

1 Chronicles 22:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David said, Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the LORD must be exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will therefore now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death.

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 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

וַיֹּאמֶר	וְדָוִד	שְׁלֹמֹה ה	בְּנִי	נָעֹר	וְרַךְ	וְהַבַּיִת
said	And David	Solomon	my son	is young	and tender	and the house
H559	H1732	H8010	H1121	H5288	H7390	H1004
לִבָּנוֹת	לַיהוָה	לְהַגְדִּילוֹ	לִמְעַלָּה	לִשְׁמֹעַ		
that is to be builded	for the LORD	magnifical	must be exceeding	of fame		
H1129	H3068	H1431	H4605	H8034		
וְלִתְפָאָרֶת	לְכָל	הָאֲרָצֹת	וַיַּכְנֶן			
and of glory	H3605	throughout all countries	I will therefore now make preparation			
H8597		H776	H3559			
לִּי	וַיַּכְנֶן	וְדָוִד	לְרַב	לִפְנֵי		
H4994	H0	I will therefore now make preparation	And David	abundantly	before	
		H3559	H1732	H7230	H6440	
מִתּוֹתָיו:						
his death						
H4194						

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 29:1 (References Lord): Furthermore David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God.

1 Kings 3:7 (References Lord): And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

John 13:1 (Parallel theme): Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

John 3:30 (Parallel theme): He must increase, but I must decrease.

