



# *Before the THRONE*

## *The Devotional*

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

1 Samuel 15:12

“And Samuel rose up early to meet Saul.” 1 Samuel 15:12

Stress is a daily part of living. To be stress free is not to live. But, of course, there is a way to live that minimizes stress and its effects upon your life. “Casting all your cares upon Him for He cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)

Obedience to the Spirit of God will greatly reduce the pressures of stress and quick obedience to the Spirit will reduce it even further. Most types of stress come into our lives because we falsely believe we must face and handle life’s difficulties by ourselves. But by a moment-by-moment reliance upon the Lord we will greatly cut down the amount of stress we have to deal with, whether at work or at home.

However there are times when the Lord’s word comes to us and rather than immediately responding to that word we falter or procrastinate in obeying it. This type of sin causes even more stress (along with the added pressures of disobedience). This type of stress can be dealt with or completely eliminated by quick obedience to these promptings of the Spirit. “And Samuel rose up early to meet Saul.” The patriarch Abraham demonstrated this trait as well when upon receiving the Lord’s command to offer Isaac as a sacrifice, doesn’t hesitate, but rather, “rose up early in the morning...” (Genesis 22:3)

It is a practical thing, but it faces each of us everyday. Quick obedience reduces the time we strain under the guilt of disobedience or the condemnation of compromise. May it be said of us that we “rose up early to obey the Spirit of God.”