

1 Chronicles Chapter 28

And David assembled all the princes of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the captains of the companies that ministered to the king by course, and the captains over the thousands, and captains over the hundreds, and the stewards over all the substance and possession of the king, and of his sons, with the officers, and with the mighty men, and with all the valiant men, unto Jerusalem.

²Then David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, Hear me, my brethren, and my people: As for me, I had in mine heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made ready for the building:

³But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build a house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood.

⁴Howbeit the LORD God of Israel chose me before all the house of my father to be king over Israel for ever: for he hath chosen Judah to be the ruler; and of the house of Judah, the house of my father; and among the sons of my father he liked me to make me king over all Israel:

⁵And of all my sons, (for the LORD hath given me many sons,) he hath chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. ⁶And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father.

⁷Moreover I will establish his kingdom forever, if he be constant to do my commandments and my judgments, as at this day.

David assembles the people and relays the story of his desire to build a house.

His audience is those who have responsibility over others and resources and those who were mighty. He assembles them in the City. Even though he is aged, he stands before them. The King asks them first to hear him. The most important thing to ensure is to remind your audience to hear.

Notice what he says:

- His heart's desire was to build the temple for God to dwell in. That is what he wanted to do for God.
- He set out to achieve this goal by preparing for it and gathering the resources and materials he needed.
- But God told him he couldn't do what he wanted to do for God. His dream and desire to this this great work for God was David's dream and plan....but it was not what God had planned.
- God gives him the reason for not letting David build the temple. It was because he was a fighter and warrior who had killed along the way.
 - Opinion – While there are varying opinions as to why God disqualified David from actually building the temple, my personal opinion based on what I see in the Word is that the concept of the temple focuses on peace. It is symbolic of the 7th feast where the King dwells on the earth. The idea of war and death while part of the process, it is

not the end objective. This is why God is specific to point out this out to David (see 1 Chronicles 22:10).

- So after this disappointment, instead of having a pity party or being discouraged, David shifts the focus of the conversation to what God had done for him and allowed him to do and become.
 - God didn't choose him to build the temple, but He still allowed him to be great.
 - God chose him over his other brothers. God chose him to be king. God chose his tribe and his house and his family to rule over Israel.
 - God continues to bless him by selecting an unlikely son, Solomon, to sit on the throne.
 - Again, David can't do what he wants to do, but God blesses him in so many other ways. There is an application here.
- While David can't build it, his son Solomon is chosen by God to do this work.
- Solomon is chosen by God to be His son. His kingdom is secured forever but it is conditional...Solomon must be faithful and consistently obey God's commandments and judgments. If you only obey today it doesn't secure your future.

Application:

- If you focus on what God doesn't allow you to do, you might miss all that He has done for you and who you are in Him right now.
- The legacy you leave and how you position your family for a future in the Kingdom should be a great source of joy and thanksgiving regardless of what you can't achieve.
- Understand that God has a greater reason than what you can imagine.
- Your desires may not always be in alignment with God's plan or with what God needs for you to do.
- We ought to be happy when God asks and allows us to do anything for the Kingdom.
- Sometimes when we are not the achiever, He blesses us to be the supplier.
- Don't be discouraged when you don't get your way....it is more important that God has His way.
- Why should we care about this since most of us are not the King? Remember who he has called...those with leadership responsibilities. If you are in charge of anything, relationships, family, home, ministry...this word from David applies to you. Make sure you hear.
- The words pertaining to Solomon certainly apply to all of us who know that God is our Father. Therefore, we have a secure place in the Kingdom and the favor of our great Father if we remain faithful and obedient.
- This is not just about religion, God has always been about relationship with us. Make sure He is your Father and make Him proud by obeying His will. There is security when you do. Solomon's conditions still apply today.

Describes how God commissioned Solomon. Even though he is not allowed to build it. David can participate in this work.

⁸ Now therefore in the sight of all Israel the congregation of the LORD, and in the audience of our God, keep and seek for all the commandments of the LORD your God: that ye may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you forever.

⁹ And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the

thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever. ¹⁰Take heed now; for the LORD hath chosen thee to build a house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it.

David charges Solomon in front of the people and before God as a witness.

Application for Verses 8-10:

- There is an eternal reward and inheritance when we obey and keep the commandment of God.
- We should also be seeking any additional instructions and commandment from God along the way. In every situation, look for God's guidance....it is for our gain and His glory.
- Obedience is the key to obtaining and holding onto good things from God.
- What you possess from obeying God, is a future blessing to your children.
- David wants Solomon to really "know" God. That implies having a close relationship with Him. Likewise, we should strive to and encourage our children to have a close relationship with God. They need to know God for themselves.
- God expects us to serve Him with our whole heart surrendered to Him. You have to desire God, He will not force you to serve Him.
- Why is it a good idea to let God search your heart and mind? Because we might miss something. Our motivation and thoughts behind doing something, might not be in perfect alignment with the desires and will of God....so check with Him first. How?
 - Through the reading and hearing of the Word and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
 - A perfect heart is a sincere heart without hidden motive....it is all in for God. Don't have a hidden motive with God...you can't hide it from God.
- We may be able to fake it and hide our true motives from others, but we are not fooling God who knows our true heart and our thoughts. Search me o' God and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts (Psalm 139:23-24).
- If we/when we seek God, we will find Him. But if we ignore Him and feel we don't need Him, then we can be cast away from the good things He promises.
- We should take heed or be careful whenever God has chosen us to do any good work for Him.
 - We need to understand and be sure when it is God that has chosen us. Sometimes we put our hand to serve in a particular capacity because we want to or somebody asks...make sure God has chosen you.
 - Whatever God has chosen you to do, be strong in doing it. Do it with a passion and energy....don't give up!

