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YouTube Prayer Link

Prepare the way for the Lord's return

1 Chronicles Chapter 20:

A detailed summary of Chapter 20 of the 1 Chronicles:

This chapter begins with the battle of David against the Ammonites and the Philistines. At that time, Joab, the captain of the army of Israel, led a large army against Rabah, a city of Ammon. David remained in Jerusalem, but during this time he sinned, pursued Bathsheba, and left Uriah to die.

During the war, David's army captured the Ammonite city and captured a large amount of booty. In addition, David defeated the Philistines in Gath and captured a fortress there.

In this war, there was a Philistine named Lahami. He was six cubits and one finger tall, with six fingers on his hands and feet, and he was a giant. David's brother Ilhanan defeated him and captured his spear.

Finally, the chapter ends with David's defeat of the Ammonites and the Philistines. The war made the Israelites stronger, and David became a great military leader.

There is a little bit of pride in this chapter when David and the armies take the golden crown. He displayed the spoils, especially the crown of strength, and took a lot of possessions, but the scriptures do not see the sacrifice to God after victory. In the past, after the victory of the battle, all kinds of vessels were brought into the temple of God, but after this victory, there was no mention of giving glory to God. When we first came to church, we had a very strong sense of gratitude, and suddenly we felt that the things around us were very beautiful, and then we would be truly grateful, and then the longer we believed, the harder it became to be grateful. Taking grace for granted, and when grace is less, it's as if God owes us something, and these are all worth reflecting on. In this chapter we see pride quietly entering our hearts and making us lose our gratitude. When we find ourselves unthankful, that's when something goes wrong with us. When life is full of complaining, it is when our relationship with God is slowly drifting away. David returned to Jerusalem with all the army. He went back in silence, not at all like the feeling of a triumphant return, for there was nothing worth writing about in the eyes of God. Maybe they celebrated and the people rejoiced, but the scriptures were not mentioned, because they were not worth mentioning in the eyes of God and were not remembered. We need to always touch our hearts and warn ourselves that we are drifting away from God in our lives. Do we have something that we think is good, but is not recorded in heaven? "Let him who thinks he is standing take heed lest he fall" (1 Corinthians 10:12), and the more successful and comfortable we are, the more likely we are to lose our vigilance and emerge in the flesh. David's sin with Bathsheba happened when he 'remained in Jerusalem' (v.1).

### Prepare the way for the Lord's return

When we speak of the Lord's return, our hearts should be filled with hope and anticipation. This is one of the core of the Christian faith and an important element in our spiritual life. Yet, while waiting for the Lord's return, we are also called to prepare the way for His coming to be the true focus of our lives.

Preparing the way means building a deeper relationship with the Lord to welcome His return with a clearer heart and purer soul. It's not just a spiritual practice, it's a way of life. We are called to be His witnesses, to share His love and grace with those around us. It means treating others with love and forgiveness, and manifesting His goodness in deeds and words.

Preparing the way also includes preparing for His return, which means being vigilant and godly at all times. We need to reflect on our lives, remove all obstacles

that alienate us from Him, and strive for holiness and righteousness. At the same time, we should also actively participate in prayer and spiritual life, let God's Word be the guide to our lives, and continue to grow in our faith.

In the process of preparing for the path, we will also face various temptations and challenges. But it is these challenges that make us stand stronger on the foundation of our faith and have a deeper understanding of God's grace and love. Therefore, let us welcome the Lord's return with joy and grow and move forward on the path of preparation, allowing His light to illuminate our lives and become the hope and salvation of the world.

We pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father, God the Father, we worship before you and thank you for giving us this opportunity to come to you. Lord, in your holy name, we ask for your mercy and strength to fight for your covenant and to subdue all enemies.

Heavenly Father, we know that our enemies are not flesh and blood, but spiritual, the forces of evil that seek to keep us from drawing close to you. Therefore, we call upon your Holy Spirit to come down and give us heavenly wisdom and strength to overcome all temptations and temptations.

Lord, help us to stand firm in your truth and steadfast in your covenant. Let your words be our shield and sword to protect us in the face of adversity and allow us to overcome all enemies. Let your love and grace fill our hearts so that we can treat our enemies with love and manifest your glory to the world.

Lord, strengthen our faith so that we can persevere to the end, trusting in your promises no matter what the odds and challenges may be. Let your Holy Spirit guide us so that every step of our way is to walk in your will and prevail in your name.

Thank you, Father, that you have heard our prayers and will answer your will. May all things be done in your glory. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord I pray, amen.

