

## Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study (A wrap-up of 2 Chronicles)

August 5, 2020

### 2 Chronicles 2:3-6

<sup>3</sup> Then Solomon sent to Hiram king of Tyre, saying:

As you have dealt with David my father, and sent him cedars to build himself a house to dwell in, so deal with me. <sup>4</sup> Behold, I am building a temple for the name of the Lord my God, to dedicate it to Him, to burn before Him sweet incense, for the continual showbread, for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, on the New Moons, and on the set feasts of the Lord our God. This is an ordinance forever to Israel.

<sup>5</sup> And the temple which I build will be great, for our God is greater than all gods. <sup>6</sup> But who is able to build Him a temple, since heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him? Who am I then, that I should build Him a temple, except to burn sacrifice before Him?

What an encouraging passage – the new king of Israel the son of David knows his God personally! Furthermore he shares the good news with the king of Tyre and invites him to participate in the great joy of serving the One True God (my God, our God). Leaders of nations focused on a relationship with Jehovah-Jireh (Genesis 22:6-14 KJV). It just doesn't get better on earth.

### 2 Chronicles 5:11-14

<sup>11</sup> And it came to pass when the priests came out of the Most Holy Place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without keeping to their divisions), <sup>12</sup> and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets—<sup>13</sup> indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying:

*“For He is good, For His mercy endures forever,”*

that the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud, <sup>14</sup> so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and king; His love endures forever! For He is good, He is above all things; His love endures forever. This is the unity of the spirit Paul alludes to in Ephesians 4:1-6. Some Jews would call this 'Shakinah glory' meaning a visible manifestation of the glory of God on earth – Christianity.com

### 2 Chronicles 6:12-15

<sup>12</sup> Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands <sup>13</sup> (for Solomon had made a bronze platform five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court; and he stood on it, knelt down on his knees before all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven); <sup>14</sup> and he said: “Lord God of Israel, there is no God in heaven or on earth like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts.

<sup>15</sup> You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.

Solomon, the Leader of the greatest nation of the time, knelt and spread his hands and prayed thanksgiving and glory to God. The Lord God keeps His promises and His words are more than just talk, you can bet your life on them (Isaiah 55:11). The Lord's word is rich, full of wisdom,

truth and life. Contrast that with the words of some of our people today.

## **2 Chronicles 7:12-16**

<sup>12</sup> Then the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. <sup>13</sup> When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, <sup>14</sup> if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. <sup>15</sup> Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. <sup>16</sup> For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.

I don't know, I think maybe now more than ever, every American Christian should commit this entire section of scripture to memory. We are, collectively and individually, the temple (1 Corinthians 6:19). As Jim noted this is addressed *SPECIFICALLY* to believers.

## **2 Chronicles 7:17-22**

<sup>17</sup> As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, <sup>18</sup> then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man as ruler in Israel.'

<sup>19</sup> "But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them, <sup>20</sup> then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

<sup>21</sup> "And as for this house, which is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, 'Why has the Lord done thus to this land and this house?' <sup>22</sup> Then they will answer, 'Because they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore He has brought all this calamity on them.' "

God is love and God is just. Notice, God did not demand Solomon walk in perfection but only as his father walked. I recently heard a statement on a WWII Ken Burns documentary, "I was too young to really understand the consequences of death." Make no mistake God's justice will be astonishing. To whom much is given, much is required (Luke 12:48).

## **2 Chronicles 9:3-8**

<sup>3</sup> And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, <sup>4</sup> the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers and their apparel, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her.

<sup>5</sup> Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. <sup>6</sup> However I did not believe their words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. You exceed the fame of which I heard. <sup>7</sup> Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! <sup>8</sup> Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you, setting you on His throne to be king for the Lord your God! Because your God has loved Israel, to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do justice and righteousness."

The Queen of Sheba traveled about 1,400 miles to see for herself and this is her conclusion:

Blessed be the Lord your God!

## **2 Chronicles 9:29-31**

<sup>29</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, are they not written in the book of Nathan the prophet, in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat? <sup>30</sup> Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years. <sup>31</sup> Then Solomon rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

So we go from a time of great blessing to a gradual decline resulting in bondage. As Jim said, each generation is held accountable for their own actions and we can see the parallel happening in our "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

## **2 Chronicles 10 – The Revolt against Rehoboam**

### **2 Chronicles 13 – Abijah Reigns in Judah**

### **2 Chronicles 14 – Asa Reigns over Judah**

### **2 Chronicles 17 – Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah**

### **2 Chronicles 21 – Jehoram Reigns in Judah**

### **2 Chronicles 22 - Ahaziah Reigns in Judah...**

The balance of 2 Chronicles does exactly what it says. It chronicles the kings of Judah all the way to Zedekiah who like most before him, did evil in the eyes of The Lord. Chronicle: noun: **chronicle**; plural noun: **chronicles**

1. a factual written account of important or historical events in the order of their occurrence. –Oxford Dictionary

## **2 Chronicles 36:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> And the Lord God of their fathers sent warnings to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending them, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place. <sup>16</sup> But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy.

Israel as a nation was lead out of bondage by God and founded on God's law. The nation and its people acknowledged The Lord as sovereign king. Israel's people would humbly seek and follow God, recognizing their own weaknesses. Over time, they chose to question and then reject God's law they chose to raise up their children to look inwardly for their own source of strength and values. They looked to other nations for their law. They became proud and full of sin until they profaned and rejected all The Lord is - till there was no remedy. Pray for our nation.

## **2 Chronicles 36:17-21**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore He brought against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, on the aged or the weak; He gave them all into his hand. <sup>18</sup> And all the articles from the house of God, great and small, the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his leaders, all these he took to Babylon. <sup>19</sup> Then they burned the house of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious possessions. <sup>20</sup> And those who escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon, where they became servants to him and his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, <sup>21</sup> to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths. As long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.

John 16:1