

ENGINEERING DETAILS

LESSON 2

READ 1Chron. 12 and 13

How does the Tabernacle of David relate to the Church?

What principles can you glean from the underlined verses for the development of a strong local Church :

2.1

1 Chr 12:1-2

Now these were the men who came to David at Ziklag while he was still a fugitive from Saul the son of Kish; and they were among the mighty men, helpers in the war,

2.2

2 armed with bows, using both the right hand and the left in hurling stones and shooting arrows with the bow. They were of Benjamin, Saul's brethren.(NKJ)

2.3

1 Chr 12:8

8 Some Gadites joined David at the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men of valor, men trained for battle, who could handle shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as gazelles on the mountains:(NKJ)

2.4

1 Chr 12:15

15 These are the ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks; and they put to flight all those in the valleys, to the east and to the west.(NKJ)

2.5

1 Chr 12:17

17 And David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them, "If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment."(NKJ)

2.6

1 Chr 12:18

18 Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, and he said: "We are yours, O David; we are on your side, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you." So David received them, and made them captains of the troop.(NKJ)

2.7

1 Chr 12:23

23 Now these were the numbers of the divisions that were equipped for war, and came to David at Hebron to turn over the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the LORD:(NKJ)

2.8

1 Chr 12:32

32 of the children of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command;(NKJ)

2.9

1 Chr 12:33

33 of Zebulun there were fifty thousand who went out to battle, expert in war with all weapons of war, stouthearted men who could keep ranks;(NKJ)

2.10

1 Chr 12:38-39

38 All these men of war, who could keep ranks, came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king.

39 And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brethren had prepared for them.(NKJ)

2.11

1 Chr 12:40

40 Moreover those who were near to them, from as far away as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, were bringing food on donkeys and camels, on mules and oxen-- provisions of flour and cakes of figs and

cakes of raisins, wine and oil and oxen and sheep abundantly, for there was joy in Israel.(NKJ)

2.12

1 Chr 13:3,4

3 "and let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul."

4 Then all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.(NKJ)

ANSWERS - ENGINEERING DETAILS(LESSON 2 ABC)

The Tabernacle of David refers to :-

a) The Tabernacle that housed the throne of David. From here David reigned in Zion.

Isa 16:5

5 In mercy the throne will be established; and One will sit on it in truth, in the tabernacle of David, judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness."

(NKJ)

See 2 Kings 5:7-10,12 and 2 Kings 8:15

The Tabernacle that housed the Ark of the Covenant. Here the priestly ministry was conducted.

See 1 Chron. 16: 4 – 38/ 2 Sam. 6:17

These 2 tabernacles represented the 2 separate offices of the king and priest in the Old Testament.

These 2 tabernacles find their fulfillment in Christ as King and Priest. Christ is the Son of David- Matt.9:27 and Matt. 15:22. Christ is the King of kings – Rev. 17:14. Christ is our High Priest – Heb. 5:6,10. THESE 2 SEPARATE OFFICES ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER IN CHRIST.

The Tabernacle of David is also a prophetic picture of the church. The Church is called a ROYAL PRIESTHOOD(1 Peter 2:9). In Rev. 5:10 the saints are called KINGS and PRIESTS. Thus the KING, PRIEST ministry which were separate offices in the Old Testament and depicted by the 2 Tabernacles become ONE in the Church.

In Acts 15 James refers to Amos and declares that the restoration of the Tabernacle of David applies to the coming in of the Gentiles into the Church. James interprets Amos' prophecy under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. Peter did the same with Joel's prophecy.

THUS THE CHURCH IS MADE UP OF JEWS AND GENTILES , BOTH BECOMING ONE IN CHRIST IN THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK AS KING PRIESTS. THE CHURCH IS THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID THAT IS BEING RESTORED.

Acts 15:14-17

14 "Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name.

15 "And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:

16 'After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up;

17 So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, says the Lord who does all these things.'

(NKJ)

Amos 9:11-12

11 "On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old;

12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the Gentiles who are called by My name," says the LORD who does this thing.

(NKJ)

The Tabernacle of David is a picture of the Church. The royal priesthood of believers can be seen in the king, priest ministry of David. The buildup of David's army that leads to establishing of his throne is a prophetic picture of what is required in a church to manifest its kingly position.

RECOGNITION OF LEADERSHIP GRACE

"men who came to David"

We see a clear distinction of leader and followers. The men came to David. David did not run after, coerce or manipulate people to follow him. There was a spontaneous following. This grace must be upon the set man of a local church. In Luke 15 we see the father as the epicentre of the relationship. The father did not run after the prodigal. He was not manipulated by sentimentalism. The prodigal proved his sonship and the

validity of the internal process in his life by coming back to the epicentre.

PURITY OF MOTIVE

"at Ziklag while he was still a fugitive"

The men joined David at Ziklag, a prophetic picture of a failed church (1 Sam. 30:1-6). They joined him at a time when he had no material blessings to offer them. They joined him while he was a fugitive. There was no prosperity in view. This reveals a certain purity in the men who came to join David.

