

1 Chronicles 29:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him such royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.

Analysis

Theological Analysis: This passage falls within the section on Offerings for temple and Solomon's coronation. The Hebrew term נְדָבָה (nedavah) - freewill offering is theologically significant here, pointing to Generous giving from willing hearts. 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 Generous giving from willing hearts. 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's ultimate self-offering.

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 Offerings for temple and Solomon's coronation 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does this verse's emphasis on Generous giving from willing hearts challenge or affirm your current spiritual priorities and practices?
2. What does Christ's ultimate self-offering 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

כָּל	לְעֵינַי י	לִמְעַלָּה	שְׁלֹמֹה	אֶת	יְהוָה ה	וַיְגַדֵּל ל
H3605	H5869	H4605	H8010	H853	H3068	H1431
	in the sight	exceedingly	Solomon		And the LORD	magnified
לֹא	אֶשְׂר	מִלְכֹּת וְ	ה וְ	עָלָיו	וַיֵּתֵן	יִשְׂרָאֵל:
H3808	H834	H4438	H1935	H5921	H5414	H3478
	upon him such royal	majesty		and bestowed	him in Israel	
יִשְׂרָאֵל:	עַל	לִפְנֵי יו	מִלֶּךְ	כָּל	עַל	הֵן ה
H3478	H5921	H6440	H4428	H3605	H5921	H1961
him in Israel	before	as had not been on any king				

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 3:13 (Kingdom): And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

2 Chronicles 1:1 (Kingdom): And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly.

2 Chronicles 1:12 (Kingdom): Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

Ecclesiastes 2:9 (Parallel theme): So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.

Joshua 3:7 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.