**A HEART’S PURPOSE TO BUILD A CHURCH**

**Text: I Chronicles 28:1-10**

* 1 Now David assembled at Jerusalem all the leaders of Israel: the officers of the tribes and the captains of the divisions who served the king, the captains over thousands and captains over hundreds, and the stewards over all the substance and possessions of the king and of his sons, with the officials, the valiant men, and all the mighty men of valor.
* 2 Then King David rose to his feet and said, “Hear me, my brethren and my people: I *had* it in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and for the footstool of our God, and had made preparations to build it.
* 3 But God said to me, ‘You shall not build a house for My name, because you *have been* a man of war and have shed blood.’
* 4 However the Lord God of Israel chose me above all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever, for He has chosen Judah *to be* the ruler. And of the house of Judah, the house of my father, and among the sons of my father, He was pleased with me to make *me* king over all Israel.
* 5 And of all my sons (for the Lord has given me many sons) He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel.
* 6 Now He said to me, ‘It is your son Solomon *who* shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him *to be* My son, and I will be his Father.
* 7 Moreover I will establish his kingdom forever, if he is steadfast to observe My commandments and My judgments, as it is this day.’
* 8 Now therefore, in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the Lord, and in the hearing of our God, be careful to seek out all the commandments of the Lord your God, that you may possess this good land,
* and leave *it* as an inheritance for your children after you forever.
* 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.
* 10 Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it.”

**INTRO:**

* Church-community of believers
* Literal church is the building structure
* Spiritual church-is the body of Christ comprised of people who believe in Jesus as the Son of the Living God

**AIM:**

* FOR US TO BUILD A LITERAL CHURCH
* FOR US TO EDIFY THE BODY OF CHRIST (the spiritual church)
* I Peter 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**I. DAVID’S DESIRE TO BUILD THE HOUSE OF GOD-V 1**

* He dwelt in the house of cedar
* But the ark of the covenant was under the tents
* He felt guilty of the case
* Just like in the case in the time of Haggai
* Haggai 1:2 This people says,“The time has not come, the time that the Lord’s house should be built.
* 3 Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying,
* 4 “*Is it* time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple[a] *to lie* in ruins?”
* 5 Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: “Consider your ways!
* 6 “You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink,
* but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages *to put* into a bag with holes.”
* 7 Thus says the Lord of hosts: “Consider your ways!
* 8 Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple,
* that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified,” says the Lord.
* 9 “*You* looked for much, but indeed *it came to* little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?” says the Lord of hosts. “Because of My house that *is in* ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house.
* 10 Therefore the heavens above you withhold the dew,
* and the earth withholds its fruit.
* 11 For I called for a drought on the land and the mountains, on the grain and the new wine and the oil, on whatever the ground brings forth, on men and livestock, and on all the labor of *your* hands.”

**II. DAVID’S WAY TO SUCCESS**

* He expand his territories/boundaries by conquering other nations
* Those nations pay tribute to him
* II Samuel 8:6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became David's servants, *and* brought tribute. So the LORD preserved David wherever he went.
* Then Nathan said to David, “Do all that *is* in your heart, for God *is* with you-v 2
* Spiritually speaking, if we can expand our boundaries, building a church (literal structure is not a problem)
* Ex. Phil Arena of INC
* 55, 000 capacity
* Worlds’ largest indoor arena
* Example figure
* 100 regular attendees and everyone pay tithes
* £100X100=£10,000 a month
* £120,000 a year
* The best way for us to be able to build a literal church is edify the body of Christ first
* Once we become many, budget would be easier
* We just have to desire purpose it in our hearts
* Some other mega churches are still renting, why do we have to build ours
* Ex. Hillsongs
* Some others are concerned on helping the poor
* There’s no problem about that but there’s no problem in building one

**III. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF BUILDING A TABERNACLE**

* Exodus 25:1 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying:
* 2 “Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.
* 3 And this *is* the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze
* 8 And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.
* We are the spiritual stones/church but it would be much better to have our own place of worship rather renting and moving from one place to the other
* Then, we could spend our rent expenses on something else
* We could reach more people and do more services

**IV. DAVID WAS PROHIBITED FROM BUILDING THE HOUSE OF GOD**

* He shed so much blood being a man of war
* His son Solomon was chosen to build instead
* God would not be glorified if all we wanted is the church building
* He won’t accept offering which is an abomination to Him
* Deuteronomy 23:18 “You shall not bring the wages of a harlot or the price of a dog to the house of the LORD your God for any vowed offering, for both of these *are* an abomination to the LORD your God.
* Ex 25:2 “Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.

**V. LET THE NAME OF THE LORD BE GLORIFIED**

* I Chron 22:12 “Only may the LORD give you wisdom and understanding, and give you charge concerning Israel, that you may keep the law of the LORD your God.
* “Then you will prosper, if you take care to fulfill the statutes and judgments with which the LORD charged Moses concerning

Israel. Be strong and of good courage; do not fear nor be dismayed-v 13

* Indeed I have taken much trouble to prepare for the house of the LORD one hundred thousand talents of gold and one million talents of silver…-V 14

* I Chronicles 22:19 “Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God. Therefore arise and build the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD and the holy articles of God into the house that is to be built for the name of the LORD.”

**CHALLENGE:**

* Are you with me in building the literal and spiritual church?
* Would you be willing to take much trouble in preparing this heart’s desire?
* Would you love to have our own place of worship?

**CONCLUSION:**

* EXODUS 25:2 “Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.
* EXODUS 25: 8 “And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.
* <http://www.godmosthigh.co.uk/Donate-NOW.htm>