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God blesses those who follow

2 Chronicles, chapter 8

Chapter 8 of the Book of Chronicles focuses on King Solomon's construction of a city outside of Jerusalem and his meeting with Sheba, the queen of Egypt. Here is a detailed summary of the chapter:

The city that King Solo built outside of Jerusalem is mentioned at the beginning of this chapter. King Solomon spent 20 years building the cities of Dero, Hannun, and Gabul. These cities were built to strengthen the defenses of the Kingdom of Israel, while also being used for trade and commercial activities. The focus of this chapter is not on Solomon, but on God. When we look at the building of the Holy Temple, the focus is not on the Holy Temple, but on God's mercy and faith.

God blessed the hands of Solomon (v.1-6)

God's Blessing to the Israelites (v.7-11)

God's Blessing to the Church (v.12-15)

God's Blessing to Everythings (v.16-18)

Solomon built a temple as God commanded, and God blessed him with all things. God has taught us many visions today, and we will be richer and richer as we follow Him, and God will reward us when we put ourselves fully on our behalf, the most precious things in the earth.

Throughout our lives, we often seek inner peace and direction in life. For Christians, following God is not just an expression of faith, but also a choice of life. God promises to bless those who faithfully follow Him, and His blessings are always with us, both in good times and bad. Following God means committing our lives to Him and trusting in His guidance and will. There are countless examples in the Bible that show us the importance and significance of following God. For example, Abraham followed God by faith, leaving his land, his people, and his father's house to go to the places God had shown him, and eventually became the father of many nations. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and trusted God's leading in the wilderness, witnessing God's power and grace. Disciples of Jesus Christ have experienced the change of their lives and the fulfillment of their mission in the process of following the Lord. God's blessing God has abundant promises and blessings for those who follow Him. It is mentioned many times in the Bible that God will care, protect, and guide those who faithfully follow Him. Here are a few blessings:

Peace and joy, wisdom and guidance, protection and protection, spiritual growth.

God's blessings are not only material, but also peace of mind, guidance of wisdom, spiritual growth, and eternal hope. Following God is a challenging but blessed path to experience the fullness and fulfillment of life in His love and grace. No matter what circumstances we face, we can be sure that God will bless His followers and allow us to walk in His light.

The chapter then details the meeting between King Solomon and Sheba, Queen of Egypt. The Queen of Sheba heard of King Solomon's reputation and came to Jerusalem to meet him. She gave King Solomon a large amount of gold, spices, and precious stones, and King Solomon gave her many gifts in return. The Queen of Sheba was impressed by King Solomon and stated that she had never seen such wisdom and glory as King Solomon. Solomon built a house for Pharaoh's daughter; But the Substitute said that the house was not built in Jerusalem, for she was the daughter of Pharaoh, and worshipped Gentile idols, and was not allowed to live in the Holy City. Solomon carefully obeyed God's will in building the temple and offering sacrifices (8:13), but he did not follow God's command to forbid marriage to Gentile women (Deuteronomy 7:3~4). Solomon also knew that he had married a princess of Egypt and did not hate the pleasures of God. The chronicles omit Solomon's failures, but his love for his foreign wives and concubines over God led him to the path of depravity and ruin (1 Kings 10:26~11:43).

If David had been alive, he would never have allowed Pharaoh's daughter to live in his palace, much less allowed Solomon to marry Pharaoh. It also reminds the reader of David's dying instructions: "If thou seek him, he shall find thee; If you forsake Him, He will forsake you forever (1 Chronical 28:9), and this warning is part of David's covenant.

Any tiny crack can cause a dike. If a person persistently refuses to obey God in small matters, it will cause the spiritual life to collapse. Remember, "Don't leave the devil behind." Ephesians 4:27]

The union of the Gentile princesses eventually led Solomon away from God and into idolatry. Step by step, he went down the worldly path, pursuing prominence and honor, abandoning the principles of justice. He went from a wise God-fearing king to a stupid, ambitious, tyrannical dictator.

Solomon, who built and ran by his own wisdom, was very successful in business, but in his old age he said, "And I beheld all the work of my hands, and the work of my labor. Who knows that it is all vanity, and it is all chasing the wind; There is no benefit in the sun (Ecclesiastes 2:11). God gave Solomon "wisdom and understanding" and "riches, riches, and honors" to experience and possess everything, only to find that it was all "vanity of vanity, vanity of vanity, vanity of everything" (Ecclesiastes 1:2). Therefore, chapters 8-9 do not emphasize Solomon's accomplishments, and the purpose is not to intoxicate the exiled people with Israel's past glory and wealth, nor to make them lose or sigh, but to let the reader see that peace and abundance, while God's blessings, cannot solve people's problems, let alone be the goal of God's people. Only "the fear of God and the observance of His commandments" (Ecclesiastes 12:13) is "the duty of man."

