



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Building The Temple

Focus Verse: 1 Kings 5:5 - And, behold, I purpose to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spake unto David my father, saying, Thy son, whom I will set upon thy throne in thy room, he shall build an house unto my name.

Lesson Text: 1 Chronicles 22:11-16; 1 Kings 5:1-12

Truth About God: God's plan and promises extend to multiple generations.

Truth For My Life: I will do what God calls me to do.

David committed gross atrocities, yet he is declared by Scripture to be a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22). At some level, even when rebounding from his lowest moments, David had a deeply held desire to honor God. This consuming motivation stayed with him until the latter days of his life when he purposed to build something for the name of the Lord which would stand long after he was gone.

As David was nearing his death, he called Solomon to him and said, *"My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God"* (1 Chronicles 22:7). His heart would smite him because he had a permanent home, but there was no permanent structure for God's **"house."** Two things are notable about David's plans and desires. First, David wanted to give God his best. He was not content to give his master anything less. Second, David did not desire to build it for the sake of his own name but to build it **"unto the name of the Lord."** Anything we do for God must be with that pure motive, honoring the name of our God. Even if people forget we ever had a hand in it, the only name worthy of honor is His.

When David decided to begin the process of building the Temple, God explained He would not allow it (1 Chronicles 22:8). Just because the Lord says no to something we desire does not automatically mean we have displeased Him. It might just be that His plan precludes some other pursuits. Rather than pout about what he could not do, David applied his efforts to do what he could. He could gather the needed resources for the construction project (1 Chronicles 22:2-5). *"Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the LORD God of Israel"* (1 Chronicles 22:6). He let him know that it wasn't his idea, but God's, for the Lord had said of Solomon by name, *"He shall build an house for my name"* (1 Chronicles 22:10).

Solomon accepted David's charge and built the Temple, it happened because he embraced the vision his father had given him. Also, note Solomon's words to Hiram, king of Tyre: *"And, behold, I purpose to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spake unto David my father, saying, Thy son, whom I will set upon thy throne in thy room, he shall build an house unto my name"* (1 Kings 5:5). Solomon accepted that this assignment was the direct will of God for him and that he would be acting on divine direction. Each of us has a purpose in God's kingdom. Whatever that looks like for you, **the key to its fulfillment is for you to embrace it as your own.**

Genuine productivity is not about getting as much done for God as we can manage. It is doing the good work God has for us on a given day. God's timing and purposes are perfect, but only if we hear from Him can we know what that looks like in practical Christian living. His voice will harmonize with the voice of our spiritual authority to make God's plans for us clear. Then it is our responsibility to give our passion and energy to doing what God has directed. Having heard His pleasure, it is time to do His pleasure.

Solomon's willingness to receive direction and fulfill it should challenge us to do the same. **What has God spoken to you about?** What is your vision and passion, even if it first belonged to another? What has your pastor asked you to invest in with your time and talents? What does your local church need from you? Have you taken time to speak with God about these types of questions? Solomon's Temple stands as one of the great construction accomplishments in the ancient world. **Your ministry efforts can stand as a lasting testimony in this current world and in the world to come.** Catch the vision. Do whatever you can. Do whatever God asks.