

SCRIPTURE: 1CHRONICLES. 12 AND 13

Engineering: The art or science of making practical application of the knowledge of in the construction of engines, bridges, buildings, mines, ships, and chemical plants.

Science: A systematic method or body of knowledge in a given area.

Questions to Answer:

- 1. How does the tabernacle of David relate to the church?
- 2. What principles can you glean from the underlined verses for the development of a strong local church:
 - i. 1Chr 12:1"Now these were the men who came to David at Ziklag while he was still
 a fugitive from Saul the son of Kish; and they were among the mighty men,
 helpers in the war," (NKJ)
 - ii. 1Chr 12:2 "armed with bows, <u>using both the right hand and the left</u> in hurling stones and shooting arrows with the bow. <u>They were of Benjamin, Saul's brethren</u>. (NKJ)
 - iii. 1Chr 12:8 "Some Gadites joined David at the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men of valor, men trained for battle, who could handle shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as gazelles on the mountains:" (NKJ)
- iv. 1Chr 12:15 "These are the <u>ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks</u>; and they put to flight all those in the valleys, to the east and to the west." (NKJ)
- v. 1Chr 12:17 "And David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them, "If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment." (NKJ)
- vi. 1Chr 12:18 "Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, and he said: "We are yours, O David; we are on your side, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you." So David received them, and made them captains of the troop." (NKJ)

- vii. 1Chr 12:23 "Now these were the numbers of the <u>divisions that were equipped for war</u>, and came to David at Hebron to turn over the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the LORD: (NKJ)
- viii. 1Chr 12:32 "of the children of Issachar who had <u>understanding of the times</u>, to <u>know what Israel ought to do</u>, their chiefs were two hundred; and <u>all their brethren</u> were at their command;" (NKJ)
- ix. 1Chr 12:33 "of Zebulun there were fifty thousand who went out to battle, expert in war with all weapons of war, stouthearted men who could keep ranks;" (NKJ)
- x. 1Chr 12:38-39 "All these men of war, who could keep ranks, came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king. 39And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brethren had prepared for them." (NKJ)
- xi. 1Chr 12:40 "Moreover those who were near to them, from as far away as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, were bringing food on donkeys and camels, on mules and oxen-- provisions of flour and cakes of figs and cakes of raisins, wine and oil and oxen and sheep abundantly, for there was joy in Israel." (NKJ)
- xii. 1Chr 13:3, 4 "and <u>let us bring the ark of our God back to us</u>, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul." 4Then all the assembly said that they would do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people." (NKJ)

1. The Tabernacle of David Refers to:

- a) The Tabernacle of David Refers to: The Tabernacle that housed the throne of David.
- From here David reigned in Zion.
- Isa 16:5 "In mercy the throne will be established; and One will sit on it in truth, in the tabernacle of David, judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness."
 (NKJ)

See Examples of Inaccurate Models:

- 2 Kings 5:7-10,12 "And it happened, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy? Therefore, please consider, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me." 8 So it was, when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Please let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a

prophet in Israel." ⁹Then Naaman went with his horses and chariot, and he stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean." ¹² Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage.

- 2 Kings 8:7-15 "7 Elisha went to Damascus, and Ben-Hadad king of Aram was ill. When the king was told, "The man of God has come all the way up here," 8 he said to Hazael, "Take a gift with you and go to meet the man of God. Consult the LORD through him; ask him, 'Will I recover from this illness? 9 Hazael went to meet Elisha, taking with him as a gift forty camel-loads of all the finest wares of Damascus. He went in and stood before him, and said, "Your son Ben-Hadad king of Aram has sent me to ask, 'Will I recover from this illness? ¹⁰ Elisha answered, "Go and say to him, 'You will certainly recover.' Nevertheless, [a] the LORD has revealed to me that he will in fact die." 11 He stared at him with a fixed gaze until Hazael was embarrassed. Then the man of God began to weep. 12 "Why is my lord weeping?" asked Hazael. "Because I know the harm you will do to the Israelites," he answered. "You will set fire to their fortified places, kill their young men with the sword, dash their little children to the ground, and rip open their pregnant women." 13 Hazael said, "How could your servant, a mere dog, accomplish such a feat?" "The LORD has shown me that you will become king of Aram," answered Elisha. 14 Then Hazael left Elisha and returned to his master. When Ben-Hadad asked, "What did Elisha say to you?" Hazael replied, "He told me that you would certainly recover." 15 But the next day he took a thick cloth, soaked it in water and spread it over the king's face, so that he died. Then Hazael succeeded him as king.
- Hazael murdered Ben-Hadad, the king of Aram.
- The above pictures are examples of inaccurate locations; thrones not established in mercy;
- Unlike the Davidic model, the one on the thrown sits on <u>it in deceit</u>, operating in injustice and righteousness."