DEATH OF PERSONAL VISION

" helpers in the war"

The men came as "helpers in the war". They came to help David, not themselves. Their personal visions died when they joined David. Every local church, needs men of this calibre, that will lay aside their personal visions to help the set man's vision. This is an Aaron and Urr quality - a lifting of the set man's hands to accelerate the purposes of God, that must be internalized by core members of the church for strength in a local church.

MAXIMISED POTENTIAL

"using both the right hand and the left"

These men could use both the right hand and the left. They passed the limitation of using just one hand. The weaker hand was trained to muster its maximum potential. This is like having two men in one - a doubling of potential strength. This is a picture of a believer who musters all his potential for kingdom advancement. They can take from the kingdom of darkness with both hands and give to the kingdom of God with both hands.

BALANCED PERSPECTIVE

The use of the right hand and the left hand is also symbolic of balance. The church needs believers who know how to practically balance the Word and the Spirit, local and global service, charisma and character, evangelism and discipleship, sacrifice and obedience, giving and receiving, adoration and service.

2.2.3 BEYOND TRIBAL AFFILIATION

"They were of Benjamin, Saul's brethren"

Men from the tribe of Benjamin crossed over to join David from the tribe of Judah. Strong

Churches have this in their favour - they have overcome racial and cultural barriers.

Acts 13:1

1 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

(NKJ)

The church in Antioch had Lucius of Cyrene as one of its governmental elders. Lucius was a Lebanese.

2.3.1 FIT FOR BATTLE

"men trained for battle"

Physical, mental and spiritual fitness are essential requirements for involvement in the battle that the church is fighting now. Physical fitness is essential for intercession and intense Word study. Mental fitness includes a clear, sound mind with a healthy self esteem. Damaged self- concept, manifested by feelings of inadequacy, pretentiousness, approval- seeking behaviour, inappropriate guilt and avoidance behaviour can be a serious defect in the structure of the local church. Spiritual fitness entails putting on the whole armour of God without which one cannot stand.

CHRISTLIKENESS

"faces were like the faces of lions"

Jesus is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. Strong churches have the Lion's face - They look like Jesus. This is inevitable consequence of intimacy with Him. As you worship Him you become like Him.

2 Cor 3:18

18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

(NKJ)

Intimacy with Christ produces strength and the capacity to do exploits.

Dan 11:32

32 And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.
(KJV)

2.3.3 SUPERIOR CAPACITY "swift as gazelles on the mountains"

These men were swift at high altitude, therefore the plains and valleys offered no resistance to their agility. Their training surpassed the limitations of the valleys and plains. Thus to fight on the plains was much easier.

Jer 12:5
5 "If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country, how will you manage in the thickets by the Jordan?
(NIV)
Swiftness on the mountains is equivalent to competing with horses. Thus victory over footmen was guaranteed.

This represents a brand of people in the church that run quickly into the vision and purposes of God.

Matt 5:25
25 "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you are thrown into prison.
(NKJ)

2.4 ACTIVATED BY TRIBULATION " ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks"

These men crossed Jordan when it was in flood, to gain the advantage of surprise over the enemy. Most folk recoil or faint in the season of adversity, but not with these men. A church needs men of this calibre, who function with aggression in the day of trouble, not waiting for the flood to abate.

2.5 DISCERNING SET MAN
"If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment."

David did not gullibly accept the multitude that came to him. He immediately outlined the condition for joining - Have you come to help me? His heart would only be joined to those who came to help him. In addition He warned them about the consequence of betrayal - the judgement of God.

THE SPIRIT OF AMASAI
Amasai means burden-bearer. There must be men and women in the church who voluntarily carry the set man's burden.
There are 5 notable characteristics of individuals with the Spirit of Amasai:

2.6.1 "We are yours, O David; - SURRENDER
Surrendering to the set man for use in the vision. It's like telling the set man "use me when and where you think I fit". These are the kind of people that make up strong churches. Our churches are plagued by, "what about my ministry" mindsets, thus few are left behind to build the set man's vision. This in no way endorses blind absolute submission to an unscriptural demand.

2.6.2 we are on your side, O son of Jesse! - PARTIALITY
Clear articulation and demonstration of loyalty. In the event of conflict these individuals take the set man's side. They always give him the benefit of the doubt. This is a tremendous source of strength to the vision of the house when conflicts arise from false brethren.

Peace, peace to you- CONCERN
These individuals are concerned about the set man's peace in the time of war.

"and peace to your helpers!" - CONCERN FOR THOSE HELPING THE SET MAN
These folk are never jealous of those standing with the set man. They support the set man and his helpers.

For your God helps you.- RECOGNITION OF DIVINE GRACE
This is the motive for joining - they recognize that God is helping the set man. They recognized that by helping the set man, they were actually helping God.

