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(Peter Lok)駱沅祺

lokpeter@outlook.com

Bibleao.com

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## Cleanse ourself to be holy

Chapter 30 of the Book of Chronicles focuses on the rebuilding of the Holy Temple after King Hezekiah's accession to the throne and the restoration of the Jewish people's faith in God.

When King Hezekiah ascended the throne, he found that God's temple had been abandoned for many years and set about rebuilding it and gathering the priests, Levites, and all of Judah to celebrate the Passover. He ordered the temple to be cleansed and purified, and to restore the duties and authority of the priests and Levites. On that day, the people of Judah offered sacrifices and thanksgiving offerings in the temple of God, singing praises to God, and everyone rejoiced.

Hezekiah also commanded all the people of Judah, Israelites or not, to come to the Passover and come to a new knowledge of God. However, there are those who do not listen to His commands because they have been idolatrous for many years and have strayed from God's ways. In order for these people to believe in God, Hezekiah sent messengers to persuade them to repent and change their minds. Although the majority remained unchanged, only some of the people of Manasseh, Asher, and Zebulun were persuaded to come to the Passover. "Their voices were heard by God, and their prayers reached the sanctuary in heaven" (30:27). God's communication with people was completely opened, the priests resumed their prayers, and God listened to them and watched over them. This indicates that revival begins with the temple and then begins with

the observance of festivals and the destruction of idols. In the vagaries of life, God never changes, everything is constantly changing.

The dark spots of the sun are getting bigger and bigger, and the luminosity is decreasing year by year; The age of the earth is getting older and older. As Christians, in the midst of many difficult life changes, we stand on the firm faith of the faith, "I, Jehovah, do not change." If the Christian hope is settled on this glorious truth, God's love will remain the same even as everything in heaven and earth changes.

## True joy

True joy brings true satisfaction and peace. True joy is reconciliation between God's people and the God who made them, and entering into that wonderful fellowship. True joy is that God's people can openly call on God and God hears their prayers. Today, we know that this is a foretaste of the future kingdom of heaven, in which God's people will be in eternal presence with God and enjoy the beauty of the heavenly feast.

All God wants is a heart that sincerely repents and humbly comes to God to seek God. When we are willing to worship and praise God in this way, the joy of God fills us. Even if we have unintentional faults, God will forgive. We often invite people to church services, meetings, and events. So what exactly are we doing with these events? What do we use to attract and invite people? Many times, the purpose of our events is vague, and it seems that it is only to gather popularity and accomplish the ministry; We invite people to participate, more often in the name of eating, having fun, watching shows, and relaxing. While the original intention may be good, hoping to attract more people, we need to reflect that the people who come in this way are not with a heart of repentance and seeking, not with a heart of inferiority and awe. If their hearts are not prepared, how can they see the holy God? They may be named in our activities, but they will not be able to make their name in God's book of life. We may have a joy too, but we don't have the true joy in God.

#### The Law and True Worship

Waiting for the restoration of the kingdom. Before His crucifixion, the Lord Jesus also deposited His joy in the hearts of His disciples (John 15:11), so that we might be like Him, no matter what trouble we were, "despising shame for the joy that is set before us" (Heb. 12:2). For we know that we are "citizens of heaven, and wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, coming down from heaven" (Philippians 3:20).

The law is the outward guide, and God's attention is the substance of the man. It is pleasing to God that man has an inner substance to do an outward work. If there is only an outward movement and no inner substance, it does not count before God. Thank God so much! In the Old Testament He led His people in this way, in the New Testament He leads us more clearly. So, we thank God for rewarding Chronicles because we can see the laws of God's work, and through the record of God's work, we can see how He deals with all kinds of things.

As long as our worship of God is genuine, God is willing to accept our worship even if it cannot be carried out on the original date or time due to some practical difficulties. Today's text tells us

that God's acceptable worship is not about the "day," the "time," or even the "form," but that the most important thing is whether the worshippers approach the Lord with a sincere heart. Let us reflect on our worship life, and what kind of mood do we have in our worship of the Lord?

