

2 Chronicles 9:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne, to be king for the LORD thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do judgment and justice.

Analysis

Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne, to be king for the LORD thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do judgment and justice.

This verse contributes to the narrative of Solomon's reign, specifically focusing on International recognition of God's blessing. 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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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 Queen of Sheba and Solomon's Wealth point forward to Christ as the ultimate fulfillment?

Interlinear Text

בָּרוּךְ יְהֹוָה אֲלֹהֵינוּ יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה
H1961 be the LORD because thy God H3068 H430 H1288 H834 H2654 H0
לְתִתְנַצְּבֶּה עַל כִּסֵּא כָּסֵא לְמִלְחָמָה לְמִלְחָמָה
H5921 in thee to set H3678 H4428 H3068 H430
אֲלֹהֵינוּ יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה
loved because thy God H853 Israel to establish them for ever
H160 H430 H3478 H5975 H5769
לְעַזְלָם לְפָעָמִים לְפָעָמִים וְאֶתְקָבָת
H4428 he thee king over them to do H6213 H4941 H6666
וְאֶתְקָבָת מִשְׁפָט מִשְׁפָט וְאֶתְקָבָת
in thee to set H5921 he thee king over them to do judgment and justice
H5414 H4428 H6213 H4941 H6666

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 2:11 (Love): Then Huram the king of Tyre answered in writing, which he sent to Solomon, Because the LORD hath loved his people, he hath made thee king over them.

1 Chronicles 29:23 (Kingdom): Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father, and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him.

Deuteronomy 7:8 (Love): But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

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