¹¹ Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlours thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, ¹² And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things:

¹³ Also for the courses of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD. ¹⁴ He gave of gold by weight for things of gold, for all instruments of all manner of service; silver also for all instruments of silver by weight, for all instruments of every kind of service: ¹⁵ Even the weight for the candlesticks of gold, and

for their lamps of gold, by weight for every candlestick, and for the lamps thereof: and for the candlesticks of silver by weight, both for the candlestick, and also for the lamps thereof, according to the use of every candlestick. ¹⁶ And by weight he gave gold for the tables of shewbread, for every table; and likewise silver for the tables of silver: ¹⁷ Also pure gold for the flesh hooks, and the bowls, and the cups: and for the golden basons he gave gold by weight for every bason; and likewise silver by weight for every bason of silver: ¹⁸ And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of the chariot of the cherubims, that spread out their wings, and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

¹⁹ All this, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern.

This is important....David gave specific instructions to Solomon for the design of the temple. It was not just word of mouth, these instructions were written out by God.

The instructions came from God and followed the pattern God had revealed to Moses earlier (Exodus 25-31). It was consistent with the earlier instructions. God guided David by His Spirit in what to do and how to do it.

The instructions went beyond just the design of the building, the schedule for the priests and instructions for all the workers and items to be contained in the temple were also provided by God.

Application: The pattern for the temple remains the same today. Where is this temple...it is us. The Bible clearly states we are the temple of the living God (see 1 Cor 3:16). The Feasts in Leviticus show us God's plan for how we should approach and serve Him in this temple of ours. It is written in His word for our understanding and application. We simply must know and follow the pattern. Hearing and obeying is again the key to success.

- When God reveals things to you, it is for your benefit so obey.

Key point: The same basic pattern God gave Moses are the same basic instructions and design He provides to David. God is doing something new with the church, but the basic foundation and spiritual intent remains unchanged.

- We need to be sure in our churches and in our own worship since we are the church, that when we bring in or introduce new things, that it fits the intent of the original pattern and not what feels good or seems good to us.
- Be careful that it has a firm foundation from God.

Another example: I was about to conduct a Bible study and just an hour before time, a family member said something to me that was upsetting and I went off (just a little bit—enough to get my point across). They later came back and apologized. I accepted it, but inside I was still a bit fired up. I was still just moments away for starting the Bible study. In fact, it was on this chapter. I quickly realized I needed to go through the first 4-5 Feast steps to make sure I was conducting the study in the proper Spirit. The Lord then revealed to me:

- Our individual ministries must also follow the pattern.

- If you conduct your ministry, lead the choir or praise team, get ready to preach your sermon or teach your class....and you are not in the Spirit and/or doing it outside of the will and glory of God....then your ministry work is not following the divine pattern from God.
- Do not be deceived. This is not just about the church building....it is about you.

²⁰ And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

²¹ And, behold, the courses of the priests and the Levites, even they shall be with thee for all the service of the house of God: and there shall be with thee for all manner of workmanship every willing skillful man, for any manner of service: also the princes and all the people will be wholly at thy commandment.

David's instructions to Solomon. Question, is there anything David says in Verse 20, that we should also consider telling our own children?

- Be strong and courageous in doing the work of the Lord.
- Just do it.
- Do not fear. It is only natural for fear to occur while doing what God has chosen you to do....but don't let the natural fear cause you to miss out on the power of a supernatural God.
- Don't be discouraged. It is only natural sometimes to get dismayed...but don't let that keep you down....we have the benefit of the supernatural power of God.
- It is not in our own might or power. If we try to do this on our own we will grow weak, be afraid of failure and doubt, want to quit, become discouraged. But the key to success is knowing God will be with us. That is the supernatural power that we possess...the presence and power of God in us.
- Power belongs to God so He will not fail and He will not turn His back on us when we are in right standing with Him.
- Key point – David tells Solomon that God will be with him until he has finished the work and service of the house of the Lord.
 - Application: As long as we are in this body/temple, God will be with us....because as long as we are in this temple, we should be serving Him.
- David assures Solomon that there are others who are ordained to help him with the work and service to God. It is a great assurance when others support you in the service of God. It is the plan of God for you to not try and do this on your own.
- Part of the joy of serving God in your role in the Kingdom (and we all do have a role), is that we get to share in the work of God by serving the King. As a servant of the King of Kings, I want to be able and willing to serve at His command.



The best thing I can perhaps tell my children would be the testimony of my experience with God, focus on His goodness, and give them the Word. What Word will you give them? This chapter is a good place to share.

Update: Personally, I used this model from scripture to have a discussion with my kids. For most of them, it was a face-to-face conversation. Be strong and don't be dismayed before, during, and after the execution of your communication. Don't be overly concerned if some of them get quiet and might not respond. As long as you did what God and the Spirit have directed and the loving way He directed....you should be quite fine. God is so great....follow the script! With joy I was able to give them each a charge to be a magnificent person/building where the world can look at them and see God!