

## I Thess. 2:11; I Sam. 13:19 – 22 A CALL FOR SPIRITUAL BLACKSMITHS

I Thess. 2:11: For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, <sup>12</sup>encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory.

I Sam. 13:19 - 22 <sup>19</sup>Not a blacksmith could be found in the whole land of Israel, because the Philistines had said, “Otherwise the Hebrews will make swords or spears!” <sup>20</sup>So all Israel went down to the Philistines to have their plow points, mattocks, axes and sickles sharpened. <sup>21</sup>The price was two-thirds of a shekel for sharpening plow points and mattocks, and a third of a shekel for sharpening forks and axes and for repointing goads. <sup>22</sup>So on the day of the battle not a soldier with Saul and Jonathan had a sword or spear in his hand; only Saul and his son Jonathan had them.

1) The Philistines and the Iron Age

2) Blacksmiths            The Israelites are totally dependent on their enemies.

God has given the church “spiritual blacksmiths”. Eph. 4:11 – 13: <sup>11</sup>So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup>until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

\_\_\_\_\_ of us is to be a “spiritual blacksmith”.

I Thess. 2:11,12: “ you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, (as a blacksmith) <sup>12</sup>encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God...”

1) encourage – to come alongside to \_\_\_\_\_; “I’m here for you”

2) comfort – to \_\_\_\_\_, and inspire to continue, with a view toward the future. Inherent in the definition is “using \_\_\_\_\_”

3) urge – to appeal to something sacred “God has a plan for you” - backed up by your \_\_\_\_\_ testimony

God is \_\_\_\_\_ you, and God is \_\_\_\_\_ you!!

