

1 Chronicles Chapter 28

V: 1-3 David gathers all the leaders, the princes, the captains, the heads of the tribes and families - because he has something important to say:

- We're told specifically that "*2David stood up upon his feet*" - which was probably a rare thing in those days, (1 Kings 1) David Was old and stricken in years he was near the end of his days.
- He says "*2... hear me my brethren, and my people...*"

"I had in mine heart..."

David is described as a man after God's own heart:

1 Samuel 13:14 "... the Lord hath sought Him a man after His own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be a captain over His people..."

1 Samuel 16:7 "... the Lord looketh on the heart."

- The Lord is the One who truly knows the hearts of men.

2 Chronicles 6:30 "Then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men:

- God knows David's heart, that David simply wants to please God - and that in itself is pleasing to God - and may that be our heart, just to wanting to please God!

Later when Solomon dedicated the Temple we read:

1 Kings 8:27 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"

- Solomon was taking a cue from his father who said that this magnificent building, the best that man could offer to God would be like a footstool to God.
- In all this we see David telling it like it is, no trace of self pity or animosity towards the Lord.

V: 4-6 Even though David would not be allowed to build a house for God because of the blood he had shed, David was still grateful to God who brought him up out of humble beginnings.

- David was the last of 7 sons, by all accounts David should have led a lowly and obscure life but God in his sovereignty raised him up above his brethren.
- In the same way out of David's many sons - which was a blessing, out of the many sons of David God chose Solomon to be king after him.
- Moreover, pointedly God is the One who chose Solomon, singled him out to be king.

Psalm 75:6-7 “⁶For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. ⁷But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and setteth up another.”

- God chose David, then He chose Solomon. The same thing can be said of those of us who are following Jesus here today - we're chosen of God.
- You are following Him because He chose you - because He loves you, because He likes you.
- Don't ask me why, I don't know - it's just His marvelous grace!

1 John 4:10, 19 “¹⁰Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” - “¹⁹We love Him, because He first loved us.”

- Can't explain it, that's what grace is all about. He chose us because He likes us, not because we're deserving, or worthy in some way, certainly not because we've earned it.
- We can't explain God's grace, all we can do is receive it, rejoice in it, and acknowledge it.

V: 7-8 God's conditional promise to Solomon.

*“I will establish his kingdom **if** he be constant to do my commandments and my judgments...”*

- Solomon has a role to play in this:

Jesus tells us the same thing, we each have a role to play:

John 8:31-32 “**if** ye continue in My Word then are ye My disciples indeed, and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.”

Revelation 3:20 “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: **if** any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.”

- God's promises to Solomon are conditional, they are based on his performance, on his obedience to God's word.

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 “¹And it shall come to pass, **if** thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all the nations of the earth: ²And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, **if** thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the lord thy God.”

- Bear in mind that David, and Solomon, and everyone else there was under the Law - it was performance based.
- Today we are still under a performance based standard, but it's not our performance it's His!
- We're no longer under the Law; we're under the blood - the blood of Jesus Christ!

Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

“... *an inheritance for your children after you...*”

- David is old and about to depart, he's concerned for the next generation (Solomon), and for the generation after that.
- David knows that our relationship with the Lord will affect generations to come one way or the other.

V: 9 David wants his son to know the Lord in the same that he does - in a close and personal way.

- Look at the order of things: “**know Him**” first, then and only then can you “**serve Him**.”
- Serve him with a perfect hearts, an un-divided heart, a heart wholly given over to the Lord. (Not a divided heart)

James 1:8 “A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”

“*For the Lord searcheth all hearts...*”

2 Chronicles 16:9 “For the eyes of the Lord run to and from throughout the whole earth, to shew Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...”

God knows the hearts of men:

2 Chronicles 6:30 “Then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men:”

Psalms 44:21 “Shall not God search this out? For He knoweth the secrets of the heart.”

- What was true for Solomon is true for us as well, if you seek Him, he will be found of thee...

Jeremiah 29:13 “And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.”

- Typically the non-believer who doesn't want God in their lives, but are often brought to the place of calling out to God, sometimes God orchestrates those very events, part of His seemingly relentless pursuit of each of us.
- There are those believers who have at times back slidden, not so much an outright turning away from God in an intentional sense. God will again allow events and circumstances to play out in such a way that the wayward believer is drawn back into the fold.
- David is giving a serious warning to his son who is a believer and who would know better, not to forsake God intentionally because there can be a point of no return.
- This flies in the face of those who believe “once saved, always saved.”

Hebrews 6:4-6 “⁴For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, ⁵and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame.”

2 Peter 2:20-21 Same basic message.

- Our security is in an abiding relationship with Jesus:

John 15:5 “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in Him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.”

- David's warning and encouragement is that if Solomon, or us for that matter will seek after God, He will be found of us.

James 4:8 "Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you..."

V: 10 "*Take heed now*" - be careful, watch your step.

- Again David declares that he wasn't the one who chose Solomon to be king or to build God a house - God chose Solomon; and because of that Solomon needs to be careful to do that which God has called him to do.

"... *be strong, and do it.*"

Ta-Haiti: Testimony / pictures

V: 11-13 David had a real vision for the building plans, the function, and organization of the Temple and it's operations in the same way that God gave the plans for the Tabernacle to Moses.

- David declared that this was all a vision that he'd been given by the Spirit of God.

Proverbs 29:18 "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

V: 14-19 David gave of his personal wealth for the furnishings of the Temple; gold for the candlestick & lamps, gold for the instruments to trim the wicks, handle the sacrifices, incense bowls, etc.

- Gold for the table of shew bread and the altar of incense.

Pictures: Temple - diagram - candlestick, table of shew bread, altar of incense.

V: 20 Exhortation: Be strong, courageous - just do it!

- Fear not! Don't be discouraged! The enemy uses discouragement and fear but we can't give into it!

1 John 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear:..."

2 Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

- God will be with you, He will not forsake you!

Romans 8:35-39 “³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. ³⁷Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. ³⁸For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

- That is always the key for courage and strength, knowing that God is with me.
- That always dispels fear - God is with me! I won't fear what my enemies can do because:

Romans 8:31 “... if God be for us, who can be against us?”

- Press hard, finish the work that the Lord has given you to do!

V: 21 God is already blessing, look at all the help you have.

- God raised up those that were needed to build and staff the Temple.
- Closer to home, God has raised up those that were needed to build a radio station and make it work.

Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

- God is faithful to complete what He started!