

# 1 Chronicles 22:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David commanded to gather together the strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God.

## Analysis

**Theological Analysis:** This passage falls within the section on Temple preparations - David's charge to Solomon. The Hebrew term **בָּיֹת** (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

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**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

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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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

אָשָׁר	פָּגַר	יְמִם	אֶת	לְכִנּוֹס	לְיִדְךָ	אָמַר
<b>commanded</b>	<b>And David</b>	<b>to gather together</b>				
H559	H1732	H3664	H853	<b>the strangers</b>		H834
				H1616		
אָבִן	לְחַצּוֹב	לְחַצּוֹב	לְחַצּוֹב	בָּאָרֶץ	לְחַצּוֹב	אָבִן
<b>that were in the land</b>	<b>of Israel</b>	<b>and he set</b>	<b>masons</b>	<b>masons</b>	<b>stones</b>	
H776	H3478	H5975	H2672	H2672	H68	
בְּיַתְּהֵר	לְבָנָה	בְּיַתְּהֵר	בְּיַתְּהֵר	בְּיַתְּהֵר	בְּיַתְּהֵר	
<b>wrought</b>	<b>to build</b>	<b>the house</b>	<b>of God</b>			
H1496	H1129	H1004	H430			

## Additional Cross-References

**2 Chronicles 2:17** (References David): And Solomon numbered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred.

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