

1 Chronicles 26:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots; and his lot came out northward.

Analysis

Theological Analysis: This passage falls within the section on Gatekeepers and treasurers - temple administration. The Hebrew term **ונִזְבָּן** (otsar) - treasury/ storehouse is theologically significant here, pointing to Stewardship of sacred resources. 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 Stewardship of sacred resources. 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 source of all spiritual riches.

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 Gatekeepers and treasurers - temple administration 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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse's emphasis on Stewardship of sacred resources challenge or affirm your current spiritual priorities and practices?
2. What does Christ as source of all spiritual riches 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

בָּנָיו	וַיִּזְכַּרְתִּי	הָוֹء	מִזְבֵּחַ	סָהָר	גּוֹכֶל	וְ	הַפְּרִילָה	וְ	בָּנָיו
fell	And the lot	eastward	to Shelemiah	Then for Zechariah					his son
H5307	H1486	H4217	H8018				H2148		H1121
counsellor	a wise	fell	And the lot	came out	And the lot	And the lot	northward		
H3289	H7922	H5307	H1486	H3318	H1486		H6828		
בָּשָׂר כָּל	גּוֹכֶל	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	אֶפְרַיִם	וְ	בָּנָיו

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org