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WEEK 31

July 28

1 Chronicles Ch. 17: David's Heart to Building the Temple and God's Answer

In this chapter, David, who lived in a palace of cedar, expresses to God his desire to build a temple for God with a heavy heart, but God rejects his wish and presents His own method, blessing David's house instead.

"When your days are fulfilled to walk with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will (.....) his kingdom. He shall build a house for me, and I will (.....) his throne forever."

1 Chronicles Ch. 18: David's Victory Record

In chapter 17, David heard that the work of building the temple would not be done by David but by his son. Now, David had a new and clear goal. It was to gather as many resources as possible so that his son could build the temple. Wherever David went, he won the war by God's grace, and he was busy offering the spoils to God (v. 11). In fact, verse 8 records the following:

"With it Solomon made the (.....) and the (.....) and the (.....).

*When God gave David a clear goal of helping build the temple, he no longer lived according to his own desires. When God showed him the direction, King David did those things with faith. From this example, we can learn the true nature of 'a life of listening to the word and acting'.

July 29

Ch. 19~20: First war with Ammon (19:1-15), First war with Aram (18:3-8), Second war with Aram (19:16-19), Second war with Ammon (20:1-3), War with Philistines (20:4-8)

Chapters 18-20 continue to record the events in which David won all his battles because God was with him.

"the (.....) gave victory to David wherever he went." (18:6, 13)

*War and victory belong to God. The Bible does not say that David won by his own strength and power, but that God, who was with David, gave him victory. Being with God and holding on to God's grace is the only secret to victory. "Father God, grant us faith and wisdom to live our lives so that we do not rely on our own strength, but live humbly trusting in God and rejoicing in every moment and overcoming with God's grace."

July 30

Ch. 21: David's Census

In this chapter, David is recorded as taking responsibility for his sin by conducting a census. The census itself is not a sin, but the text says, "Satan arose and incited David (v. 1)" and Joab also says, "Will you make Israel sin?" (v. 3), so we can infer that David's order to take a census was a decision made out of pride to prove himself. What was God's punishment for this sin? (vv. 9-14)

* It was pride before God to check the military power in order to further expand the territory of the kingdom of David. However, David realizes his sin and immediately goes to the place of repentance (vv. 8, 16-17). The beginning of repentance is self-reproach and heavy approach, but the end of repentance is joy. It is returning to God and walking with God.

Ch. 22: Preparations for the construction of David's temple

In chapter 21, the threshing floor of Ornan, where the altar was built, was the place where God's wrath stopped, where God showed mercy, and where God responded with fire. David was convinced that this was the site of God's temple (verse 1). What did his father David prepare for Solomon, who was young and inexperienced, so that he could properly handle the construction of God's temple? (verses 2-4, 14-16)

July 31

Ch. 23: The duties of the Levites

The Levites who were thirty years old and above who were to serve in the temple were counted as 38,000. David divided the Levites into four positions and assigned them to different positions. 24,000 were assigned to the duties of worship in the temple, 6,000 were assigned to the duties of management and judgment, 4,000 were assigned to the gatekeepers, and the remaining 4,000 were assigned to the choir. The Levites were divided by family (verses 7–24), and their overall duties are recorded. Looking at these duties, we can summarize them as serving the temple (verse 28).

Looking at them more specifically, there are the tasks of baking and kneading the bread of the Presence in the temple (verse 29), the role of thanksgiving and praise (verse 30), offering burnt offerings (verse 31), serving (verse 32), and incense burning (verse 13).

*The Bible calls the work of baking bread, kneading dough, singing hymns, and serving in various ways in the temple very holy works (v. 13) that were permitted only to the Levites. However, these works are not great works, nor are they required only for those with special abilities, but are very ordinary works that anyone can do. Such works are recorded as the works that God calls you to. If you are taking on works that seem very small, works that you think anyone can do, then God has entrusted and called you to those works.

Ch. 24: Those who hold the office of priest

The chapter records the order in which the families of Aaron's sons – the 16 chiefs of the descendants of Eleazar (Zadok) and the 8 chiefs of the descendants of Ithamar (Elimelech) – were to take charge of the priest's portion.

It is written, "They divided them by lot, all (.....)."

Aug. 1

Ch. 25: People in charge of singing hymns

This chapter is about the service of the hymns. David had already set apart three men, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, and their children took charge of the two hymns. In addition to these, there were 288 who were not descendants of the three men but learned to sing hymns and joined them (v. 7). Among them were teachers and disciples, but how was the order of service determined?

*In chapters 24 and 25, David used the lottery system used in the Old Testament to discern God's will when determining the order of service. At this time, regardless of age, seniority, or any other human standard, he reflected the fact that everyone is equal before God and that God does not judge people by their appearance. We too must carefully consider how God's standards are applied when serving the church.

Ch. 26: The temple gatekeepers, those in charge of the temple treasury, officials and judges

The gatekeepers recorded in this chapter were not simply people who stood at the temple gate, but people who played an important role in protecting the temple's sanctity. Among them were mighty warriors (verse 6), powerful men (verse 7), men who were capable and good at their jobs (verse 8), and wise counselors (verse 14). Whose descendants were the 62 gatekeepers listed in particular?

(As we can see in 1 Samuel 6:12, these were the people who served the Ark of the Covenant that was recovered from the Philistines.)

Aug. 2

Ch. 27: Military organization, leaders of each tribe

This chapter continues from chapter 23, recording the people of God who were with David's kingdom. We can see that David did not build the kingdom alone, but with loyal believers who helped and followed him. Find and write the names of each person.

- 1) The king's counselor and scribe:
- 2) The princes' attendants:
- 3) The king's friend:
- 4) The king's army commander:

Ch. 28~29: Instructions for the construction of the temple and David's prayer of thanksgiving

In this chapter, David ends his 40-year reign and leaves a final charge to Solomon and the gathered leaders to build the temple well. And David, like a poet, expresses joy and emotion in his prayer (vv. 10–19). He confesses that there is nothing that does not belong to God, and that everything they have given to God was originally given by God and therefore belongs to God. And the Chronicler's one-line evaluation of David's end is recorded.

"Then he died at a good age, full of days, (.....), and (.....)."
David ended his life with dreams, thanksgiving, and praise. May we also be given the grace to end our lives gloriously and beautifully, as David's end of life shows.