

Serve God's Purpose Part 9

Work With God to Build Up His Church

*“18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
(Matthew 16:18 KJV)*

David planned to build the temple of God in Jerusalem. King David after he was settled and was rest from all his enemies around him, he desired in his heart to build a house for God: *“1 Now it came to pass, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, Lo, I dwell in an house of cedars, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD remaineth under curtains. 2 Then Nathan said unto David, Do all that is in thine heart; for God is with thee. 3 And it came to pass the same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, 4 Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not build me an house to dwell in: 5 For I have not dwelt in an house since the day that I brought up Israel unto this day; but have gone from tent to tent, and from one tabernacle to another. 6 Wheresoever I have walked with all Israel, spake I a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people, saying, Why have ye not built me an house of cedars? 7 Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, even from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be ruler over my people Israel: 8 And I have been with thee whithersoever thou hast walked, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee, and have made thee a name like the name of the great men that are in the earth. 9 Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning, 10 And since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Furthermore I tell thee that the LORD will build thee an house. 11 And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom. 12 He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne for ever. 13 I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took it from him that was before thee: 14 But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore. 15 According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.” (1 Chronicles 17:1-15 KJV)*

God was pleased with King David's initiative to build a house for Him, but He recommended that one of his sons, and later on that was Solomon, would build the temple of God. After God's approval, King David used the rest of his life making preparations to build the temple of God. *It is a Godly desire to work with God to build His Kingdom while we are still on earth by working out with Him and responding to His call to build His church similar to the call of Jesus to Simon Peter, “18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18 KJV)*

After David repented of his sin of counting the men of the army of Israel and after he bought the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, *“26 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the LORD; and*

he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering. 27 And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put up his sword again into the sheath thereof. 28 At that time when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there.” (1 Chronicles 21:26-28 KJV) On that same place, *“1 Then David said, This is the house of the LORD God, and this is the altar of the burnt offering for Israel.” (1 Chronicles 22:1 KJV)* And since then David's preparation to build the temple of God continued in more active way:

1. David gave orders in making preparation for building the house of God: *“2 And David commanded to gather together the strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God. 3 And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the joinings; and brass in abundance without weight; 4 Also cedar trees in abundance: for the Zidonians and they of Tyre brought much cedar wood to David.” (1 Chronicles 22:2-4 KJV)* To achieve such and great purpose of God in our lives to work with Him to build up His church we need to focus in such a vision and concentrate all our thoughts and resources and direct them unto it. We need to mobilize all what we have with a willing heart to give for such great purpose.

2. David made more extensive preparations before his death: *“5 And David said, Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the LORD must be exceeding magnifical, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will therefore now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death.” (1 Chronicles 22:5 KJV)* As we advance in age and in the ministry the more we need to provide for such a vision to be fulfilled and provide abundantly for it. As we advance in age, we should advance in our preparation to accomplish the purpose of God in our lives.

3. David charged his son Solomon: *“6 Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the LORD God of Israel. 7 And David said to Solomon, My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God: 8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not build an house unto my name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in my sight. 9 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days. 10 He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I will be his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever. 11 Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as he hath said of thee. 12 Only the LORD give thee wisdom and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel, that thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God. 13 Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed.” (1 Chronicles 22:6-13 KJV)* We need to impart the vision of building God's church to our children, descendents, our disciples and to our co-workers and commissioned them to continue in doing such.

4. David prepared huge financial and material resources to build the Temple: *“14 Now, behold, in my trouble I have prepared for the house of the LORD an hundred thousand talents of gold, and a thousand thousand talents of silver; and of brass and iron without weight; for it is in abundance: timber also and stone have I prepared; and thou mayest add*

thereto. 15 Moreover there are workmen with thee in abundance, hewers and workers of stone and timber, and all manner of cunning men for every manner of work. 16 Of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron, there is no number. Arise therefore, and be doing, and the LORD be with thee.” (1 Chronicles 22:14-16 KJV) All the material things that we possess should be used in order to provide materially for all the expenses that are needed to build God’s church.

5. David commissioned the leaders to do the work of God in building the Temple: “17 David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son, saying, 18 Is not the LORD your God with you? and hath he not given you rest on every side? for he hath given the inhabitants of the land into mine hand; and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before his people. 19 Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD.” (1 Chronicles 22:17-19 KJV) All the pastors, teachers, the evangelists and the rest of the leaders and workers of the church should be motivated, chosen upon their willingness and appointed to carry this vision of building God’s church and transmitting this vision and teaching to the next generation.