## We pray together

Dear Lord, pray that the Lord will help us to cleanse our lives, respond to God's call, restore our observance, help us to remove all domination and deception, and give us a heart of humble prayer for God's revival and presence to come more widely. Thank you for your wonderful grace so that we can gather with other of your children each week to sing songs to worship you and praise your salvation together. Lord, help us to appreciate the beauty of corporate worship and to savor the glory of future worship in heaven. Help us to commit ourselves in corporate worship, so that we can recognize the sweetness of loving one another in fellowship with other members and consider that this is the difference that the gospel of Christ has brought to us. Lord, give us strong and courageous hearts, just as Hezekiah invited all men to repentance, and as John the Baptist called men to repentance, preparing thy ways, preparing the hearts of all, humbly seeking thee. Pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

### 2 Chronicles, chapter 30

- 30:1 And Hezekiah sent to all the people of Israel and Judah, and wrote to the children of Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should go to the temple of Jehohua in Jerusalem and keep the Passover before the God of Jehova.
- For the king and the princes and all the congregation of Jerusalem had taken counsel to keep the Passover in the month of February.
- They could not keep it during the first month of the year. Because the priests were not yet holy, the people were not gathered together in Jerusalem.
- 30:4 And the king and all the congregation were good at it.
- And he made a commandment, and it was preached throughout Israel, from Besper to Dan, that they might all come and keep the Passover in Jerusalem to the God of Jehova and Israel. For there are not many people who keep this verse according to the ordinance that is written (or because the people have not kept the feast according to the ordinance that was written for a long time).
- 30:6 And the servants carried the letter of the king and all the princes, according to the king's commandment, throughout Israel and Judah. It says, "Turn to Yahweh, O Israelite, and to the God of Israel, that he may turn to you, a remnant of the king of Assyria.
- 30:7 Do not imitate your fathers and your brethren. They have sinned against the gods of Yahweh's fathers, so that Yahweh has forsaken them and destroyed them, as you have seen.

- Now do not stiffen your neck, as your fathers were, but return to Yahweh, and enter into his sanctuary, which is the dwelling place of eternal sanctification. Serve the God of Yahweh thy, that his wrath may be turned away from you.
- 30:9 If you turn to Yahweh, your brethren and your sons will find mercy before their captives, and they will return to the land, for Yahwehwa your God is gracious, mercy. If you turn to him, he will not turn his face away from you.
- 30:10 And the officers ran from city to city, and spread through Ephraim and Manasseh as far as Zebulun. But they laughed at them, and mocked them.
- 30:11 But there were also men from Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun who had low self-esteem and came to Jerusalem.
- 30:12 God also moved the children of Judah to obey the commandment of the king and all the princes by the word of Jehovah.
- 30:13 In February, a great crowd gathered in Jerusalem for a great assembly to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
- And they arose, and took away all the altars of Jerusalem, and the altars of incense, and cast them into the brook Kiretron.
- 30:15 On the 14th of February, the Passover lamb was slaughtered. And when the priests and the Levites were ashamed, they purified themselves and offered burnt offerings in the temple of Yahohua.
- 30:16 Obey the law of the man Moses and stand in his own place as usual. The priest took the blood from the hands of the Levites and sprinkled it on the altar.
- Many of the congregations were not yet clean, so the Levites slaughtered the Passover lambs for all the unclean, and sanctified them before Yahweh.
- 30:18 There were many people in Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun who were not yet clean, but they also ate Passover lambs, which did not conform to the recorded ordinances. Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, "Whoever seeks God with all his heart is the God of Jehovath's fathers, and though he does not purify himself according to the purity of the holy place, he may forgive Jehohua the Most Good."

30:19

- 30:20 Jehovah heard the prayer of Hezekiah and forgave the people.
- 30:21 And the Israelites in Jerusalem rejoiced exceedingly and kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days. The Levites and the priests sang the praises of Yahweh day by day with loud musical instruments.
- 30:22 The Hezecians comforted the Levites who were good at serving Jehovah. So they ate the feast for seven days, and offered peace offerings, and confessed their sins to the God of Jehovah, their fathers.

- 30:23 And the whole congregation took it into counsel that the feast should be kept for seven more days. And they kept the feast of seven days with joy.
- Hezekiah king of Judah gave the congregation a thousand bulls and seven thousand sheep as sacrifices. And the princes gave the congregation a thousand bulls, and ten thousand sheep, and many priests to purify themselves.
- And all the congregation of Judah, and the priests, and the Levites, and the congregation and the strangers from the land of Israel, and the strangers of Judah, rejoiced.
- 30:26 So there was great joy in Jerusalem, which was not in Jerusalem in the days of Solomon, the son of David the king of Israel.
- Then the priests and the Levites rose up and blessed the people. Their voices were heard by God, and their prayers reached the sanctuary in heaven.

Chapter 30 of the Book of Chronicles focuses on King Hezekiah's accession to the throne and the restoration of the temple to restore the faith of the people of Judah in God.