b) The Tabernacle of David Refers to: The Tabernacle that housed the Ark of the Covenant.

Here the priestly ministry was conducted. (See 1Chro 16: 4-38 / 2 Sam 6:17)

2Sam. 6:17 "So they brought the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place in the midst of the tabernacle that David had erected for it. Then David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD."

These 2 tabernacles represented the 2 separate offices of the king and priest in the Old Testament.

These 2 tabernacles find their fulfillment in Christ as King and Priest.

- Christ is the Son of David-Matt. 9:27 and Matt. 15:22.
- Christ is the King of kings Rev. 17:14.
- Christ is our High Priest Heb. 5:6,10.
- These 2 separate offices are brought together in Christ.

The Tabernacle of David is also a prophetic picture of the church.

- The <u>Church</u> is called a ROYAL PRIESTHOOD (1 Peter 2:9).
- In Rev. 5:10 the saints are called KINGS and PRIESTS. Thus the KING, PRIEST ministry which were separate offices in the Old Testament and depicted by the 2 Tabernacles become ONE in the Church.
- In Acts 15 James refers to Amos and declares that the restoration of the Tabernacle of David applies to the coming in of the Gentiles into the Church.
- James interprets Amos' prophecy under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost.
- Peter did the same with Joel's prophecy.
- Thus the church is made up of Jews and gentiles, both becoming one in Christ in the order of Melchizedek as <u>King Priests</u>.
- The church is the tabernacle of David that is being restored.
- Acts 15:14-17 "Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name. ¹⁵And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written: ¹⁶After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up; 17So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, says the Lord who does all these things." (NKJ)

- Amos 9:11-12 "On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old; ¹²That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the Gentiles who are called by My name," says the LORD who does this thing." (NKJ)

2. Principles for The Development of a Strong Local Church.

- The Tabernacle of David is a picture of the Church.
- The royal priesthood of believers can be seen in the king, priest ministry of David.
- The buildup of David's army that leads to establishing of his throne is a prophetic picture of what is required in a church to manifest its kingly position.

2.1.1 Recognition of Leadership Grace

"men who came to David"

- We see a clear distinction of leader and followers; the men came to David.
- David did not run after, coerce or manipulate people to follow him.
- There was a spontaneous following.
- This grace must be upon the set man of a local church.
- In Luke 15 we see the father as the epicentre (the central point of something) of the relationship.
- The father did not run after the prodigal.
- He was not manipulated by sentimentalism (feelings of tenderness or sadness).
- The prodigal proved his sonship and the validity of the internal process in his life by coming back to the epicentre.

2.1.2 Purity of Motive

"at Ziklag while he was still a fugitive"

 The men joined David at Ziklag (enveloped in grief), a prophetic picture of a failed church (1 Sam. 30:1-6).

- This was a place of desolation and emptiness.
- They joined him at a time when he had no material blessings to offer them.
- They joined him while he was a fugitive; there was no prosperity in view.
- This reveals certain purity in the men who came to join David.
- The people you trust are the people that join you when you have nothing to offer them.
- The only thing of record in David's life was his anointing.
- This is a man who has no music team, no building, no sound system, no car or house.

2.1.3 Death of Personal Vision

" helpers in the war"

- The men came as "helpers in the war".
- They came to help David, not themselves; their personal visions died when they joined David.
- Every local church needs men of this calibre (quality, character), that will lay aside their personal visions to help the set man's vision.
- This is an Aaron and Urr quality a lifting of the set man's hands to accelerate the purposes of God that must be internalized by core people of the church for strength in a local church.
- The past season encouraged a situation had to have a vision sometimes even inside of the same local house of faith – hence there was such huge prevalence of churches splitting everywhere.
- Jezebel, Absalom and Korah don't come to help they come to take over.
- God gave Adam the garden Eve was the helper (Gen 2:18).
- The vision of the set man ultimately advances the kingdom of God. The Bible says the "kingdom of God suffers violence" helpers are needed.
- The set man needs help in the war to establish the kingdom of God.
- In the past were 10% of the church were helpers; this needs to change.

