

1 Chronicles 29:10–20

¹⁰ Therefore David blessed the LORD before all the assembly; and David said: “Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever.

¹¹ Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all.

¹² Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all.

¹³ “Now therefore, our God, We thank You And praise Your glorious name.

¹⁴ But who am I, and who are my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You.

¹⁵ For we are aliens and pilgrims before You, As were all our fathers; Our days on earth are as a shadow, And without hope.

¹⁶ “O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have prepared to build You a house for Your holy name is from Your hand, and is all Your own.

¹⁷ I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things; and now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here to offer willingly to You.

¹⁸ O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intent of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and fix their heart toward You.

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.”

²⁰ Then David said to all the assembly, “Now bless the LORD your God.” So all the assembly blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD and the king.

"Worship is Giving" **1 Chronicles 29:10-20**

INTRO:

Have you ever tried to define the word "worship?" The Greek word used for worship in the New Testament means to prostrate oneself before someone. We can say worship is when our

hearts are prostrated before the Lord, recognizing His glory and majesty. What does worship look like in action?

Ultimately worship is giving. We will see this here in **1 Chronicles 29**. We will listen to David's final address to the nation of Israel. David was concerned about the house of the Lord. Earlier in his reign, David realized he lived in a nice house, while the ark of God lived in a tent. However, God's plan was not for David to build the temple. Instead, building the Temple would fall to Solomon. Although David could not build the Temple, he could make provision for the building before his death. This is exactly what David did. Because David loved the LORD so much and wanted so much to worship Him, he set aside a fortune to give to God as a final act of worship. (v. 1-9) David's giving provoked the people of God to give. There followed a tremendous celebration as the people gave unto the LORD. Finally, David ended this giving party with a prayer of commitment. Listen to David as he worships the LORD in prayer.

I. Worship Is Giving God The Adoration That He Deserves. (v. 10-13)

II. Worship Is Giving God of Our Goods. (v. 14-16)

III. Worship Is Giving God Our Hearts. (v. 17-20)

I. Worship Is Giving God The Adoration That He Deserves. (v. 10-13)

“Therefore David blessed the LORD before all the assembly; and David said: ‘Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all. Now therefore, our God, We thank You and praise Your glorious name.’”

1 Chronicles 29:10-13

A. David began the worship time by praising God in his prayer. Many folks do not understand the concept of praise. Praise is to confess or to recite to God who He is and what He has done. It is also to boast of His wonders!

1. David did just that. He started his worship by giving to the LORD the glory which is rightfully His.

2. First, he glorified God for who He is in relationship with the people. (v. 10)

“Therefore, David blessed the LORD before all the assembly; and David said: ‘Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever.’”

He is their LORD (Yahweh), the always present, always faithful, covenant keeping God.

He is one who has consistently shown Himself strong on their behalf!

B. Next, he ascribed to the Lord glory by reciting some of His attributes. (v. 11)

“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all.”

1. First he exalted God's greatness. The Hebrew word speaks of God's importance.

David prayed in effect, “Lord, you are the most important being in existence. Every other being draws its existence from you.”

2. Next, he remembered God's power. Yahweh is the overcoming One. No one can ever defeat Him. No one can frustrate His purposes.

3. His is also the glory. The Hebrew word means "beauty and honor." You are the glorious, beautiful being above all others. We don't usually think of God in these terms, but He is. He is perfect in all of His attributes and beautiful in all He created.

4. The LORD is victorious. The Hebrew word speaks of perpetual preeminence and victory. David used this word to say, "LORD, you are everlasting, you are the preeminent one, you are the brilliant leader who brings us always to victory!"

5. His is the majesty. The LORD is full of splendor, glory, and honor. This word is very closely related to the word translated glory above. God's beauty is in view, as well as the radiance of His person. You are simply wonderful! All praise and honor belong to you!

