

1 Chronicles 22:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

David's exhortation to Israel's leaders: '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.' The command 'set your heart and soul' (Hebrew: tenu levavkem v'nafshekem) requires total commitment - both intellect/will (heart) and being/desire (soul). Seeking God precedes building His house - internal devotion before external construction. This teaches that spiritual preparation must precede and undergird physical worship spaces. Christ builds His church from living stones whose hearts and souls seek God.

Historical Context

David's charge to leaders (c. 971 BCE) mobilized Israel's resources for Solomon's temple. His emphasis on heart-preparation acknowledged that without inward devotion, outward religious structures are empty shells - a lesson Israel would repeatedly forget.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. Have you 'set your heart and soul' to seek God, or are you distracted by competing priorities?
2. What 'building' - spiritual formation, character development - needs to happen in your life before you can effectively serve God's purposes?

Interlinear Text

הָאֱלֹהִים יְהוָה: לְדַר וּשׁ וְנַפְשְׁךָ מִלְּבַבְכֶּם תִּנּוּ וְעַתָּה
H6258 Now set H5414 your heart H3824 and your soul H5315 to seek H1875 of the LORD H3068 God H430

הָאֱלֹהִים יְהוָה: מִקֹּדֶשׁ אֶת הַנִּבְנֶה הַזֶּה וְקוּמוּ
arise H6965 that is to be built H1129 H853 ye the sanctuary H4720 of the LORD H3068 God H430

קֹדֶשׁ וְכֵלֵי יְהוָה: בְּרִית מִקֹּדֶשׁ אֶת לָקֵב יֵא
to bring H935 H853 the ark H727 of the covenant H1285 of the LORD H3068 vessels H3627 and the holy H6944

יְהוָה: לְשֵׁם הַנִּבְנֶה הַזֶּה לְבַיִת הָאֱלֹהִים
God H430 into the house H1004 that is to be built H1129 to the name H8034 of the LORD H3068

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 28:9 (References God): And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the

thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

Deuteronomy 4:29 (References God): But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

Psalms 27:4 (Temple): One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

1 Chronicles 22:7 (References God): 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:

1 Chronicles 16:11 (References Lord): Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

1 Kings 8:6 (Covenant): And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, into the oracle of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims.

2 Chronicles 5:7 (Covenant): And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims:

1 Kings 8:21 (Covenant): And I have set there a place for the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt.

Acts 22:16 (Resurrection): And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

2 Chronicles 6:11 (Covenant): And in it have I put the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, that he made with the children of Israel.