

In 1 Chronicles 22, David is nearing the end of his life, and his heart turns toward what mattered most to him—building a house for the Lord. When we're young, it's easy to chase after all the material things the world offers. We often believe they'll bring us happiness or fulfillment. But over time, after living through the highs and lows, we come to realize that the satisfaction those things bring is only temporary. It's then we discover that only God can truly satisfy the deepest longings of our hearts.

With that shift in perspective, we begin to focus on what really matters—what lasts. The wise person, like David, turns their attention to what satisfies for eternity: living for the glory of God.

Although God told David that he wouldn't be the one to build the temple because he had been a man of war and had shed much blood, David didn't complain or grow bitter. Instead, he humbly accepted God's will and did everything he could to set Solomon up for success. He gathered materials, organized the workers, and passed on wisdom and encouragement.

David's example teaches us that even when God redirects our plans, we can still be part of His greater purpose. And when we reach a place in life where we see what truly matters, let's make sure our energy, our resources, and our legacy are aimed at what will last forever—the things we do for the glory of God.

David gathered materials—gold, silver, iron, bronze, timber—and skilled workers in great abundance. He did all he could so that Solomon would be set up for success. Then, he called his son and gave him a heartfelt charge: *“Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be dismayed... Now arise and begin the work, and the Lord be with you”* (v. 13, 16).

David also reminded Solomon of the most important foundation: *“Only may the Lord give you wisdom and understanding... that you may keep the law of the Lord your God”* (v. 12). David knew from experience that true prosperity doesn't come from gold, armies, or influence—it comes from walking in obedience to God's Word.

### **What can we learn from this passage?**

#### **1. When God says “No,” you can still be part of the work.**

David wanted to build the temple, but God said no. Still, David didn't give up—he pivoted. He made preparations, invested his resources, and encouraged the next generation. *When God closes one door, He may be inviting you to serve in a different way.* You can still contribute to the Kingdom, even if your role isn't front and center.

#### **2. God uses imperfect people who are willing to obey.**

David wasn't a perfect man or a perfect father, but he loved the Lord and responded with humility when God corrected him. In this moment, he gives Solomon some of the best advice a parent can give: seek wisdom, obey God's Word, and be strong and courageous. *Even if you've made mistakes in your past, you can still pour truth into others and point them toward the Lord.*

### 3. There are spiritual laws that lead to blessing.

Just like physical laws govern the universe, spiritual laws govern our lives. David, echoing truths from Psalm 1 and the law of Moses, reminded Solomon that success and prosperity come through obedience to God's commands. You may not understand how it works—but it works. *Obedience to God leads to blessing.* It's not always material, but it's always meaningful.

### 4. Leave a legacy that outlives you.

David didn't just build a kingdom—he built momentum for the next generation. He passed on vision, values, and resources to Solomon. Think about your own legacy: *Are you investing in people, in the next generation, in the work of God that will go beyond your lifetime?*

### 5. God invites us to rise and get moving.

David's final words to Solomon and the leaders of Israel are powerful: *"Now arise, and be doing, and the Lord be with you"* (v. 16). God's presence meets us in action, not apathy. The work of God often begins with simple obedience—taking the next step by faith.

#### Reflection Questions:

- Are you willing to let go of your own plans to support God's greater purpose?
- How are you investing in others to carry on the work of the Lord?
- Do you trust that obedience leads to blessing, even when you don't fully understand how?
- What step of faith is God calling you to take today?

Let David's charge echo in your heart: *"Set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God. Arise, therefore, and build..."* (v. 19). Whatever the task God has given you—start it. Step into it. And trust that He'll be with you every step of the way.