

1 Chronicles 15:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites that bare the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers: David also had upon him an ephod of linen.

Analysis

Theological Analysis: This passage falls within the section on Proper ark transport - Levitical worship order. The Hebrew term לֵוִי (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 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

וְדָוִד יִד	מְכַרְבֵּ לֹ	בְמַעַ יֵל	בַּ וִץ	וְכָל	הַלְוִיִּם
And David	was clothed	with a robe	of fine linen	H3605	and all the Levites
H1732	H3736	H4598	H948		H3881
הַנִּשְׂאָ יִם	אֶת	הָאֵר וֹן	הַמְשִׁירֵ יִם	וְכִנְיָ הַ	הַשֵּׁ רַ
that bare	H853	the ark	and the singers	and Chenaniah	the master
H5375		H727	H7891	H3663	H8269
הַמִּשָּׁ אַ	הַמְשִׁירֵ יִם	וְעַל	וְדָוִד יִד	אֶפֶד וְ	בְּדָ:
of the song	and the singers	H5921	And David	also had upon him an ephod	of linen
H4853	H7891		H1732	H646	H906

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 6:14 (References David): And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod.