

FIRST CHRONICLES

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INTRODUCTION

- A. Many books in the Bible are either overlooked or ignored.
 - 1. Because of their difficulty (Ecclesiastes, Revelations).
 - 2. Or their supposed irrelevance I Chronicles is likely a book of this last.
 - a. In midst of expanse of O.T. historical literature.
 - b. Duplicated by other books.
 - c. Often goes almost unnoticed in preaching and teaching.
 - B. We should not be blind to the values it presents.
 - C. Covers the time from king Saul, life of David to Solomon.
 - D. Four vital lessons from the book will be considered..
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GOD MAY OVERRULE

- A. God May Overrule Our Best Intentions.
 - B. Perhaps David would be the “central character” of I Chronicles.
 - 1. From this book we know much about the man and the United Kingdom.
 - 2. In spite of some weaknesses and failures, he was in many ways a great.
 - C. We see him in favorable light when he exclaims to Nathan the prophet (17:1,2...see also II Chron. 6:7).
 - 1. However, neither David’s good intentions or Nathan original encouragement were to have a part in God’s ultimate plan. (I Chron. 17:4)
 - 2. David was not to be the builder of the Temple.
 - D. Some observation from human perspective concerning this situation.
 - 1. **First:** this is the intention of basically a good man.
 - 2. **Second:** it is a seemingly good intention.
 - 3. **Third:** so far as we know it springs from a noble purpose.
 - 4. But in spite of all this, it is Solomon, not David who will ultimately build the temple.
 - E. LESSONS FOR US:
 - 1. If God has in the past overruled a good man’s noble intentions (for whatever reasons), then may it not be that God over rules the noble intentions of good men today?
 - 2. We must remember that we do not always know what is best (for us, for others, or for the kingdom). Have you ever seen things....looked at later.
 - 3. We must also remember that God does not operate according to the wisdom of man “my thoughts, ways,” etc. (Isa. 55:8).
 - 4. Before we give in to disgust, despair or rebellion, let us remember that God sometimes overrules the noble intentions of man.
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Importance of Preparation

- A. Although David was not the builder, he did play an important part in its ultimate construction. (22:2).
 - 1. His part was in the area of preparation.
 - 2. I Chron. 22:5.
 - B. HE PROVIDED THE PHYSICAL MATERIALS.
 - 1. Not all but much. (22:4).
 - C. Also organizational preparation. (23:1ff).
 - 1. Without which the Temple would have been less.
 - D. As surely as preparation was needed for the construction and function of the temple, adequate preparation is needed in the church today.
 - 1. True whether you be preacher, elder, deacon, teacher, missionary, or...etc.
 - 2. How many time have (plans) failed because of inadequate preparation.
 - 3. We need to exercise the foresight of David in preparing for future.
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Sacrificial Service (21:24ff)

- A. Interesting events and questions that lead to an offer by Ornan the Jebusite to give David a place for offering. (READ 21:24).
 - 1. This determination to “pay the price” to worship God is rightly an example that our world would do well to observe.
 - 2. Probably never been an age of ease equal to our 21st century.
 - 3. We are so often surrounded by excess that the thought of sacrifices must be far from our minds.
 - B. David would not offer a burnt offering without cost.
 - 1. What kind of sacrifice do we make for our Savior.
 - 2. He calls us to sacrifice anything which stands between one and God.
 - 3. There is no such thing as “bargain basement service.”
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Picture of Unfaithfulness

- A. King Saul was the first Monarch of God's United Kingdom.
 - 1. Looking at his entire life leaves one with the feeling of bewilderment.
 - 2. Let us notice:
 - B. The Beginning of the Biblical narrative pictures him very positively.
 - 1. He was handsome (I Sam. 9:2).
 - 2. He was humble (I Sam. 9:21).
 - 3. In his initial victories, he gave the credit to God (I Sam. 11)
 - C. But he died a suicidal failure.
 - 1. Because he began to live wickedly.
 - 2. He was rebellious toward God. (a) act as priest. (b) in war; (c) Appealed to one with familiar spirit (at Endor).
 - 3. I Chron. 10:13,14...**In the end....**
 - D. It has well been said that the theme of the entire Bible (simple stated) is "the glorification of God and the salvation of man through Jesus Christ."
 - 1. In every age God has demanded obedience.
 - 2. In every age rebellion has brought His displeasure.
 - 3. What lesson is more vital in modern sinful age.
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Book Preserved Because ...

- A. Although rebellion may take many forms it will have only one ultimate outcome....A TRAGIC END.
 - B. God has created us that we may have freedom to choose in this life (Saul).
 - C. But the tragic case of King Saul should remind us that we cannot reject God's way and escape condemnation.
 - D. David could not and would not offer unto God a sacrifice that cost him nothing.
 - 1. What kind of sacrifice are we offering to God. At what cost?
 - 2. READ Romans 12:1,2.
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