

2 Chronicles 31:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.

Analysis

Summary of Hezekiah's reforms: 'And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.' Three spheres of activity - temple service, law, commandments - encompassed comprehensive covenant faithfulness. The key phrase 'with all his heart' (b'khol levavo) indicates wholehearted, undivided devotion. The result was prosperity (tzalach - success). This illustrates the Deuteronomic principle that wholehearted obedience brings blessing. Yet even Hezekiah later showed pride (32:25), demonstrating that past wholeheartedness doesn't guarantee future faithfulness. Only Christ maintained perfect wholehearted devotion throughout His life.

Historical Context

Hezekiah's multifaceted reforms (c. 715-686 BCE) - removing high places, restoring temple worship, organizing Levitical service, and celebrating Passover - made him Judah's greatest reformer since David. His wholehearted approach produced tangible prosperity and spiritual renewal.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How wholehearted is your service to God - fully devoted or divided by competing loyalties?
2. What specific work is God calling you to begin with wholehearted commitment rather than half-hearted effort?

Interlinear Text

וְכֹל	בַּעֲבוּדֵת	הַחַלְלָה	אֲשֶׁר	מִשְׁמָשׁ	הַחַלְלָה	בַּעֲבוּדֵת	בֵּית
H3605	And in every work	H834	that he began	in the service	of the house		
	H4639		H2490		H5656		H1004
וְכֹל	לְאֱלֹהִים	לְאֱלֹהִים	וּבְתוּרָה	וּבְמִצְרָיִם	לִדְרָשׁ	לִדְרָשׁ	בְּכָל
his God	and in the law		and in the commandments		to seek	his God	H3605
H430	H8451		H4687		H1875	H430	
וְכֹל	לְבַבּוּ	לְבַבּוּ	עָשָׂה	וְהִצְלִים:	וְהִצְלִים:	וְהִצְלִים:	
it with all his heart	he did		and prospered				
H3824	H6213		H6743				

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 6:33 (References God): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Jeremiah 29:13 (Parallel theme): And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Deuteronomy 6:5 (References God): And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 (Parallel theme): Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

1 Chronicles 22:13 (Parallel theme): 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.

Deuteronomy 10:12 (References God): And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,

1 Chronicles 22:19 (References God): Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 29:9 (Word): Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

1 Kings 2:4 (Word): That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

2 Chronicles 20:26 (Parallel theme): And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah; for there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day.