

SERVING AS A MUSICIAN IN GOD'S HOUSE

Scripture Reading

1Chron 25:1 David, together with the commanders of the army, set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun for the ministry of prophesying, accompanied by harps, lyres and cymbals. Here is the list of the men who performed this service:

2 From the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah and Asarelah. The sons of Asaph were under the supervision of Asaph, who prophesied under the king's supervision.

3 As for Jeduthun, from his sons: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiiah, Shimei, Hashabiah and Mattithiah, six in all, under the supervision of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied, using the harp in thanking and praising the LORD.

4 As for Heman, from his sons: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shubael and Jerimoth; Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti and Romamti-Ezer; Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir and Mahazioth.

5 All these were sons of Heman the king's seer. They were given him through the promises of God to exalt him. God gave Heman fourteen sons and three daughters.

6 All these men were under the supervision of their fathers for the music of the temple of the LORD, with cymbals, lyres and harps, for the ministry at the house of God.

Asaph, Jeduthun and Heman were under the supervision of the king.

7 Along with their relatives--all of them trained and skilled in music for the LORD--they numbered 288.

8 Young and old alike, teacher as well as student, cast lots for their duties.

i) SET APART

WE MUST BE SEPARATED UNTO GOD. LIVE IN THE WORLD BUT NOT A PART OF IT. GOD HAS CALLED EACH ONE OF US TO HOLINESS - TO A HOLY LIFE. HOLY IN SPEECH, THOUGHT AND DEED.

THE RIGHTEOUS WILL POSSESS THE KINGDOM OF GOD. RIGHTEOUSNESS WITH GOD IS BY GRACE BUT HOLINESS IS THROUGH RELATIONSHIP - LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD (FOR HE IS HOLY).

1. SEPARATED IN THOUGHT

HOW'S YOUR THOUGHT LIFE? WHAT DO YOU PONDER ON WHEN NO ONE ELSE IS AROUND?

WHAT A MAN IS INTERESTED IN TO THE POINT OF ABSORPTION DECIDES AND REVEALS

- a) WHAT KIND OF MAN HE IS.**
- b) WHAT KIND OF FRUIT HE WILL BEAR.**

THERE MUST BE A CONSTANT RENEWING OF THE MIND. OUR MIND IS THE BATTLE GROUND. IT IS THE ONES THAT WALK IN HOLINESS THAT WILL SEE GOD. ***WE MUST BE HOLY EVEN AS HE IS HOLY.***

2. SEPARATED IN WHAT WE DO

WE MUST **CRUCIFY DAILY THE DEEDS OF FLESH** WITH ITS PASSIONS AND DESIRES. **ASK THE SPIRIT OF GOD FOR STRENGTH TO OVERCOME.** CIRCUMSIZING THE FORESKIN OF OUR HEARTS - **CUTTING AWAY THE FLESHLY AREAS IN OUR LIVES**

OUR UNCRUCIFIED FLESH WILL ROB US OF PURITY OF HEART, CHRISTLIKENESS OF CHARACTER, SPIRITUAL INSIGHT AND FRUITFULNESS. REGULARLY CUT AWAY THOSE AREAS IN OUR LIVES WHICH ARE NOT GOOD FOR GROWTH.

DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT WILL BRING REPROACH UPON YOU OR THE CHURCH.

3. SEPARATED IN HEART ATTITUDE

IT IS OUR HEART AND NOT OUR PERFORMANCE THAT IS IMPORTANT TO GOD. GOD'S EXPECTATION IS NOT A PERFECT PERFORMANCE, BUT A **PERFECT HEART.**

MANY TIMES WE **LOSE CONTACT WITH THE CONDITION OF OUR HEART.**

GOD WANTS US WITH A PERFECT HEART. HE LOOKS UPON OUR **CHARACTER BEFORE OUR PERFORMANCE - WHO WE ARE BEFORE WHAT WE DO.**

THE MINISTRY OF PROPHECY

IT IS ONE THING TO PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENT WELL, BUT IT IS ANOTHER THING TO ***PLAY UNDER THE INSPIRATION AND ANOINTING OF THE HOLY GHOST.***

THEIR PLAYING BROUGHT THE ANOINTING. WE ARE NOT PLAYING TO BUILD OUR OWN EGO OR TO PROMOTE OURSELVES. *WE MUST BE A PEOPLE WHO HEAR FROM GOD.*

WE ARE THERE TO USHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD. OUR PLAYING WITHOUT THE ANOINTING ACHIEVES LITTLE. WE ARE NOT THERE TO ENTERTAIN.

