David's Charge to Solomon

Introduction

1 Chronicles 28:1-10

- 1. David had a great desire before the Lord and that was "to build an house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the Lord" (Vs 2).
 - A. But since David was a man of war, God did not permit him to build the temple.
 - 1) David then gathers all the children of Israel together and announces to them that God has chosen his son Solomon to be king and to build the temple.
 - a) Then, still before the leadership of the nation, David issued this charge to Solomon:

1 Chronicles 28:9 As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.

- 2. Although this was a statement made to an ancient king, it contains good instruction and exhortation for us today.
 - A. Let's give attention to the things that David told Solomon in this 9th verse.

Know The God of Your Father

1. Some today are like the Gentiles who Paul said:

Romans 1:21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

- A. Paul said that they did not like to retain God in their knowledge (Rom 1:28).
- 2. How can we know God today?
 - A. Let us allow the scriptures to answer that question:

1 John 2:3-4 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Serve Him with a Loyal Heart and a Willing Mind

- 1. Service to God has always been required of men.
 - A. The "perfect heart" follows directions from God.

1 Chronicles 29:19 And give my son Solomon a loyal heart to keep Your commandments and Your testimonies and Your statutes, to do all these things, and to build the temple for which I have made provision."

B. When Paul discussed the planned contribution of the Corinthians to assist needy brethren, what did he say they needed?

2 Corinthians 8:12 For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have.

2. Our service to God must be a wholehearted service!

Mark 12:30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment.

Matthew 5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

The Lord Searches All Hearts and Understands All the Intent of the Thoughts

1. We should be reminded of the statement the Lord made to Samuel when David was being selected as King.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

- A. In the Psalms, David talked about how God searched and knew him: He said God knew him when he sat down and when he got up; that he was acquainted with all his ways and words.
 - 1) There was no place David could go from the presence of the Lord.
 - 2) He later welcomed the search of God:

Psalms 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

2. God has always known of the evil imaginations of the hearts of men - even back in Noah's time.

Genesis 6:5 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

A. Man is defiled before God because of evil thoughts. Jesus said:

Matthew 15:19-20

B. We must remember that we shall give account before God for our thoughts and actions. Many passages in the New Testament tell of this impending day.

Romans 14:12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

- 2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
 - 1) To the church in Thyatira, Jesus said:

Revelation 2:23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

If You Seek Him, He Will Be Found by You

1. In other words, if you seek the Lord, you can find Him. Jeremiah wrote:

Jeremiah 29:13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

- A. David said that a blessing is in store for those that "seek him with the whole heart" (Psalms 119:2).
 - 1) Jesus however, rebuked some people who sought Him for the wrong reason.

John 6:26 Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.

B. The apostle Paul told the people in Athens:

Acts 17:27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

1) Those who seek will find!

Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

2. What is promised to those who seek after the Lord?

Romans 2:7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;

A. Who are you seeking? What are you seeking?

If You Forsake Him, He Will Cast You off Forever

1. Joshua made a similar statement to the nation of Israel.

Joshua 24:20 If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good."

- 2. If we DO the will of God, He has promised us "I will never leave you, nor forsake you" (Heb 13:5).
 - A. We must understand that man is the one who does the "forsaking", when he turns aside to do evil. The Lord will not tolerate this, so He turns away.
 - 1) But, it is man that moves, not God. He is always constant.
 - 2) He is willing for us to be near Him. We simply must not forsake Him.

Conclusion

- 1. The 9th verse of the 28th chapter of 1 Chronicles is rich in advice.
- 2. May we be determined to make certain that we learn these valuable lessons from God's Word.
 - A. These "were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4).
- 3. Let's continue to study God's Word so that we can know:
 - A. The God of our fathers.
 - B. How to serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind.
 - C. That the Lord searches all our hearts and understands our imaginations.
 - D. That if we seek Him, we will find Him.
 - E. That if we forsake Him, we will be cast off forever.
 - 1) These are Bible truths! It is up to us as individuals to learn these truths and to live our lives as God has given us guidance.
 - 2) When we do, we will have a home in heaven with our Lord forever!

Invitation

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