When King Hezekiah ascended the throne and found that God's temple had been abandoned for many years, he set about rebuilding it and gathering the priests, Levites, and all of Judah to celebrate the Passover. He ordered the temple to be cleansed and purified, and to restore the duties and authority of the priests and Levites. On that day, the people of Judah offered sacrifices and thanksgiving offerings in the temple of God, singing praises to God, and everyone rejoiced.

Hezekiah also commanded all the people of Judah, Israelites or not, to come to the Passover and come to a new knowledge of God. However, there are those who do not listen to His command because they have been idolatrous for many years and have strayed from God's ways. In order for these people to believe in God, Hezekiah sent messengers to persuade them to repent and change their minds. Most of them remained unchanged, and only a portion of the Manasseh, Asher, and Zebulun men listened to them and came to celebrate the Passover.

After the Passover, King Hezekiah ordered the priests and Levites to repair the temple and restore it to its former glory. In the process, Hezekiah constantly exhorted the people to trust God, obey His commands, and keep God's commandments in order to receive God's blessings.

A few important verses from 2 Chronicles 30:

1. 2 Chronicles 30:6: "It was reported that they had gone through all the land of Ephraim and Manasseh as far as Zebulun, and they came to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover with the LORD God of Israel." "

This passage recounts King Hezekiah's decision to gather all Israel to celebrate the Passover, and even though some were not able to observe it regularly, they were invited to celebrate it together.

This event demonstrated God's grace and forgiveness, as well as the importance of valuing unity and sharing joy.

2. 2 Chronicles 30:9: "For you turn to the Lord, and your brothers and daughters will find mercy before their captives, and they will return to the land; For the LORD your God is gracious and merciful, and if you turn to him, he will not turn away."

This passage tells of King Hezekiah communicating God's word to the people, encouraging them to come unto God, and God will bless them. This event shows people the love and mercy of God and the importance of our need to turn to Him and rely on Him.

3. 2 Chronicles 30:18-20: "The Lord had mercy on the Israelites and reconciled them to the king of Assyria and gave food to their people." Hezekiah prayed to the Lord for those who sought God with all their hearts, for the sons of Aaron, for the Levites, for those who ministered to the house of God. Jehovah granted his request and healed the people."

This passage tells of King Hezekiah and his people receiving God's grace and mercy in their conversion to God, including reconciliation with the king of Assyria and access to food. At the same time, they also rely on God for healing and salvation. This event demonstrated God's power and faithfulness and the grace and salvation that coming to God can bring.

- 4. 2 Chronicles 30:26: "Then the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem kept it with great joy, and all those who came out of the land of Israel kept it with great joy, for there was no such thing in Jerusalem since the days of Solomon king of Israel." "
- 2 Chronicles chapter 30 goes on to record important events in Israel's history, particularly the Reformation and God-seeking of Judah and Israel during Hezekiah's reign. This chapter focuses on repentance, worship, and God's lovingkindness.

Although this chapter is primarily a record of historical events, it still contains some theological ideas and gains.

The following are the central theological ideas and theological findings that can be found in Chapter 30 of the Second Chronicles:

Repentance and Seeking God: In chapter 30, Hezekiah sends an invitation to all of Judah and Israel to come and celebrate the Passover and return to God. He called on the people to repent, to seek God, and to move from idolatry to the worship of the true God.

God's Mercy and Blessing: As a result of Hezekiah and his people's repentance and seeking God, God showed His love and mercy so that they could seek Him, His help, and keep Him.

Unity of Worship: During the celebration of the Passover, the tribes and tribes of Israel gathered in Jerusalem to worship God together. This underscores the importance of united worship in the faith.

God's mercy and revelation: When the people seek God in unity, God reveals his mercy and revelation so that they can know God's will and guidance.

Responsibility and Example of Leadership: Hezekiah's actions and repentance as king had an exemplary effect on the people. A leader's repentance and worship have an impact on the nation and society as a whole.

Overall, chapter 30 of the Book of Chronicles is primarily a record of historical events, and contains themes of repentance and seeking God, God's love and blessings, and united worship. Through these accounts, we can see more deeply that repentance and seeking God are central to the faith, God's love and mercy for repentant believers, and the importance of united worship in faith. Seeking God and worship is our proper response, and we are to seek God with all our hearts and one another, so that our lives may manifest the glory of God and reflect the kingdom of God. At the same time, we need to keep in mind God's mercy and revelation, and rely on His help and protection so that we can know God's will and guidance. Leaders have great responsibilities and their actions and beliefs have a profound impact on the nation and society as a whole, so they are to lead their people back to God by their example.