- Folk need to say "What Can I Do?" and NOT "What can the church do for me?"

2.2.1 Maximized Potential

"using both the right hand and the left"

- These men could use both the right hand and the left; they passed the limitation of using just one hand.
- The weaker hand was trained to muster its maximum potential; this is like having two men in one - a doubling of potential strength.
- This is a picture of a believer who musters all his potential for kingdom advancement.
- These types of believers can take from the kingdom of darkness with both hands and give to the kingdom of God with both hands.
- God is building a supernatural church not a normal church.
- STUDY THE DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR PRIESTHOOD.

2.2.2 Balanced Perspective

- The use of the right hand and the left hand is also symbolic of balance.
- The church needs believers who know how to practically balance the Word and the Spirit; local and global service; charisma and character; evangelism and discipleship, sacrifice and obedience, giving and receiving, adoration and service.

Beyond Tribal Affiliation

"They were of Benjamin, Saul's brethren"

- Men from the tribe of Benjamin crossed over to join David from the tribe of Judah.
- Strong churches have this in their favour they have overcome racial and cultural barriers.
- Acts 13:1 "Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul." (NKJ)

The church in Antioch had Lucius of Cyrene as one of its governmental elders.
 Lucius was a Lebanese.

Fit for Battle

"men trained for battle"

- Physical, mental and spiritual fitness are essential requirements for involvement in the battle that the church is fighting now.
- Physical fitness is essential for intercession and intense Word study.
- Mental fitness includes a clear, sound mind with a healthy self-esteem.
- Damaged self-concept, manifested by:
 - feelings of inadequacy,
 - pretentiousness,
 - approval-seeking behaviour,
 - inappropriate guilt,
 - avoidance behaviour

All these above are manifestation of a **damaged self-concept** and can be a serious defect in the structure of the local church.

 Spiritual fitness entails putting on the whole armour of God without which one cannot stand.

2.3.2 Christlikeness

(1Chr 12:8) "faces were like the faces of lions"

- Jesus is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.
- Strong churches have the Lion's face they look like Jesus.
- This is inevitable consequence of intimacy with Him. As you worship Him you become like Him. (2 Cor 3:18) "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." (NKJ)

Intimacy with Christ produces strength and the capacity to do exploit. (Dan 11:32)
 "And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits." (KJV)

2.3.3 Superior Capacity

(1Chr 12:8) "swift as gazelles on the mountains"

- These men were swift at high altitude; therefore, the plains and valleys offered no resistance to their agility.
- Their training surpassed the limitations of the valleys and plains; thus to fight on the plains was much easier.
- Jer 12:5 "If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country, how will you manage in the thickets by the Jordan?" (NIV)
- Swiftness on the mountains is equivalent to competing with horses; thus victory over footmen was guaranteed.
- This represents a brand of people in the church that run quickly into the vision and purposes of God.
- Matt 5:25 "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you are thrown into prison." (NKJ)

2.4 Activated by Tribulation

"ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks" (1Chr 12:15)

- These men crossed Jordan when it was in flood, to gain the advantage of surprise over the enemy.
- Most folk retreat or faint in the season of adversity, but not with these men.
- A church needs men of this calibre, who function with aggression in the day of trouble, not waiting for the flood to abate (subside, end).

2.5 A Discerning Set Man

"If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment." (1Chr 12:17)

- David did not gullibly (naively, trustingly) accept the multitude that came to him.
- He immediately outlined the conditions for joining (connecting)
- Have you come to help me? His heart would only be joined to those who came to help him.
- In addition, he warned them about the consequence of betrayal the judgment of God.

2.6 The Spirit of Amasai

1Chr 12:18 "Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, and he said: "We are yours, O David; we are on your side, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you." So David received them, and made them captains of the troop." (NKJ)

- Amasai means burden-bearer (this is a kind of the intercessor needed in a church).
- Amasai also means strong; a church needs strong folk, not weak people.
- There must be men and women in the church who voluntarily carry the set man's burden.
- This is beyond bone of bone and flesh of flesh; this is a heart to heart joining.
- If there is no heart to heart joining with the set man, the chances are that you are going to get involved in a conspiracy.
- If there is no heart to heart joining, you cannot be a captain.

