

2 Chronicles 5:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.

Analysis

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Solomon's reign, specifically focusing on God's presence dwelling with His people. The Chronicler presents Solomon's faithfulness in temple building and worship as paradigmatic for post-exilic Israel. Unlike the Kings account which includes Solomon's failures, Chronicles emphasizes his positive example during his faithful years.

Theologically, the passage demonstrates that wholehearted seeking of God results in His manifest blessing and presence. The temple construction and dedication represent the climax of God's dwelling with Israel, foreshadowing the incarnation when God would dwell among humanity in Christ. The elaborate preparations and careful adherence to divine pattern emphasize that worship must occur on God's terms.

Cross-references to the tabernacle (Exodus 25-40), Davidic covenant (2 Samuel 7, 1 Chronicles 17), and Messianic prophecies illuminate how Solomon's temple points toward Christ as the true meeting place between God and humanity. The

material glory of Solomon's kingdom anticipates the greater glory of the Messianic age.

Historical Context

The reign of Solomon (970-930 BCE) represents Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity. The temple construction began in Solomon's fourth year (966 BCE), exactly 480 years after the Exodus according to 1 Kings 6:1. The Chronicler writes from a post-exilic perspective (450-400 BCE), emphasizing themes relevant to the restored community: temple worship, Levitical service, and covenant faithfulness.

Archaeological evidence confirms Solomon's extensive building projects and international trade relationships. The temple's design incorporated Phoenician architectural elements, evidenced by parallel structures discovered in Syria and Lebanon. Solomon's alliance with Hiram of Tyre provided both materials (Lebanese cedar) and craftsmen for the construction.

The post-exilic audience, having returned from Babylonian captivity to rebuild the temple, needed encouragement that God's presence and blessing could be restored through faithful worship. The Chronicler presents Solomon's reign as paradigmatic—when leaders and people seek God wholeheartedly, He dwells among them and prospers them.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen understanding of God's presence as the source of true blessing and success?
2. What does this passage teach about the importance of following God's prescribed patterns in worship and service?

3. How does Solomon's example in Ark Brought to Temple point forward to Christ as the ultimate fulfillment?

Interlinear Text

אָז	יָקָה יל	שָׁלֹמֹה ה	אֶת	זִקְנֵי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	וְאֶת	כָּל
H227	assembled	Then Solomon	H853	the elders	of Israel	H853	H3605
	H6950	H8010		H2205	H3478		
	וְכָל רָאשֵׁי	הַמִּטּוֹת	נְשִׂיאֵי	הָאָבֻת	לְבָנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל	
	and all the heads	of the tribes	the chief	of the fathers	of the children	of Israel	
	H7218	H4294	H5387	H1	H1121	H3478	
אֶל	יְרוּשָׁלַם	לְהַעֲלֹת	אֶת	אֹרֹן	בְּרִית	יְהוָה	
H413	unto Jerusalem	to bring up	H853	the ark	of the covenant	of the LORD	
	H3389	H5927		H727	H1285	H3068	
	מֵעַיִר	דָּוִד יד	הַיָּא	צִיּוֹן:			
	out of the city	of David	H1931	which is Zion			
	H5892	H1732		H6726			

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 6:12 (References Lord): And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David with gladness.

2 Chronicles 1:4 (References David): But the ark of God had David brought up from Kirjath-jearim to the place which David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem.