

1 Chronicles 29:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly,
because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD:
and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

שָׁמַחַת	בְּעֵם	עַל	הַתְּנִדְבָּר	בְּ	בְּ
also rejoiced	Then the people	H5921	for that they offered willingly	H3588	heart
H8055	H5971		H5068		H3820
שָׁלֹם	הַתְּנִדְבָּר	לִיהְיוֹן	זֶה	בְּ	בְּ
because with perfect	for that they offered willingly	to the LORD	H1571	and David	
H8003	H5068	H3068		H1732	
בָּרוּךְ	שָׁמַחַת	גָּדוֹלָה:	בְּ	בְּ	
the king	also rejoiced	joy	with great		
H4428	H8055	H8057	H1419		

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 8:3 (Parallel theme): For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;

1 Kings 8:61 (References Lord): Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.

1 Chronicles 29:17 (Parallel theme): I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee.

John 15:11 (Parallel theme): These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Philippians 4:10 (References Lord): But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

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