AS WE PLAY PROPHETICALLY, WE PREPARE THE WAY FOR A WORD OF PROPHECY OR THE PREACHING OF THE WORD.

SEEK THE ANOINTING FAR ABOVE ANYTHING ELSE. THE ANOINTING WILL ONLY COME AS YOU GET CLOSER TO GOD

SET ASIDE TIMES TO WAIT ON GOD FOR YOUR MINISTRY.

DON'T FALL INTO THE TRAP OF PRACTISING YOUR INSTRUMENT IN PLACE OF WAITING ON GOD

SUBMISSION TO GOD ORDAINED AUTHORITY

THEY WERE IN SUBMISSION TO THEIR FATHER WHO WAS IN TURN UNDER SUBMISSION TO THE KING.

ARE YOU TEACHABLE? ARE YOU ALL FOR THE LEADERS AND THE VISION OF THE TEAM? ***IS THERE LOYALTY?*** WHAT ABOUT WHEN THEY HAVE TO CORRECT YOU?

DON'T FALL INTO THE TRAP OF CRITISING YOUR LEADER BUT STAND WITH THEM AS AN ARMOUR BEARER. ARE YOU WILLING TO FOLLOW YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR WHOLEHEARTEDLY AS HE FAITHFULLY FOLLOW THE CHURCH SENIOR MINISTER'S VISION?

FOR THE TEAM TO EXPERIENCE THE BLESSING OF THE LORD, THERE MUST BE UNITY AND LOYALTY.

DO OUR HEARTS SMITE US WHEN WE TOUCH ONE OF GOD'S ANOINTED WHETHER BY SPEECH OR ATTITUDE?

1 SAM 24:5 - "AND DAVID'S HEART SMOTE HIM , BECAUSE HE CUT OFF SAUL'S SKIRT."

V6 - "THE LORD FORBID THAT I SHOULD LIFT MY HAND AGAINST THE LORD'S ANOINTED."

WE MUST BE EXAMPLES IN SPEECH AND ACTIONS TO THOSE AROUND US BY NOT ALLOWING ANY ATTACK ON THOSE IN AUTHORITY OVER US.

TO SERVE

WE ARE THERE TO *SERVE THE LORD AND THE PEOPLE.* NEVER FEEL AS IF THE PEOPLE OWE YOU SOMETHING.

CHRIST AS OUR EXAMPLE - HIS LOVE WAS SACRIFICIAL, HIS LOVE WAS UNCONDITIONAL, HIS LOVE WAS CONSTANT AND SELF-SUSTAINING, HIS LOVE PROVIDES FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF OTHERS AND HE COMMANDS THAT WE SHOULD LOVE OTHERS AS HE HAS LOVED US.

PAUL'S IDEA OF SERVICE - "I AM AMONG YOU AS HE THAT SERVETH;"
"OURSELVES YOUR SERVANTS FOR JESUS' SAKE".

TRAINED AND SKILLED

SEEK TO BECOME SKILFUL. DON'T BE SATISFIED WITH THE STATUS QUO.

TAKE LESSONS – WATCH VIDEOS – LISTEN TO TAPES – GLEAN IDEAS FROM OTHERS – FOLLOW THROUGH ON INSTRUCTION COURSES TO BECOME EXCELLENT IN WHAT YOU DO IS GOING TO COST YOU SOMETHING.

**WE SHOULD BE LEADING THE WAY IN THE WORLD – Eph 3:10.
REMEMBER THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING WE CAN LEARN. NEVER ALLOW PROFESSIONAL JEALOUSY TO CREEP IN OR FEEL IT IS LIKE A COMPETITION BETWEEN YOU AND OTHER MUSICIANS OR SINGERS.**

TEACHER AND STUDENT

MAKE ROOM FOR THE STUDENT AS WELL AS THE MORE EXPERIENCED

IF YOU HAVE BEEN PLAYING FOR SOME TIME AND HAVE REACHED A CERTAIN SKILL LEVEL, IMPART TO THOSE THAT ARE BEGINNERS SO THAT YOU CAN DEVELOP THEM TOWARDS YOUR LEVEL.