

1 Chronicles 15:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Shebaniah, and Jehoshaphat, and Nethaneel, and Amasai, and Zechariah, and Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, did blow with the trumpets before the ark of God: and Obed-edom and Jehiah were doorkeepers for the ark.

Analysis

Theological Analysis: This passage falls within the section on Proper ark transport - Levitical worship order. The Hebrew term 'לֵי' (Levi) - joined/attached is theologically significant here, pointing to Ordained worship according to God's prescription. The Chronicler's narrative, while paralleling Samuel-Kings in places, offers a distinct theological perspective emphasizing temple worship, Levitical service, and covenant faithfulness.

Chronicles presents David not primarily as warrior-king but as worship organizer and temple planner. This verse contributes to that portrait by highlighting the spiritual dimensions of Israel's national life. The text demonstrates that true prosperity comes through proper worship and covenant obedience rather than merely military or political success.

Doctrinally, this passage teaches about Ordained worship according to God's prescription. Cross-references throughout Chronicles connect David's reign to the broader redemptive narrative, showing how God's covenant promises advance through faithful human leadership while ultimately depending on divine grace and power. The messianic implications are profound: Christ as true temple and worship center.

Historical Context

Historical Background: This section describes events from David's reign (c. 1010-970 BCE) but was written centuries later during the Persian period (c. 450-400 BCE). The Chronicler's selectivity in retelling David's story serves his theological purposes—he omits David's sins (Bathsheba, Absalom's rebellion) while emphasizing David's worship reforms and temple preparations.

The historical setting of Proper ark transport - Levitical worship order occurred during Israel's united monarchy, when the nation reached its territorial and political zenith. Archaeological evidence from this period shows significant building projects and administrative development. However, the Chronicler writes for a much smaller, struggling post-exilic community, using David's golden age to inspire hope for restoration.

Ancient Near Eastern parallels show that temple construction and royal sponsorship of worship were common across cultures. However, Israel's understanding of worship centered on covenant relationship with the one true God rather than manipulation of capricious deities. This theological distinctiveness shapes the Chronicler's presentation.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse's emphasis on Ordained worship according to God's prescription challenge or affirm your current spiritual priorities and practices?
2. What does Christ as true temple and worship center teach you about Jesus Christ and His redemptive work?

3. In what practical ways can you apply the principles of covenant faithfulness and proper worship demonstrated in this passage?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁבְנִי הִוָּשָׁפֵט וְנִתְנַא לְצִדְקָה יְמִינָה וְצִדְקָה הַזָּהָר
And Shebaniah and Jehoshaphat and Nethaneel and Amasai and Zechariah
H7645 H3146 H5417 H6022 H2148

בְּחִצְצָרָה וְתַּחֲמֵשׁ מִחְצָצְרִים זָר וְבָנִי הָר
and Benaiah and Eliezer the priests did blow with the trumpets
H1141 H461 H3548 H2690 H2689

וְיִתְחַנֵּן אֲדֹם וְעֵבֶד קָאֵלָה יִמְלָא לְאַרְנוֹן לְפָנָי
before for the ark of God and Obededom and Jehiah
H6440 H727 H430 H5654 H3174

לְאַרְנוֹן שְׁמַעַר יִמְלָא
were doorkeepers for the ark
H7778 H727

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 16:6 (References God): Benaiah also and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God.

1 Chronicles 15:28 (Parallel theme): Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps.

Numbers 10:8 (Parallel theme): And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the trumpets; and they shall be to you for an ordinance for ever throughout your generations.