

1 Chronicles 28:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

Analysis

David's encouragement 'Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee' echoes God's words to Joshua (Joshua 1:5-9). This parallel is deliberate - as Joshua succeeded Moses in bringing Israel into the promised land, Solomon succeeds David in building God's house. The promise of divine presence ('will be with thee') grounds courage. The double negative ('will not fail... nor forsake') provides absolute assurance. This covenant faithfulness finds ultimate expression in Christ's promise to His church (Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:5).

Historical Context

Building the temple was Israel's most ambitious project, requiring unprecedented resources, organization, and international cooperation. Solomon needed divine presence more than human wisdom or wealth to accomplish this sacred task.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What daunting task is God calling you to where you need His promise 'I will be with you'?
2. How does Christ's promise never to leave or forsake you provide courage for daily obedience?

Interlinear Text

אָמַץ	לְשִׁלְמָן	הָיָה	בֶּן	וְ	יְהִי	אָמַר
and of good courage	to Solomon	his son	Be strong	and of good courage		
said	And David					
H559	H1732	H8010	H1121	H2388	H553	
אָלֹפִי	וְיִהְיֶה	כִּי	תִּתְפַּחַד	תִּתְפַּחַד	כִּי	אָלֹפִי
God	for the LORD	for the LORD	not nor be dismayed	not nor be dismayed	for the LORD	God
and do	it fear					
H6213	H3372	H408	H2865	H3588	H3068	H430
לֹא	עַפְתָּה	גַּם	יְרַפֵּךְ	לֹא	לֹא	תִּعְזַּב
God	will be with thee he will not fail		will be with thee he will not fail	will be with thee he will not fail	thee nor forsake	thee nor forsake
H430	H5973	H3808	H7503	H3808	H5800	
עַד	לְכָל	וְתַ	מְלָא	אֶת	עֲבוֹדָת	בֵּית
thee until thou hast finished			all the work	for the service	of the house	
H5704	H3615	H3605	H4399	H5656	H1004	
וְיִהְיֶה						
for the LORD						

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 22:13 (Good): Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed.

Isaiah 41:10 (References God): Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Romans 8:31 (References God): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

1 Corinthians 16:13 (Parallel theme): Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

Hebrews 13:5 (Parallel theme): Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Isaiah 41:13 (References God): For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

1 Chronicles 28:10 (References Lord): Take heed now; for the LORD hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it.