6. David’s final preparation before his death: David exactly did as God’s will - the pleasant, good and perfect will of God. He was the king over Israel until he was old and full of years. He also arranged and organized the work of God before he died: Each and every one of us should continue to do what is pleasant, good and perfect will of God until our lives are finished on earth or when we are taken by the Lord, by serving the same purpose of God in building His church.

a. David appointed a king to take over after his death: “1 So when David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king over Israel.” (1 Chronicles 23:1 KJV) As directed by the Lord David appointed Solomon and made him king over Israel before he died. Because after David’s death there must be a leader to continue the work of God and to fulfil the vision that God ordained for His people. We need to appoint leaders who are chosen by God to continue to do the work of God after us, to fulfil His purpose in building His church.

b. David assigned work for the leaders, priest, and Levites: He oriented them what to do and planned with them how they would function and do their duties and responsibilities for the glory of God. “2 And he gathered together all the princes of Israel, with the priests and the Levites. 3 Now the Levites were numbered from the age of thirty years and upward: and their number by their polls, man by man, was thirty and eight thousand. 4 Of which, twenty and four thousand were to set forward the work of the house of the LORD; and six thousand were officers and judges: 5 Moreover four thousand were porters; and four thousand praised the LORD with the instruments which I made, said David, to praise therewith.” (1 Chronicles 23:2-5 KJV) As David had the vision of God he imparted that to those workers and leaders who supposed to carry the vision after him. In the same way as we have the vision from God with all its details we need to impart in details to those workers who will continue to achieve it after us.

The meaning of the word Levi is ‘attached.’ The Lord chose the Levites to be attached to Him and to carry on His work. Only those who are attached to God and have committed their lives for God are to do the great and real work of God. They are the workers of the Lord assigned

to different tasks and responsibilities in the temple or in the Church of God. Therefore we should appoint or assign for the works of God only those who are attached to God and those who had committed themselves to live for His cause and purpose.

1). of which, twenty and four thousand were to set forward the work of the house of the LORD: They are responsible to supervise the work of God to be done with precision. Every worker has certain potentials, talents and spiritual gifts that can be used effectively for God’s glory; therefore we should assign them based on certain task directive.

2). and six thousand were officers and judges: The officials are the leaders who do the administrative work including the treasury. The judges are the one responsible to direct the people about the matter of life and how to live and take Godly decisions. They are to teach the people God’s laws and decrees, and show them the way to work, and assign duties to perform to serve God’s purpose. Therefore we need to appoint workers who are responsible on doing the administrative and those involved in teaching the people God’s laws and decrees, and show them the work they need to do and give them the duties to perform to serve God’s purpose.

3). four thousand were porters: They are those who keep the system of the assembly, and to keep control of those who are coming in and going out from the gates of the house of God. They are system controllers to check the input and output of God’s church affairs. Those are the good stewards of the church who are doing the administrative work and perform various manual tasks and services in the house of God, who are trustworthy, whom we need to recognize, commission them and support them to do such tasks.

4). four thousand praised the LORD with the instruments: They are those who teach and lead the people to worship the Lord in Spirit and truth. “23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:23-24 KJV) They are the one who are responsible on the order of worship that lead and teach the people how to worship God and serve Him in Spirit and truth.

Such above was the way David arranged the workers with him into the house of God with various responsibilities according to their talents, skills and according to the call of God to them to meet the needs in the work in the house of God. Even at this particular time, the Church of God United Arab Emirates has various needs and ministries based on the vision and purpose of God for His church, and therefore we need to respond accordingly to appoint workers according to their skills, talents, and spiritual gifts and according to their obedience and commitment to the calling of God in their lives and according to the current needs in the various ministries and departments of the church.

My Dear and Beloved: God loves his people. What David did and had accomplished before his death was for God’s people. * We are called to build the Church of God and to care for it. We are responsible to hand over the commands and the laws of God to the next generation and to the workers and leaders who will succeed us in doing the works and the ministries of His church. * Let us meditate on the message and let us apply every principle we learn from David in doing the work of God to build up His church, the Church of God. * Let us also take

the initiative to secure the future of our next generation by building God's Church upon His Word and commands. In this way we fulfill God's purpose.

Let us pray

My Prayer: *Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your Word that had opened my mind and directed me about my responsibilities to take an active part in building your church. Lord thank you for what you explained to me from the Scriptures about the dynamics of how to serve your purpose in building your church.*

Come now to God and respond to the calling of God in your life to build His church. Confess and renounce now all your sins. Confess and renounce your complacency and laziness, your doubts and lack of faith, your non willingness to suffer and your non willingness to serve. Confess and renounce your worldliness and your non willingness to give and contribute materially for God's church. Confess and renounce your lust, greed, immoralities, lies, anger, etc. Confess and renounce your reluctance to respond to the call of God and start to serve Him. Confess your bad stewardship and wasting your time on friends, the Media and news. Confess your lack of reading God's Word and your lack of prayers. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself fully to serve you and to walk in your ways. I commit myself to use all the resources, talents, and spiritual gifts in me to build up your church. I commit to do this in order that your Words, commands and blessings will be passed on to the next generation. This all I ask and pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who responded to your call in their lives and are willing to give willingly their material resources and their talents and spiritual gifts in building your church. Lord use them mightily for your glory, anoint them and fill them with the Holy Spirit to go on and serve you. Lord continue to speak to them and reveal the details of your vision to them and what you wants from them to do for you. Lord, continue to provide for them and protect them so they will continue to serve you, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord, as your church we commit ourselves to apply all the principles that we learned in this message to build up your church. Lord lead us to the workers who are fit to do certain tasks to appoint them and motivate them to do the good works of yours. Lord we ask you to refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in order to fulfill your purpose in building your church. Lord lead us to go and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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