

**2 Chronicles 2 — “Solomon's Preparations to Build the Temple: Our God is Worthy of Worship!”****Introduction****The importance of “preparation”****• Our God is great! \*WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT GOD?\*** [from 2 Chronicles 2]

- ✓1. God is **SOVEREIGN** - worked in Hiram's heart to give him supplies
- ✓2. God is **HOLY** - must dwell in a temple/sacrifices to him
- ✓3. God is **IMMENSE** -- can't dwell in a temple, even highest heavens can't hold him
- ✓4. God is **BENEVOLENT** - God gives wisdom/understanding to Solomon
- ✓5. God is **PROVIDER** - he provides all that is needed (wood, craftsmen, Solomon, Hiram, etc)
- ✓6. God is **PERSONAL/INTIMATE** - the Lord *\*my God\** (v.4)
- ✓7. God is **GRACIOUS** - who am I that I should build a house for God (*who am I* to do such a task -- God's grace!)

**Background to 2 Chronicles 2**

- After David died, as soon as Solomon came to the throne, he made preparations for the building of the Temple. THIS SHOWS THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THE RIGHT **PRIORITIES** IN LIFE!
- Why *all* the detail (2 Chron 2-5)? *Simple*: the Temple should reflect the transcendent Majesty & Supreme Glory of Israel's God (Psalm 135:5; Psalm 95 & Psalm 96:4-6)!

**THESIS — We'll see the example of Solomon's enthusiastic worship as he PREPARED to build the large temple for the LORD:**

**Outline & Structure of 2 Chronicles 2:**

A. Servants (1-2)

**B. The Supplication (3-10)** (the **plea** for the workman)**B' The Specification (11-16)** (the **provision** of the workman)

A' Servants (17-18)

The hebrew structure draws **emphasis** upon the middle two points: Solomon's supplication & specification.

## **A.SERVANTS (1-2)**

### **B.THE SUPPLICATION** *(the plea for workmen)* **(3-10)**

*The Phoenicians in the Ancient Near East (ANE):*

Affirmations of Yahweh’s supremacy & preeminence (vv.5-6)

“Who am I?” (v.6b)

### **B.THE SPECIFICATION** *(the provision of the workmen)* **(11-16)**

- Prov 21.1 - note how God moves in the hearts of kings (all to accomplish His purposes!). Never underestimate the power of God in working through amazing means to accomplish His purposes & answer the prayers of His people!

## **A.SERVANTS (17-18)**

*Remember! The Chronicler is writing as a pastor-theologian to recount WHAT GOD DID IN ISRAEL'S HISTORY to encourage a discouraged people.*

**\*What are some LESSONS ON PROPER WORSHIP from 2 Chronicles 2...  
8 instructive lessons for us...**

1. We need a proper **FORM/STRUCTURE** of worship (ordained by God Himself in Scripture)
2. We need a proper **WITNESS** in worship (bear witness to the outside world of our great God)
3. We need a proper **GOD-CENTEREDNESS** in worship (our house/temple doesn't capture who God is)
4. We need a proper **QUALITY** in worship (we give God our best)
5. We need a proper **INTEGRITY/HEARTFULNESS** in worship (no shabby slothful 'leftovers' worship)
6. We need a proper **CORPORATENESS/TOGETHERNESS** in worship (this is together)
7. We need a proper **REGULARITY** in worship (they sacrifice daily, weekly bread, this is repeated, ongoing, regular, frequent)
8. We need a proper **HUMILITY** in worship (Solomon said: "who am I that I should come and bring to God worship?)

*And always remember: 2 Cor 2.16 & 3.5-6 (our adequacy is from God in Christ!)*

Very helpful summary concerning what we learn about worship:

***We must offer to God...***

1. **Traditional Worship** (that is, What God lays forth in the Scriptures -- biblical; not new inventions but what God has already laid forth for us in His written Word)
2. **Spiritual Worship** (heart and soul, full being engaged)
3. **Quality Worship** (must always give God our best; what He deserves, what befits our God!)

— Michael Wilcock

**Be Thou My Vision**

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
 Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.  
 Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,  
 Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
 I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
 Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;  
 Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight;  
 Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;  
 Thou my soul's Shelter, Thou my high Tower:  
 Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
 Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:  
 Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,

High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.  
 High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
 May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!  
 Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
 Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

**Jesus I My Cross Have Taken**

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
 All to leave and follow Thee.  
 Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
 Thou from hence my all shall be.  
 Perish every fond ambition,  
 All I've sought or hoped or known.  
 Yet how rich is my condition!  
 God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,  
 They have left my Savior, too.  
 Human hearts and looks deceive me;  
 Thou art not, like them, untrue.  
 O while Thou dost smile upon me,  
 God of wisdom, love, and might,  
 Foes may hate and friends disown me,  
 Show Thy face and all is bright.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,  
 Come disaster, scorn and pain  
 In Thy service, pain is pleasure,  
 With Thy favor, loss is gain  
 I have called Thee Abba Father,

I have stayed my heart on Thee  
 Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;  
 All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation  
 Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
 Joy to find in every station,  
 Something still to do or bear.  
 Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
 Think what Father's smiles are thine,  
 Think that Jesus died to win thee,  
 Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
 Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.  
 Heavens eternal days before thee,  
 Gods own hand shall guide us there.  
 Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
 Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
 Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
 Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.