came partly from the anticipation of the hunt and partly from thinking how crazy he looked if anyone was watching. Dressed in a full ghillie suit he was certain that he looked, well different. He chuckled to himself realizing how much he did not care how he looked. He only wanted the turkeys, with their keen eyesight, to believe he was just so much foliage in the thicket.

He rested against the base of the tree and leaned back anticipating the soon coming sound of a chorus of gobbles. His decoys were barely visible in the early predawn light. He waited. It would not be long before the whole earth would come to life.

He heard an owl hoot in the distance and in a split second he heard the, "gobble-gobble-gobble" of a tom firing up on the roost. He began to hear the fly down of the birds but they had changed their pattern. They flew down on the opposite end of the field. This was not at all like he had planned. So he returned to lying, which he did well.

## FALSE WITNESS

He gave a few sweet sounds of a lady looking for a suitor. He called to the toms he could see on the other ends of the field strutting in the early morning. He was trying to tell them that he was a she and that she wanted that good looking fellow to pay her some attention. Yea, he lied, and he was good at it. The tom hammered out a gobble as he tucked his tail feather from the strut he was in and started his march of death.

## The QUEST

**Genesis 19:12-14 NKJV** Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Son-in-law, your sons, your daughters, and whomever you have in the city--take them out of this place! 13 For we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it." 14 So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters, and said, "Get up, get out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city!" But to his sons-in-law he seemed to be joking.

Have you ever lied? If you hunt turkey, duck, varmint, deer or pretty much most animals that use vocalizations, then go ahead and raise your hand. You have lied. You called making the animal believe that you were something you were not. The irony of this is this type of behavior is not only accepted but expected. While this type of behavior is acceptable, there are many things that will cause us to lose our witness to our family and friends.

Our Quest in God's Word enters into the life of a man who lost his testimony. His life had gotten to the point where when he desperately needed to be a witness to his family his witness was not valid in their eyes.



What does it take for you to lose confidence in someone or for someone to lose confidence in you?

Lot was living in the city of Sodom. He had chosen to live there but the city was very corrupt and God had sent his angel to tell Lot to flee. Did you notice the sad state of his witness to his own family?

What did you notice?



This seems to beg us to ask the question, *"How does someone lose their witness so badly that even their sons-in-law would consider them a joke?"* Let me suggest a few thoughts but not an exhaustive list.

### **Inconsistent Living**

While we are not specifically told Lot's life was inconsistent with what he said, it certainly seems implied. He chose to move to Sodom and chose to continue to live there. The whole context of the story is that when two angels came into Lot's house, the men of the city wanted them to come out so they could know them carnally. Look at what Lot told them recorded in **Genesis 19:8 NKJV** **See now, I have two daughters who have not known a man; please, let me bring them out to you, and you may do to them as you wish; only do nothing to these men, since this is the reason they have come under the shadow of my roof."**

Lot's life had become inconsistent with the righteousness of God. He accepted things he should not and had become influenced by the world in a negative way.

What would your family and friends say about your life concerning being consistent in your faith?



### **Wrong Priorities**

The lack of protection of his family showed us that Lot did not have his priorities right. If we look at the choices that brought him to Sodom in the first place, they will reveal where his priorities were.

## **FALSE WITNESS**

We find this in **Genesis 13:10-11 NKJV** **And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. 11 Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan, and Lot journeyed east. And they separated from each other.**

Lot's choice was to go where he perceived he would grow richer. He chose the thing that appealed to the flesh. His choice was based on temporary comfort instead of eternal benefit.



What are you making decisions in life based on? How is that affecting your witness and testimony?

## **Anger Management or Lack of It**

How many relationships and testimonies have been damaged and often severed because of anger? Many men are often the ones who lack control in this area of life. There is an old saying, "*What makes you angry controls you.*"

When we get angry and do not control it, we say things that we cannot ever take back and if thought through, would never have been said. We can also get angry and do things physically that are unwise and destructive. Look at a couple of scriptures related to anger.

**Proverbs 15:18 NKJV** **A wrathful man stirs up strife, But he who is slow to anger allays contention.**

**Proverbs 16:32 NKJV** **He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.**



Do you see a connection between losing your temper and becoming angry and losing your witness? How so?

What are some steps you need to take to avoid out of control anger or to restore damage already done by anger?



## **Communication Issues**

Communication issues seem to be a part of life. What we said was not how it was taken. What someone thought we said then gets filtered through the dirty water of gossip and people get upset.

There are many causes for this. One is the difference in the sexes. When a man says something, it is always filtered through a woman's mind with a feminine tint. It may not come across the way we hoped.

I have been married for 35 plus years and I am still trying to figure out my wife. Good luck in that! Why heck, they even button their shirts backwards from men. Go figure! Maybe that is a subtle way of reminding us of our differences.

Communication with our children, friends and co-workers is also difficult, as well. Who can figure a teenager out anyway? You know hormones raging, confidence building and then crashing.

The point is, we need to understand that communicating is important in keeping our testimony strong. We need to make sure we do all that we can to be clear, kind, understanding and righteous in our words. **James 5:12 NKJV But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your "Yes" be "Yes," and your "No," "No," lest you fall into judgment.**

What do you think it says to others when we used language that is not God honoring in our communications?





**THANK YOU FOR  
PREVIEWING  
OUTDOORSMAN'S  
CHRONICLES**