

1 Chronicles 22:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

Theological Analysis: This passage falls within the section on Temple preparations - David's charge to Solomon. The Hebrew term *בַּיִת* (bayit) - house/temple is theologically significant here, pointing to Worship center as focus of covenant community. 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 Worship center as focus of covenant community. 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 church as His body.

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 Temple preparations - David's charge to Solomon 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this verse's emphasis on Worship center as focus of covenant community challenge or affirm your current spiritual priorities and practices?
2. What does Christ as true temple and church as His body 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

הָלֹא	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	עִמָּךְ		
H3808	Is not the LORD	your God	H5973		
	H3068	H430			
	וְהֵן יָחַד	לְךָ	מִסָּבִיב	כִּי	
	with you and hath he not given you rest	H0	on every side	H3588	
	H5117		H5439		
נָתַן	בְּיָדִי	אֶת	יֹשְׁבֵי	הָאָרֶץ	וְנִכְבְּשָׁהּ
for he hath given	into mine hand	H853	the inhabitants	and the land	is subdued
H5414	H3027		H3427	H776	H3533
וְהָאָרֶץ	וּלְפָנָי	יְהוָה	וּלְפָנָי	עַמּוֹ:	
and the land	and before	Is not the LORD	and before	his people	
H776	H6440	H3068	H6440	H5971	

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 22:9 (Parallel theme): 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.

1 Chronicles 23:25 (References God): For David said, The LORD God of Israel hath given rest unto his people, that they may dwell in Jerusalem for ever:

2 Samuel 7:1 (References Lord): And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies;

Joshua 23:1 (References Lord): And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old and stricken in age.