There are 5 notable characteristics of individuals with the spirit of Amasai:

2.6.1 Surrender

(1Chr 12:18) "We are yours, O David"

- Surrendering to the set man for use in the vision.
- It's like telling the set man "use me when and where you think I fit".
- These are the kind of people that make up strong churches.
- Our churches are plagued by, "what about my ministry" mindsets, thus few are left behind to build the set man's vision.
- This, in no way endorses blind, absolute submission to an unscriptural / unbiblical demand.
- This is a company that recognizes that the set man does not have to prove himself every time.
- They offer themselves to the set man; they don't need further signs and wonders to validate the set man.
- Religious systems cannot give allegiance to David; needs continual signs and wonders to maintain.
- Some folk need little proof to follow others need a lot. Consider Thomas and the providers in David's army.

2.6.2 Partiality (Preference, Favouritism)

(1Chr 12:18) "we are on your side, O son of Jesse"

- There is a clear articulation and demonstration of loyalty.
- In the event of conflict these individuals take the set man's side.
- They always give him the benefit of the doubt.
- This is a tremendous source of strength to the vision of the house when conflicts arise from false brethren.

2.6.3 Concern

(1Chr 12:18) "Peace, peace to you"

- These individuals are concerned about the set man's peace in the time of war.

2.6.4 Concern for Those Helping the Set Man

(1Chr 12:18) "and peace to your helpers!"

 These folk are never jealous of those standing with the set man. They support the set man and his helpers.

2.6.5 Recognition of Divine Grace

(1Chr 12:18) "For your God helps you"

- This is the motive for joining they recognize that God is helping the set man.
- They recognized that by helping the set man, they were actually helping God.
- These are the individuals that David received and made captains of the troops.
- If you want to build a strong church, make sure that you appoint only those who
 have the spirit of Amasai as your cell leaders.

2.7 Equipped for War

"divisions that were equipped for war" (1Chr 12:23)

- This is beyond fitness for battle; in current context it entails putting on the whole armour of God.
- The fivefold ministry is given to equip the saints for the work of the ministry (Eph. 4).
- The ministry is evangelism, reconciliation, visitation, training, teaching, intercession, warfare etc.
- Warfare is just a part of that ministry; strong local churches have individuals equipped for spiritual warfare.

2.8 Relevance

"understanding of the times" (1Chr 12:32)

- Matt 4:4 "But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." (NKJ)
- There is the preceding Word of God and the proceeding Word of God the past Word and the now Word - past truth and present truth.

- Peter recognized a present truth dimension.
- 2 Pet 1:12 "For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth." (NKJ)
- Exo 17:6 "Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and <u>you shall</u> <u>strike the rock</u>, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." <u>And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.</u>" (NKJ)
- Num 20:8-12 "Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals." "So Moses took the rod from before the LORD as He commanded him. 10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock; and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?" 11 Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.
 12 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them." (NKJ)
- The first time God told Moses to strike the rock in order to obtain water. The second time God asked Moses to speak to the rock. However, Moses repeated the past action of striking the rock, failing to recognize the new demand of God in a new season.
- This act which God called unbelief disqualified Moses from entering the Promised Land.
- Elijah's prophets saw Elisha emerging from Jordan with the mantle of Elijah. Instead
 of pursuing the mantle, they went looking for the body of Elijah the past.
- They failed to perceive the new season of the double portion upon Elisha.
- The understanding of the present demand of God will keep the church in obedience to the voice of God and relevant to the purposes of God.
- Failure to understand the times, leads to religious bondage.
- Luke 12:54-56 "Then He also said to the multitudes, "Whenever you see a cloud rising out of the west, immediately you say, 'A shower is coming'; and so it is. 55"And when you see the south wind blow, you say, 'There will be hot weather'; and there is. 56"Hypocrites! You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not discern this time?" (NKJ)

2.9 Practicality

"to know what Israel ought do" (1Chr 12:32)

- The children of Issachar did not only have understanding of the times, they knew what to do.
- Those who know what to do, have been delivered from personal prophecy.
- John the Baptist who is a picture of the Apostolic Prophetic anointing knew what to do.
- In Luke 3:10,12,14 He had answers to the question "what shall we do?". This element brings a practical dimension to ministry.
- Most people know what to say but don't know what to do.
- We are a generation who must know what to do in sickness, poverty, abnormal church governments, false brethren, church planting etc.