We prayed together

Dear Heavenly Father, Lord, we have received so much grace from You, but we have also gone astray. But how sad is your heart, because we love the world. Satan is the king of the world, and if he loves the world, the love of the Father is not in us. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for finding us back with your great love, even if it is with discipline, we really know that you love us, so discipline us.

Your name is supreme in our hearts. Thank You for Your guidance and protection so that we can feel Your presence and blessings as we journey through life.

Today, we especially pray for Your blessings for all who follow You. May Your Holy Spirit fill our hearts, bring us peace and joy, and soothe our restless hearts. In good times and bad, may we remain steadfast in our trust in Your will, knowing that You have prepared a path of hope and blessing for us.

Give us the wisdom and strength to glorify Your name and be a testimony of Your love in our daily lives. May we remain humble, loving, and honest at work, at home, and in our relationships, and be messengers of Your gospel.

Heavenly Father, please look after each of our needs, heal our wounds, and comfort our hearts. May Your love fill our lives, dispel all darkness and fear, and enable us to walk in Your light and experience Your wonderful grace.

Thank You, Heavenly Father, that we owe all glory, praise, and thanksgiving to You. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

2 Chronicles, chapter 8

- 8:1 Solomon built the temple and the palace of Yahohua in twenty years.
- 8:2 Then Solomon rebuilt the cities that Helam had given him, and made them dwell.
- 8:3 Solomon went to Hamath Zobah and conquered the land.
- 8:4 Solomon built Dammer in the wilderness, and Hamath all the hoarding cities.
- 8:5 And they built the upper and the lower and the lower for protection, with walls and gates and latches.
- 8:6 and built Barah, and all the cities of the store, and the cities of the chariots and horsemen, and Jerusalem, and Lebanon, and all the kingdom which he ruled as he pleased.
- 8:7 As for the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites that were not of the Israelites left in the land,
- 8:8 Even though the Israelites had not been destroyed, Solomon took their descendants as slaves to this day.
- 8:9 But the Israelites Solomon did not make them slaves, but his soldiers, and captains of armies, captains of chariots, captains of horsemen.
- 8:10 King Solomon had two hundred and fifty overseers of the workmen.
- 8:11 Solomon took Pharaoh's daughter out of the Acropolis and into the palace built for her. For Solomon said, "Wherever the ark of the covenant of Yahweh and Warsaw went, it is holy place, therefore my wife shall not dwell in the house of David king of Israel."
- 8:12 Solomon offered burnt offerings with Yahohua on the altar he built before the porch.
- 8:13 And as Moses commanded, on the Sabbath day, and on the New Moon, and in the three feasts of the year, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Tabernacles, the sacrifice that was due every day.
- 8:14 And Solomon appointed the priests according to the custom which his father David had, that every man might serve for himself, and that the Levites should do their duty, and that they might do their daily duty before the priests. And he sent the gatekeepers to guard the gates by their shifts, for this is what the guard of God commanded.
- 8:15 Neither the priests nor the Levites which the king commanded were disobeyed, whether in charge of the treasury or in any other way.
- 8:16 Solomon built the temple of Yahwehwa from the foundation to the day of its success, and the materials were ready. So the temple of Yahweh was finished.
- 8:17 At that time Solomon went to Epart, and to Elul, which were by the sea in the land of Edom.

8:18 Hiram sent his servants to Solomon's ships and servants who knew the sea. And they went with Solomon's servants to Ophi, and got four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought them to King Solomon.

Chapter 8 of the Book of Chronicles focuses on King Solomon's construction of a city outside of Jerusalem and his meeting with Sheba, the queen of Egypt. Here is a detailed summary of the chapter:

The city that King Solo built outside of Jerusalem is mentioned at the beginning of this chapter. King Solomon spent 20 years building the cities of Dero, Hannun, and Gabul. These cities were built to strengthen the defenses of the Kingdom of Israel, while also being used for trade and commercial activities.

