

1 Chronicles 26:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Among the Hebronites was Jerijah the chief, even among the Hebronites, according to the generations of his fathers. In the fortieth year of the reign of David they were sought for, and there were found among them mighty men of valour at Jazer of Gilead.

Analysis

Theological Analysis: This passage falls within the section on Gatekeepers and treasurers - temple administration. The Hebrew term אוֹצָר (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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

לְחֶבְרוֹן י	יְרֵיָה	הָרֹאשׁ	לְחֶבְרוֹן י	
Among the Hebronites	was Jerijah	the chief	Among the Hebronites	
H2276	H3404	H7218	H2276	
לְתִלְדֹת יו	לְאָב וְ	בְּשָׁנָה	הָאַרְבָּעִים	לְמַלְכּוֹת וְ
according to the generations	of his fathers	year	In the fortieth	of the reign
H8435	H1	H8141	H705	H4438
דָּוִיד	נִדְּכּוּ שׁוּ	וַיִּמְצְאוּ	בָּהֶם	
of David	they were sought	for and there were found	H0	
H1732	H1875	H4672		
גִּבּוֹרֵי	חַיִּל	בְּיַעֲזֵר	גִּלְעָד:	
among them mighty men	of valour	at Jazer	of Gilead	
H1368	H2428	H3270	H1568	

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 23:19 (Parallel theme): Of the sons of Hebron; Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth.

Joshua 21:39 (Parallel theme): Heshbon with her suburbs, Jazer with her suburbs; four cities in all.