THESE ARE THE INDIVIDUALS THAT DAVID RECEIVED AND MADE CAPTAINS OF THE TROOPS. IF YOU WANT TO BUILD A STRONG CHURCH, MAKE SURE THAT YOU APPOINT ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE THE SPIRIT OF AMASAI AS YOUR CELL LEADERS.

2.7 EQUIPPED FOR WAR

"divisions that were equipped for war"

This is beyond fitness for battle. In current context it entails putting on the whole armour of God. The five fold ministry is given to equip the saints for the work of the ministry(Eph. 4). The ministry is evangelism, reconciliation, visitation, training, teaching, intercession, warfare etc. Warfare is just a part of that ministry. Strong local churches have individuals equipped for spiritual warfare.

2.8.1 RELEVANCE

"understanding of the times"

Matt 4:4

4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" (NKJ)

There is the preceding Word of God and the proceeding Word of God - the past Word and the now Word - past truth and present truth.

Peter recognized a present truth dimension.

2 Pet 1:12

12 For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. (NKJ)

Exod 17:6

6 "Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. (NKJ)

Num 20:8-12

8 "Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals."

9 So Moses took the rod from before the LORD as He commanded him.

10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock; and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?"

11 Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.

12 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."

(NKJ)

The first time God told Moses to strike the rock in order to obtain water. The second time God asked Moses to speak to the rock. However Moses repeated the past action of striking the rock, failing to recognize the new demand of God in a new season. This act which God called unbelief disqualified Moses from entering the promised land.

Elijah's prophets saw Elisha emerging from Jordan with the mantle of Elijah. Instead of pursuing the mantle, they went looking for the body of Elijah - the past. They failed to perceive the new season of the double portion upon Elisha.

The understanding of the present demand of God will keep the church in obedience to the voice of God and relevant to the purposes of God.

Failure to understand the times, leads to religious bondage.

Luke 12:54-56

54 Then He also said to the multitudes, "Whenever you see a cloud rising out of the west, immediately you say, 'A shower is coming'; and so it is.

55 "And when you see the south wind blow, you say, 'There will be hot weather'; and there is.

56 "Hypocrites! You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not discern this time?" (NKJ)

PRACTICALITY

"to know what Israel ought do"

The children of Issachar did not only have understanding of the times, they knew what to do. Those who know what to do, have been delivered from personal prophecy. John the Baptist who is a picture of the Apostolic Prophetic anointing knew what to do. In Luke 3:10,12,14 He had answers to the question " what shall we do? ". This element brings a practical dimension to ministry. Most people know what to say but don't know what to do.

2.8.3 PERSONAL SUCCESS

"all their brethren were at their command;"

They had conquered in their own family circle – their relatives listened to them. This is the hardest territory to win in. These men succeeded at home. Successful Christians have first built the church in their own homes.

2.9.1 EXPERTS

" expert in war"

This is beyond fitness and being equipped. Here they were experts with all the weapons of war. This grace needs to come into local church. We need experts in musical instruments, prayer, exegesis, hermeneutics etc.

2.9.2 STOUTHEARTED (LOYALTY, TRUSTWORTHINESS)

"stouthearted men"

These men were loyal to David. Besides loyalty to God, the church needs men and women that are loyal to the set man and to the vision of the house.

2.9.3 KEEPING RANK

"who could keep ranks"

This is the discipline of staying within the boundary of your call. It is the principle of working your own land.

Prov 12:11

11 He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment.
(NIV)

This principle is a major deterrent to strife in a local church.

In the Old Testament those who crossed the boundary of their call suffered God's judgement e.g.
Uzza (1 Chron. 13:7-10)

King Saul (1 Sam. 13:7-14)

2.10.1 CORPORATE MENTAL INTEGRATION OF VISION

"were of one mind to make David king."

There was total agreement to David's leadership. David's rulership was accepted with one accord. Thus David's vision became their vision.

A similar principle is seen in Acts 16:

Acts 16:9-10

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

10 Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.
(NKJ)

Paul saw the vision, then other members of the team took ownership of the vision because of agreement. Thus the vision moved from singular to plural.

Corporate mental integration of vision makes the local church the fortress of God.

2.10.2 BROTHERHOOD

"their brethren"

Despite diverse giftings the followers of David lived in brotherhood. The writer to the Hebrews said :

Heb 13:1

1 Let brotherly love continue.

(KJV)

This understanding destroys strife in a local church.

2.11 CORPORATE JOY

"there was joy in Israel"

Joy in the house is contagious and conducive to enthusiasm for the work of the ministry.

2.12 CORPORATE DESIRE FOR THE PRESENCE OF GOD

" let us bring the ark of our God back to us/ for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people."

They decided to bring back the ark of God only after the strength of the army was established. Haggai said that the glory of the latter house will be greater than the glory of the former house. If the church is to contain the greater glory a stronger structure is mandatory. A new wineskin is needed for new wine. A corporate passion for God is needed to contain the greater glory.