

# Ezra 3:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

## Analysis

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The foundation ceremony's formal character—'when the builders laid the foundation'—marks a covenant moment. The priests' liturgical vestments, trumpets, and cymbals restored Davidic worship patterns (1 Chronicles 15-16). Praising God 'after the ordinance of David king of Israel' demonstrates submitting current practice to biblical precedent. This is the regulative principle—worship must follow divine prescription, not human innovation.

## Historical Context

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David organized Levitical worship (1 Chronicles 23-26), establishing patterns that governed temple service. The trumpets and cymbals weren't arbitrary but divinely ordained for sacred assembly. Maintaining these forms through seventy years without temple required oral tradition and committed teaching. The ceremony's formality dignified the foundation-laying as sacred, not merely functional construction.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## 1 John 4:8 — God is love

### Study Questions

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1. What does praising God 'after the ordinance of David' teach about balancing historical worship forms with contemporary expression?
2. How does formal liturgy serve to focus attention on God rather than performers or congregational feelings?

### Interlinear Text

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וַיִּסֵּד ו	הַבְּנֵי יָם	אֶת	הַיֵּכָל ל	יְהוָה ה	
<b>laid the foundation</b>	<b>And when the builders</b>	H853	<b>of the temple</b>	<b>of the LORD</b>	
H3245	H1129		H1964	H3068	
וַעֲמִידוֹ	הַכֹּהֲנִים יָם	מְלִבָּשִׁים יָם	בְּחִצְצָר וְת	וְהַלְוִיִּם	בְּנֵי
<b>they set</b>	<b>the priests</b>	<b>in their apparel</b>	<b>with trumpets</b>	<b>and the Levites</b>	<b>the sons</b>
H5975	H3548	H3847	H2689	H3881	H1121
אָסָף	בְּמִצְלֹת יָם	לְהַלֵּל	אֶת	יְהוָה ה	עַל
<b>of Asaph</b>	<b>with cymbals</b>	<b>to praise</b>	H853	<b>of the LORD</b>	H5921
H623	H4700	H1984		H3068	
יְדִי	יְדִי	מֶלֶךְ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:		
<b>of David</b>	<b>king</b>	<b>of Israel</b>			
H1732	H4428	H3478			

### Additional Cross-References

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**Zechariah 4:10** (References Lord): For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.