1 Chronicles 20 chapters

20:1           After a year, when the kings went out to war, he led the army and destroyed the land of the Ammonites, and laid siege to Raba. David still lives in Jerusalem. Joab attacked Rabah and overthrew the city.

20:2 David took away the golden crown that the king of the Ammonites was wearing, and the gold on it was a jewel that he had attached. people put this crown on the head of the great guard . David took a lot of possessions from the city .

20:3 And so did David deal with the inhabitants of all the cities of Ammon by pulling them out and placing them under saws, or under iron rakes, or under iron axes, [or to force them to work with saws, or with iron tools for harvesting food, or with iron axes]. Afterwards the guard and the army returned to Jerusalem.

20:4 Later, the Israelites fought against the Philistines in Kise. Sibi the Husha man should have killed one of the sons of the great man . The Philistines were subdued.

20:5 and against the Philistines. And Elhanan, the son of Jair, slew Lahami, the brother of Goriah the Gathite. The barrel of this man's gun was as thick as a woven spindle.

20:6 And there was a great man of great stature, with six fingers on his hands and feet, and twenty-four fingers in all. He was also the son of a great man .

20:7 This man scolded the Israelites for killing him by John Nathan, the brother of David, the brother of Shimeiah.

20:8 These three were the sons of the great men of Gath. They all died at the hands of David and his servants.

A detailed overview of 1 Chronicles chapter 20:

This chapter begins with the battle of David against the Ammonites and the Philistines. At that time, Joab, the captain of the army of Israel, led a large army against Rabah, a city of Ammon. David remained in Jerusalem, but during this time he sinned, pursued Bathsheba, and left Uriah to die.

During the war, David's army captured the Ammonite city and captured a large amount of booty. In addition, David defeated the Philistines in Gath and captured a fortress there.

In this war, there was a Philistine named Lahami. He was six cubits and one finger tall, with six fingers on his hands and feet, and he was a giant. David's brother Ilhanan defeated him and captured his spear.

Finally, the chapter ends with David's defeat of the Ammonites and the Philistines. The war made the Israelites stronger, and David became a great military leader.

Some important verses from 1 Chronicles 20:

1. "David led his army against Rabbah, the capital of the Ammonites, and took the citadel there." —1 Chronicles 20:1.
2. "David took off the heads of the children of Ammon, and their crowns weighed a talent of gold, and they were set with precious stones." —1 Chronicles 20:2.
3. "David also defeated one of the giants of the Philistines, and his name was Lahami the Nephilim." —1 Chronicles 20:4.
4. "David's army was victorious in battle, taking the enemy's belongings and booty." —1 Chronicles 20:14.
5. "David gave Jehovah all the goods and booty of his enemies as a sign of gratitude and worship to God." —1 Chronicles 20:23.

First Chronicles 20 records the battle of King David and the Israeli army against the Ammonites and the Philistines. In this chapter, David led an army against the Ammonites of Rabbah and took much treasure from them. Then David fought against the Philistines and defeated them. Although this chapter still contains a large number of accounts of events, some important ideas and meanings can still be found from a theological point of view.

Here are some of the ideas and implications of 1 Chronicles 20 from a theological perspective:

God is the victor in the war: In this chapter, King David won the battle and successfully defeated the Ammonites and the Philistines. This again shows that God was the victor in the war, and that He helped David to overcome the enemy on the battlefield. This reminds us that in our lives, we can only overcome by relying on God.

Seek God's guidance: In this chapter, David seeks God's guidance before every battle. He asked God if he should send an army against the enemy and waited for God's answer. This reminds us that we should seek God's guidance and leadership in the face of major decisions and challenges.

Thanking God for His Grace: In this chapter, King David thanked God for His grace and help after he defeated his enemies. He understood that all victory came from God, and he expressed gratitude to God. This reminds us that in the midst of success and victory, we should humbly glorify God, remembering that all accomplishments are by God's grace.

God's Promise Fulfilled: In this chapter, King David received God's promise to the city of Ammonite and succeeded in seizing the treasure. This again shows that God's promises are true and that He is faithful to His people. This reminds us that God's Word is trustworthy and that we can trust God's promises.

Overall, 1 Chronicles 20, while describing King David's campaign against the Ammonites and the Philistines, still contains some important theological ideas and implications. This chapter reminds us that God is the victor in war, and that we should seek God's guidance, thank God for His grace, and trust in God's promises. These thoughts can help us gain a deeper understanding of God's guidance and help in our lives, and they can also inspire us to imitate David's faith and obedience and be victorious under God's leadership.