

**Intro:**

Main Point of Text: The Israelites gladly built God's Tabernacle exactly as the LORD designed it, and were blessed for doing so; they accomplished it all because the vast majority of them had happy, wise, and willing hearts.

Sermon Point: *Prepared Hearts Produce a Blessed Body Life.*

**Move 1: *It is a blessing to serve God by serving His Church.***

35:1-3: keeping Sabbath a priority to preserve worship/its blessing: Isa. 58:13-14. The Tabernacle is **Ex. 25:8:** *And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.* (See 29:45). All the building will result in Ex. 40:34-38! Tabernacle literally, "dwelling place". Free, willing heart service to worship the LORD joyfully unites: 35:5, 10, 20-22, 25-26, 29; 36:2-5, 18; 39:42-43. Tabernacle: uniting pieces into ONE. So the NT Church (1 Cor. 12:13). Share in its blessings: Luke 24:51-53; Acts 2:46-47; 4:32-35.

**Move 2: *Serving God and His Church is hard work.***

Tabernacle built by "offerings" of people's treasures, talents, time: 35:5, 10, 20-29; 36:2-7; 38:24-25. Whole section of chs. 35-39 is the implementation of the Tabernacle instituted in 25-32. *Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.* (1 Pet. 2:3-5). Romans 12:1-5.

**Move 3: *Working hard for God and His Church comes from people who have soft hearts.***

Their stiff-necks had interrupted the work (Ex. 32:9; 33:3, 5; 34:9). Elsewhere called "stiffhearted" or "hardhearted" or "hardness of hearts" (Ez. 2:4; 3:7). Unwilling to serve/work: obey God's commands given through His ministers (like chs. 32-33). But different when they have "one heart" that loves the LORD. Theme of 35-39 throughout summarized in 39:32, 42-43: "as/all that the Lord commanded". The same freely/willing/wise heart: Ex. 35:5, 10, 21-22, 25-26, 29; 36:8a. Even while they have to pass by others with hard hearts who refuse to serve and worship: 35:20-22: all went away; not all returned: "everyone whose/whom", "as many as were". *Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.* (2 Cor. 9:7) Ps.110:3: *Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness ...* (vs. 4 of Jesus, Heb. 5-7).

**Conclusion:**

Like Neh. 4:6.

***Prepared Hearts Produce a Blessed Body Life.***