

2 Chronicles 7:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.

Analysis

And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Solomon's reign, specifically focusing on Divine acceptance with conditional covenant warnings. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

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 God's Glory Fills Temple point forward to Christ as the ultimate fulfillment?

Interlinear Text

וְאָמַר וְ	עַל	אֲשֶׁר	רָצוּב וְ	אֶת	יְהוָה הוּא
And it shall be answered	H5921	H834	Because they forsook	H853	the LORD
H559			H5800		H3068
יְהוָה	אֲשֶׁר	רָצוּב וְ	הוֹצִיָאָם	מֵאֶרֶץ	מִצְרָיִם
God	of their fathers	H834	which brought them forth	out of the land	
H430	H1		H3318	H776	
מִצְרָיִם	וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ וְ	אֲחֵרִים	יְהוָה	וְשָׁתַחֲוּ וְ	לֵה
of Egypt	and laid hold	God	on other	and worshipped	H0
H4714	H2388	H430	H312	H7812	
וַיַּעֲבֹד וְ	עַל	כֵּן	הֵב יְהוָה	אֶת	עָלֵיהֶם
them and served	H5921	H3651	them therefore hath he brought	H5921	H853
H5647			H935		
כָּל	הָרָעָה	הַזֹּאת:			
H3605	all this evil	H2063			
	H7451				

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 9:12 (Evil): And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem.