6. Everything that exists is His. David found great joy in this reality. All that is in heaven and earth is yours. The Kingdom is yours and you are the head of all! (You are the King!) In the **Psalms** David wrote, ***"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."*** We should find great delight in this too! Someday our praise in heaven will center around this truth. **(Revelation 4:11)**

C. Finally, he glorified God by remembering what He has done. **(v. 12,13)**

1. All of this follows directly from who the Lord is. First, all wealth and human achievement come directly from the LORD. We might want to say, "No! I am a self-made man!" But the truth is all of our assets and abilities are gifts from God and when He wants to He can take them all away. Remember Job? He was the Bill Gates of the ancient world until God took it all away!

2. Next, God reigns over all. He is in control of all the circumstances of life. Perhaps the scariest moment in our lives is the moment we recognize we really have control over very little. The happiest moments are when we learn that our heavenly Father controls it all!

3. God gives to all. He is the source of our standing. He is able to make us great, to give us our place in life. If you are a chief, God is the reason. If you are an Indian, God is why you are in that position. He is also the one who gives us the strength by which we go through life.

D. When we recognize that God is the source of all, we join David in thanking and praising God. So, worship is first giving God the glory due His name.

II. Worship Is Giving God of Our Goods. (v. 14-16)

"Now therefore, our God, we thank You And praise Your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You." 1 Chronicles 29:14-16

A. Worship is also giving to God of our goods. Before we are motivated to give to the LORD, we have to understand just who He is! But once we understand this, we recognize the realities David is about to show us about giving as a part of our worship. First, worshipping by giving to God of the substance He has given us is a privilege. (v. 14,16)

1. It is a privilege because we can't give Him anything that He doesn't already own. I remember a story my mother told me when I was a little boy about the little boy who wanted to give his grandmother something special so he picked a bouquet of roses from her flower garden to give her. Still when we give to God, this is exactly what we do. We simply give to Him what is His already. Do we think this way when we give to God? Do we realize that giving to God is a **“grace,”** an undeserved kindness? It is. What's more, God even promises to bless us for our giving to Him.

2. It is a privilege because even our will to obey God and to give to Him willingly comes from God Himself. Humanity's natural inclination is not to give to God. It is only as the Lord transforms us that He gives us a desire to worship Him by giving our gifts to Him.

B. Worshipping by giving to God is a blessing because it allows us to have an eternal impact. (v. 15)

“For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding.”

1. Because of God we are somebodies. David asserted a shocking truth. The Jews had for centuries prided themselves on the fact that they had a unique relationship with God. All non-Jews were strangers and sojourners in the earth, but the Jews were God's special people. But David reminded them that this is only because of the grace of God. The LORD is the one who made them, and they were nothing until He made them someone by His gracious choice.

2. Second, compared with the God who inhabits eternity, our lives are as a shadow upon the earth. Second, compared with the god who inhabits eternity, our lives are as a shadow upon the earth. Our treasures will soon be gone and someone else will own them. We also need to make choices that make an eternal difference while we can. This means giving to God!

C. Worship then is giving God the glory that is due His name. It is also giving Him of our goods. Finally, worship ultimately comes from giving God our hearts.

III. Worship Is Giving God Our Hearts. (v. 17-20)

“I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things; and now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here to offer willingly to You. O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intent of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and fix their heart toward You. 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.”

1 Chronicles 29:17-20

A. David expressed this truth by showing his concern about his own heart and the people's hearts in giving. (v. 17-18) This only followed, for if all of our stuff comes from God and belongs to God, the only thing which is really important in our giving is our heart attitude. David cared not so much about what he and the people gave, but with how they gave it!

B. He also cared about Solomon's heart. (v. 19) Worship is also giving to God our lives in service to Him. For Solomon's service to be worship, his heart had to belong to the LORD. This was David's prayer.

C. There is a very interesting passage in **Matthew 6:19-21**.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

It is eleven o'clock. Do you know where your heart is right now?

Hymn #379 Take My Life and Let It Be