

NOW IT IS MINE HEART

2 CHRONICLES 29:1-10

Text: 2 Chronicles 29:10

(2 Chronicles 29:10) "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."

Introduction:

In 2 Chronicles chapter 29, there is one bright spot that comes shining through. The bright spot is found in verse 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 God should be the goal of every Christian. We should develop a heart to render service unto the Saviour. God used king Hezekiah, who began his reign at the age of 25, to lead the people of Judah to a spiritual revival. He led them to restore Temple, to offer sacrifices to God and to give a great offering of thanks for the blessings of God. In that time of moral and religious degeneration, one man made a difference with God's people. That man's name was Hezekiah.

Notice:

1. THE PURPOSE OF HIS HEART

A. Make a covenant with the Lord

(2 Chronicles 29:10) "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."

1. Any good thing that happens with God must start with our hearts.
2. Hezekiah purposed in his heart that he was going to make things right with God.
3. He could not sit content while sin ran wild.
4. Christians should not be able to stand by and watch this country go to the Devil
 - a. Though we may be a minority (Christians) we still need to stand for right.

B. He challenged the Priest and the Levites

(2 Chronicles 29:11) "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."

1. Hezekiah took the challenge to the Levites

a. The Levites were the spiritual leaders, but were neglecting their duty

Illustration:

Parents in California that used drugs

They left some cocaine on the table and one of their children ingested it, later dying as a result of it. The parents were charged with negligence, child endangerment, and manslaughter.

They deserved to be punished, but there is nothing worse than the negligence of a preacher of God or a believer who does not proclaim the Gospel.

2. Hezekiah brought the burden to his people.

Illustration:

The only thing necessary for evil to prevail is for good men to do absolutely nothing

a. There are too many lukewarm Christians today.

1. Don't rock the boat

2. Don't involve me

3. Don't bother me

b. They had not been doing their job and it was time to get right and get going.

Hezekiah was only one man, and he was fighting a tremendous legacy of wickedness, but he said that he had made a covenant with God, and was going to do something for the Lord this day.

2. THE PERFORMANCE FROM HIS HEART

(2 Chronicles 29:15-19) "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 showbread 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. The men removed the sinful paraphernalia from the house of God.

(2 Kings 18:4) "He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan."

1. We see the comparison to the worldliness in churches today.

a. If Christians want God to bless their churches, they must believe in holy righteous living.

b. We must not allow the rubbish of sin to creep into the house of God.

2. We can make all kinds of resolutions and decisions, but God is not pleased with good intentions alone.

Hezekiah purposed in his heart to make a covenant with God saying that if God would use him, he would try to make a difference. The purpose of his heart led him to carry out his plan.

3. THE PRESENTATION FROM HIS HEART

(2 Chronicles 29:27-30) "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."

A. After Hezekiah purposed in his heart to serve the Lord, the people gave a presentation from their hearts.

Illustration:

We too need to praise the Lord with words like

“Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!”

“There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel’s veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.”

B. The presentation from his heart was made in
the form of an offering of thanks

(2 Chronicles 29:31) "Then Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the LORD, come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the LORD. And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank offerings; and as many as were of a free heart burnt offerings."

Close:

How did the story end. (2 Chronicles 29:35) "And also the burnt offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace offerings, and the drink offerings for every burnt offering. So the service of the house of the LORD was set in order."

The wickedness had been done away with and now the house of God was being used for its intended purpose.

(2 Chronicles 29:36) "And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, that God had prepared the people: for the thing was done suddenly."

Hezekiah rejoiced because God had prepared the people. God wants to prepare you too. God wants to do something in each heart; great things could be done through your life and the collective work of God's people! When God works in your heart, get ready, because He will work through your life. He had to work in Hezekiah's heart before He could work through Hezekiah's life.