

2 Chronicles 36:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.

Analysis

Chronicles' final verse records Cyrus's proclamation: 'Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.' This remarkable ending - a Persian king acknowledging YHWH as 'God of heaven' with universal sovereignty - demonstrates God's glory reaching the nations. The invitation 'let him go up' reverses the exile's 'going down' to Babylon. Ending with this hopeful, incomplete sentence points readers forward - the story continues beyond Chronicles, ultimately fulfilled in Christ who brings ultimate restoration and builds the eternal temple (the church).

Historical Context

This decree (538 BCE) initiated the return under Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah. The Chronicler ends here (though chronologically Ezra-Nehemiah continue the narrative) to emphasize hope - God's promises endure beyond judgment. The incomplete sentence stylistically drives readers to participate in the ongoing story.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the invitation 'let him go up' speak to your own journey of spiritual return to God and His purposes?
2. What does it mean that God's story continues beyond Scripture's final page, with you participating in His ongoing kingdom work?

Interlinear Text

בָּא	רֹזֶן	מַלְכָּה	וְתָתָתָה	כָּלְהָ	פְּנֵי	סְמִינָה	לְגַנְגָּה	כָּמְרָשָׁן	אָמְרָה	רָאָה	כָּהָה
H3541	Thus saith	Cyrus	king	of Persia	H3605	All the kingdoms	of the earth				
	H559	H3566	H4428	H6539		H4467					H776
given	H0	The LORD	God	of heaven	H1931	me and he hath charged					
H5414		H3068	H430	H8064		H6485					
me to build	H0	him an house	in Jerusalem		H834	which is in Judah					
H5921		H1129	H1004	H3389		H3063					
אָלָבָה	רָאָה	בְּיֹהוָה	הָהָרָן	בְּיֹרְשָׁלָם							
H4310	H0	H3605	Who is there among you of all his people	H5971	The LORD	God					
					H3068	H430					
עַמְּךָ	בְּךָ	מִךָּה	עַמְּךָ								
H5973			בְּיֹעַלְךָ								
			be with him and let him go up	H5927							

Additional Cross-References

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

Daniel 5:23 (References God): But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

Daniel 2:37 (Kingdom): Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

Daniel 4:35 (Parallel theme): And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Daniel 2:21 (Kingdom): And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

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