The chapter then details the meeting between King Solomon and Sheba, Queen of Egypt. The Queen of Sheba heard of King Solomon's reputation and came to Jerusalem to meet him. She gave King Solomon a large amount of gold, spices, and precious stones, and King Solomon gave her many gifts in return. The Queen of Sheba was impressed by King Solomon and stated that she had never seen such wisdom and glory as King Solomon.

The chapter concludes by mentioning that King Solomon had a large number of sacrifices to his gods each year. He established priesthood and Levitical offices in Jerusalem and Gibeon to administer and offer sacrifices. King Solomon also continued to expand the country's trade and commercial activities, maintaining good trade relations with countries such as Tyre and Hiram.

In summary, this chapter records King Solomon's construction of cities outside Jerusalem and his meeting with Sheba, queen of Egypt. Through these activities, King Solomon strengthened the country's defenses, while also promoting trade and commerce. His wisdom and glory also attracted the attention and respect of foreign countries.

A few important verses from 2 Chronicles 8:

1. "Solomon spent twenty years building the house of the Lord and his house." (2 Chronicles 8:1) - This verse describes King Solomon's 20-year construction of the temple and his palace, which was a great architectural achievement.
2. "Solomon went to the land of Edom, and came to Exen, Gated, and Elim in the land of Edom." (2 Chronicles 8:17)- This verse describes King Solomon expanding his territory on the borders of his kingdom and incorporating these places into his kingdom.
3. "And they brought seven hundred and thirty men out of the remnant of the children of Israel, who were not of Israel, of the Amorites, and of the Hittites, and of the Perizzites, and of the Hivites, and of the Jebusites, and that they were to serve them in hard labor." (2 Chronicles 8:8)- This verse describes the way King Solomon governed and controlled non-Israelites in his kingdom who were forced into service.

4. Now all that Men was to do, and all his wisdom, are they not written in the book of Solomon. (2 Chronicles 8:12) - This verse emphasizes that King Solomon's wisdom and all that he did is recorded in the book of Solomon, which also reflects the Chronicles' evaluation of King Solomon.

5. "Three times a year, Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar of the Lord and burned incense before the Lord. He did in the temple what the Israelites were supposed to do. (2 Chronicles 8:12)- This verse emphasizes King Solomon's actions and his duties in terms of religion, where he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the altar three times a year, as well as administering and conducting the religious affairs of the Israelites in the temple.

6. "Solomon built ships and brought them to Ophir, and from there brought gold; Once every three years, ships bring back gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks. (2 Chronicles 8:18) - This verse describes King Solomon's achievements in commerce and his construction of ships to carry valuable goods, which also reflects the economic strength of his kingdom.

2 Chronicles chapter 8 continues the genealogy of Israel's history, especially the descendants of the tribe of Benjamin and other tribes of Israel. This chapter also records the friendly relations between King Solomon and King Hiram of Tyre.

Although this chapter is primarily a record of family and friendly relationships, it contains some theological ideas and gains.

The following are the central ideas and theological findings that can be found in Chapter 8 of the Second Chronicles:

God's Blessing and the Continuation of the Seed: In chapter 8, the descendants of the tribes of Israel continue to be recorded. The multiplication and continuation of these families is a manifestation of God's blessing on Abraham's descendants and the fulfillment of his promises.

Friendly Relations and Peace: Friendly relations were established between King Solomon and King Hiram of Tyre. They engaged in trade and cultural exchanges, showing an attitude of peace and friendship. In this friendly relationship, the peace and prosperity that God has given to Israel is also demonstrated.

God's Sovereignty and Guidance: Although chapter 8 does not explicitly mention the beliefs of specific individuals, we can see God's sovereignty and guidance in Israel's history in the context of the entire book of 2 Chronicles.

Overall, chapter 8 of the Book of Chronicles is primarily a record of family and friendship, with themes of God's blessings and the continuation of the lineage, friendship, and peace. Through these accounts, we can gain a deeper understanding of God's blessings and care for His people, as well as the importance of peace and friendship throughout human history. God's sovereignty and guidance are theological truths that we should trust and rely on in our lives.

God's Presence and Providence: God's presence in the temple shows his presence and care for His people. Not only was he with his people, but he also responded to their worship and sacrifices.

Overall, 2 Chronicles chapter 7 is primarily a record of family and sacrifice, and contains themes of temple devotion and God's glory, God's praise and response, and loyalty and promise. Through these accounts, we can gain a deeper understanding of God's praise and response to His people, as well as the importance of man's worship and dedication to God. God's presence and providence are theological truths that we should appreciate and cherish in worship.