

Building A House For God

1Ch 22:7 *David said to Solomon, "My son, I had intended to build a house to the name of the LORD my God.*

1Ch 22:8 *"But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars; you shall not build a house to My name, because you have shed so much blood on the earth before Me.*

1Ch 22:9 *'Behold, a son will be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side; for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days.*

David had a heart for God. He wanted with all His being to build a house for God which would bring Him glory. He even planned to build this house but God told Nathan the prophet that he was not allowed to do it. The reason he could not was because he was a man of war. Only a man of peace could build the house of God. Instead of David building this temple it would be one of his sons. God spoke to David and told him which son it would be that would build it and even gave him his name **before he was born**. He said a son will be born to you and his name shall be Solomon. David knew the name of the son who would build this temple but did not know when that son would be born. It is important to note who the mother of Solomon was. It was Bathsheba. I am sure you know the whole story about David and Bathsheba. This relationship was formed from the lowest time in David's life. This relationship was born from his rebellion, pride, and moral failure. The first child this couple had died because of their sin. This failure brought a great brokenness to David and repentance to David. He consecrated himself to the Lord with all of his heart and God turned cursing to blessing. He blessed David and Bathsheba and Solomon was born. God all along knew what David would do and even before he had sinned God had a plan to turn around David's failure to blessing. Once David repented God turned his failure into a builder of the kingdom of God. The fruit of this marriage would build the temple of God. God's goodness, grace, and forgiveness builds Him a house for him to be glorified in. Out of his failure God reveals that this son born to him and Bathsheba was the one he promised long before that would build the house of God. What mercy!

In this temple was an altar that was to be lit continually. There was also a laver of water that was to be kept clean. I want to look at who was responsible for bringing the wood and water to keep the worship of God going.

Jos 9:22 And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying, Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We are very far from you; when ye dwell among us?

Jos 9:27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.

The people spoken to here are the Gibeonites. This was a tribe of people in the land of Canaan when Joshua was called by God to kill all its inhabitants. This group of people were next on the list to be taken out so they tricked Israel into thinking they were from a distant land and made a treaty with them. When Israel arose in the morning and went over the hill to war against the next group they discovered it was the Gibeonites. Instead of killing them they had to protect them. Joshua and Israel failed God and were disobedient to his word to destroy all the inhabitants. Because they made a covenant with the Gibeonites without God's counsel these foreign people would always be there in the land. Joshua and Israel repented of their failure and sin of not seeking God. These people were made cutters of wood and drawers of water for the altar of the Lord. They were responsible to keep the fire of the altar going and water for the laver of purification. Israel's mistake was made to work for them. They kept the fire going on the altar and the purification process going. That is what our past mistakes do for us when we turn to God after we sin. The consequences of our past mistakes are not always removed. However, when we turn to God and trust Him they are made to work for us. They cause us to daily consecrate ourselves to him at His altar. Having consequences for our wrong actions cause us to stay before the Lord and seek His grace and help. They keep the fire of our consecration with the Lord burning. They will also work for us in bringing purification to our lives as we look to God to help us in dealing with them. Our past mistakes become hewers of wood and drawers of water for our spiritual life.

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

God delights in turning our mistakes to work for us. God delights in turning our mistakes into builders for His glory. We should in no way try to make mistakes but when we do they will be turned for the glory of God when we turn our hearts back to God and seek Him. Satan wants you to focus on your past mistakes and be hindered by them. He wants to stop the building of God in your life. This day turn to God and give yourself to him afresh. This includes your past with all your failures. Give all to him and He will delight in making your past a builder of his house for the goodness and glory of His name. Amen.

Prayer: God I consecrate my life to you afresh. I give you all my life. I give you my past both good and bad. I put it on your altar. I ask that use all my life for your glory to build a place that you are glorified and seen. Thank you for your amazing grace and mercy in my life. Thank you for your goodness to me and the great plans for my future. I love you. In Jesus name. Amen.