

A HEART FOR SERVICE

2 CHRONICLES 29

Text:

Introduction:

This book covers about three hundred years of Judah's history. Primarily it is the record of a spiritually wicked state. God's people had turned from God to other gods.

2 Chronicles 28:1-2 (KJV)

¹ Ahaz *was* twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: but he did not *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father: ² For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for Baalim.

However there is a bright spot that comes shining through.

2 Chronicles 29:1-2 (KJV)

¹ Hezekiah began to reign *when he was* five and twenty years old, and he reigned nine and twenty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah. ² And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done.

Doing right in the eyes of the Lord should be a goal for every believer. We should develop a heart that honors the Lord through our service to Him.

Hezekiah led the people of Judah to a spiritual revival. In a time of moral degradation one man made a difference with God's people.

1. THE PURPOSE OF HIS HEART

A. To make a covenant with the Lord.

2 Chronicles 29:10 (KJV)

¹⁰ Now *it is* in mine heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel, that his fierce wrath may turn away from us.

Any good thing that happens with God must start with our hearts.

B. To challenge the Priests and Levites

2 Chronicles 29:11 (KJV)

¹¹ My sons, be not now negligent: for the LORD hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense.

2. THE PERFORMANCE FROM HIS HEART

2 Chronicles 29:15-19 (KJV)

¹⁵ And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD. ¹⁶ And the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD, to cleanse *it*, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took *it*, to carry *it* out abroad into the brook Kidron. ¹⁷ Now they began on the first *day* of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of the LORD: so they sanctified the house of the LORD in

eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first month they made an end. ¹⁸ Then they went in to Hezekiah the king, and said, We have cleansed all the house of the LORD, and the altar of burnt offering, with all the vessels thereof, and the shewbread table, with all the vessels thereof. ¹⁹ Moreover all the vessels, which king Ahaz in his reign did cast away in his transgression, have we prepared and sanctified, and, behold, they *are* before the altar of the LORD.

A. Cleansing

B. Sacrifice

2 Chronicles 29:20-22 (KJV)

²⁰ Then Hezekiah the king rose early, and gathered the rulers of the city, and went up to the house of the LORD. ²¹ And they brought seven bullocks, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven he goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the sanctuary, and for Judah. And he commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer *them* on the altar of the LORD. ²² So they killed the bullocks, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled *it* on the altar: likewise, when they had killed the rams, they sprinkled the blood upon the altar: they killed also the lambs, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar.

3. The Presentation from His Heart

2 Chronicles 29:27-30 (KJV)

²⁷ And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the LORD began *also* with the trumpets, and with the instruments *ordained* by David king of Israel. ²⁸ And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded: *and all this continued* until the burnt offering was finished. ²⁹ And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshipped. ³⁰ Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing

praise unto the LORD with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped.