

## Text— 1 Chronicles 29:10-13

Fellow redeemed sinners, redeemed by the blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

That which our Scripture selection reports took place shortly before King David's death, for Solomon his son was to take his place on the throne, and 1 Chronicles 28:9-10 reports that David said to him, "Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever. Take heed now; for the LORD hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it."

Subsequently, David informed Solomon regarding the detailed specifications for the magnificent temple and its furnishings. Then, just prior to our text, we read in 1 Chronicles 29:1-9, "Furthermore David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God. Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for things to be made of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and the brass for things of brass, the iron for things of iron, and wood for things of wood; onyx stones, and stones to be set, glistening stones, and of divers colours, and all manner of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance. Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, Even three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses withal: The gold for things of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD? Then the chief of the fathers and princes of

the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly, And gave for the service of the house of God of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand drams, and of silver ten thousand talents, and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. And they with whom precious stones were found gave them to the treasure of the house of the LORD, by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy."

Thus, there was gratefulness to God and immense happiness among the people and their king at that time; consequently, our Scripture selection relates:

### "KING DAVID'S PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THANKS"

With that as our theme, may we, in view of our text and with the help of the Holy Ghost, see—

- 1) Who David specifically addressed in prayer, and why
- 2) What David's prayer consisted of

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Verse 10, ----- (1 Chronicles 29:10)

Carefully observe in the opening verse of our text who King David specifically addressed in prayer, for we read: *David blessed the LORD before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.*

Notice the term "LORD" is found twice in the opening verse of our text, and two more times in the second verse of our text. The term "God" is found once in the opening verse of our text, and once more in the concluding verse of our text. Now, when we see the word "LORD" in all capital letters in the English King James Version of the Old Testament, it is a translation of the Hebrew word "Yehovah" (Jehovah) which is a proper noun

meaning “the existing One” and is the “Hebrew proper name of the supreme God.” And, the English word “God” as found throughout our KJV Old Testament sermon text is a translation of the Hebrew word “Elohiym” (Elo-heem), which is a plural noun meaning “God.” Hence, when coupled together in the phrase “LORD God” – Yehovah Elohiym – it always refers to the One true God who is plural in Persons: the Triune God. Accordingly, King David specifically addressed the one true God in his prayer.

My friends, the one true God – the Triune God – is the only God who is to be addressed in prayer since prayer is an act of worship, “for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.” (Luke 4:8) Indeed, we read in Deuteronomy 6:13-14, “Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods.” Yes, the LORD God – Jehovah Eloheem, the Triune God – is the ONLY GOD who is to be worshiped, the ONLY GOD to whom prayer is to be rendered, for 1 John 5:7 clearly states, “there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.” God the Father, God the Son who is the living Word, and God the Holy Ghost, are three distinct divine Persons and yet but the one true God, the Triune God. Jesus Christ makes the point quite clear in His great commission as recorded in Matthew 28:19, where we read, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” —ONE NAME, and yet THREE PERSONS, the Triune God.

Realize that when we address any of the three divine Persons in prayer we are in fact addressing the one true God in prayer since the three divine Persons are but the one true God. Hence, we can pray to our heavenly Father, we can pray to Jesus Christ, and we can pray to the Holy Ghost because those three divine Persons are NOT three God’s, NOR is each divine Person merely 1/3 of God; rather, each Person IS GOD ENTIRE. For proof consider the fact that concerning Jesus Christ Colossians 2:9 states in no uncertain terms: “in him

dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.” Concerning the Holy Ghost we read in Acts 5:3-4, “Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.” And, concerning God the Father, Jesus instructs us in Matthew 6:9, “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.” Therefore, we can and should address any and all of the three divine Persons in prayer, being confident that we are addressing the one true God in prayer.

Let us do as David did and only address the one true God – the Triune God – in prayer. It is sinful and stupid to address departed saints or anyone or anything other than the one true God in prayer, for anything or anyone other than the one true God cannot hear or answer prayer. In Isaiah 63:16 the prophet rightly declares in prayer to the true God: “Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O LORD, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting.” Furthermore, we read in Psalm 115:1-8, “Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake. Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God? But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.” So, I repeat, it is sinful and stupid to address departed saints or anyone or anything other than the one true God in prayer, for anything or anyone other than the one true God cannot hear or answer prayer.

Let us never forget who King David addressed in

prayer— the one true God, the Triune God. Let us do likewise.

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As we continue to ponder our text, let us see what David's prayer consisted of.

Again, verse 10, ----- (1 Chronicles 29:10)

Take it to heart that to BLESS GOD means to reverently adore God in worship of Him, and such was David's attitude as he had prepared the materials in abundance for the construction of a magnificent temple for the LORD, and his son Solomon and the people also prepared and were joyful; *Wherefore David blessed the LORD before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.*

David was a God-fearing leader of his people. David rightly adored the LORD and did not adore himself. David's God was the God of Israel, the God who had chosen Israel – Jacob – and His children as His own, the nation from whom the Messiah would come after the flesh, for to Jacob it was said, as we read in Genesis 28:13-14, "I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed." And, Galatians 3:16 adds, "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ." Thus, it was certainly appropriate that David prayed: *Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.*

Indeed, David believed in the promised Seed, the promised Messiah, the Christ of God, for in the book of Psalms David wrote of Christ's Person and His sufferings on the cross, for there we read: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? ...All they that see me laugh me to

scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him. But thou art he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts. I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly. ...I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me. They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture. Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."

(Psalm 22:1, 7-10, 14-18; Psalm 2:1-12)

Hence, David indeed knew the God/man, the Lord Jesus Christ who is the only Savior of sinners. Accordingly, David rightly prayed in praise to God: *Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.* Yes, David's prayer rightly included acknowledgment that the LORD God is to be

adored forever and ever, because we can never thank and praise the LORD God enough for the salvation He has provided us, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; [and] the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 3:23; 6:23)

Verse 11, ----- (1 Chronicles 29:11)

Notice that King David continued in his prayer by saying: *Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty*— words of praise that are certainly appropriate when thinking about what the Lord Jesus Christ has accomplished, the very things David prophesied about in the Psalms we just looked into. Think about it, for Hebrews 2:14-18 relates concerning Christ, “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.” 1 Timothy 3:16 adds, “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.” Therefore, let us, as did David, regularly pray: *Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty.*

King David continued in his prayer by saying to the LORD God: *all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.* Oh, it’s certainly true that God owns everything and rules everything

regardless of whether sinful people realize it or not, for Proverbs 16:4 plainly states, “The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.” Psalm 103:19 adds, “The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.” Therefore, let us regularly praise God by praying as did David: *all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.*

Verse 12, ----- (1 Chronicles 29:12)

As King David continued in his prayer to the LORD God, he said in praise and thanksgiving: *Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.* Thus, we see that David acknowledged the LORD God as the SOURCE of riches, honor, and all sorts of strength.

Realize that spiritual strength, physical strength, and mental strength are all gifts that come from God who gives them to whomever He chooses. For example, spiritual life is had by having faith in Jesus Christ which is a gift of God and not of any sinful human beings’ own doing, for Ephesians 2:8-10 clearly states, “by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” And, regarding civil leadership, greatness, and authority, Psalm 75:6-7 declares, “promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.”

Therefore, let us never forget 1 Corinthians 4:7, which says, “who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?” Indeed, fellow Christians, let us remember, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and

cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures." (James 1:17-18) Let us, as did David, regularly thank and praise the LORD God in prayer by acknowledging to Him: *Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.*

Verse 13, ----- (1 Chronicles 29:13)

My friends, King David was not simply praying by himself, he was praying with the people he was leading, for David said: *Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.*

Fellow Christians, when we gather together for weekly worship we do so not only to hear God's Word, but also to pray, praise, and give thanks to God who has done and still does so very much for us undeserving sinners. Oh, we cannot help but thank and praise the LORD God for His glorious name, for we would all be lost and damned if God was not gracious. We would cease to live if God did not sustain us.

Therefore, let us take to heart the things we've considered as we've pondered King David's prayer of praise and thanks. Let us daily and sincerely repent of our sins. Let us keep our full trust and confidence in Christ Jesus as our personal Savior and Lord. And, let us go forward valuing and making frequent use of the privilege of praying to the one true God, the Triune God, "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen." (Romans 11:36)

m.e.l.