

2 Chronicles 6:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

Analysis

Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Solomon's reign, specifically focusing on Covenant faithfulness and answered prayer. 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

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 Solomon's Dedication Prayer point forward to Christ as the ultimate fulfillment?

Interlinear Text

וְאַתָּה הָ	תִּשְׁמַע	מִן	הַשָּׁמַיִם	מָקוֹם	שְׁבֶתֶךָ
H859	Then hear	H4480	thou from the heavens	place	even from thy dwelling
	H8085		H8064	H4349	H3427
וַעֲשֵׂה יְת	כָּכָל	אֲשֶׁר	נִקְרָא	אֵל יְב	הַנִּזְכָּר
and do	H3605	H834	calleth	H413	according to all that the stranger
H6213			H7121		H5237
וְלֹא יָדָע	וְלֹא יָדָע	כָּל	כְּעַמְּךָ	הָאָרֶץ	אֶת
H4616	and may know	H3605	thee as doth thy people	of the earth	H853
	H3045		H5971	H776	
שְׁמֶךָ	וְלִירְאָה	אֶתְּךָ	כְּעַמְּךָ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	וְלֹא יָדָע
by thy name	and fear	H853	thee as doth thy people	Israel	and may know
H8034	H3372		H5971	H3478	H3045
כִּי	שְׁמֶךָ	נִקְרָא	עַל	הַבַּיִת	אֲשֶׁר
H3588	by thy name	calleth	H5921	that this house	H2088
	H8034	H7121		H1004	H834
בְּנִיתִי:					
which I have built					
H1129					

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 7:14 (Parallel theme): If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