2.10 Personal Success

"all their brethren were at their command;" (1Chr 12:32)

- They had conquered in their own family circle their relatives listened to them.
- This is the hardest territory to win in; these men succeeded at home.
- Successful Christians have first built the church in their own homes.

2.11 Experts

"expert in war"

- This is beyond fitness and being equipped.
- Here they were experts with all the weapons of war; this grace needs to come into local church.
- We need experts in musical instruments, prayer, exegesis (exposition or explanation), hermeneutics (is the study of the principles and methods of interpreting the text of the Bible) etc.

- Exegesis means "exposition or explanation." Biblical exegesis involves the
 examination of a particular text of scripture in order to properly interpret it. Exegesis
 is a part of the process of hermeneutics, the science of interpretation.
- If your teacher gives an explanation of a difficult text you are reading, she is giving
 you an exegesis on it. An exegesis is a critical look at a text.
- This is a migration from theoretical to the practical.
- Know how to use your sword in everyday situations not just Sundays.

2.12 Stout-hearted

"stouthearted men" 1Chr 12:33

- Stout-hearted mean, they were not of double heart; singleness of purpose; loyalty; trustworthiness.
- These men were loyal to David.
- Besides loyalty to God, the church needs men and women that are loyal to the set man and to the vision of the house.

2.13 Keeping Rank

"who could keep ranks" 1Chr 12:33

- This is the discipline of staying within the boundary of your call. It is the principle of working your own land. (Prov 12:11) "He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment." (NIV)
- This principle is a major deterrent to strife in a local church.
- In the Old Testament those who crossed the boundary of their call suffered God's judgement e.g. Uzza (1 Chron. 13:7-10) King Saul (1 Sam. 13:7-14)
- 2 Sam 3:34 "Your hands were not bound nor did your feet put into fetters; as a man falls before wicked men, so you fell." Then all the people wept over him again."
 (NKJ)
- Some people need to be fied hand and foot to keep them in their call.

2.14 Corporate Mental Integration of Vision

1Chr 12:38-39 "All these men of war, who could keep ranks, came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king."

- There was total agreement to David's leadership. David's rulership was accepted with one accord. Thus David's vision became their vision.
- A similar principle is seen in Acts 16:9-10 "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night.
 A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to
 Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we
 sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the
 gospel to them." (NKJ)
- Paul saw the vision, then other members of the team took ownership of the vision because of agreement. Thus the vision moved from singular to plural.
- In this case Paul's vision became their vision... can you do that?
- Corporate mental integration of vision makes the local church the fortress of God.

2.15 Brotherhood

1Chr 12:39 "And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for <u>their</u> brethren had prepared for them." (NKJ)

- Despite diverse giftings the followers of David lived in brotherhood.
- The writer to the Hebrews said: "Let brotherly love continue." (Heb 13:1KJV)
- This understanding destroys strife in a local church.

2.16 Corporate Joy

1Chr 12:40 "Moreover those who were near to them, from as far away as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, were bringing food on donkeys and camels, on mules and oxen-- provisions of flour and cakes of figs and cakes of raisins, wine and oil and oxen and sheep abundantly, for there was joy in Israel." (NKJ)

 Joy in the house is contagious and conducive to enthusiasm for the work of the ministry.

2.17 Corporate Desire for the Presence of God

1Chr 13:3, 4 "and <u>let us bring the ark of our God back to us</u>, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul." 4Then all the assembly said that they would do so, <u>for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people."</u> (NKJ)

- There was a corporate desire for the presence of God
- Corporate (a company, a community; formed into a body)
- They decided to bring back the ark of God only after the strength of the army was established.
- Haggai said that the glory of the latter house will be greater than the glory of the former house.
- If the church is to contain the greater glory a stronger structure is mandatory.
- A new wineskin is needed for new wine; a <u>corporate</u> passion for God is needed to contain the greater glory.

The End!!!