

1Kings5:4-5

Building for God with living stones

“But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune. And behold I intend to build a house for the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord spoke to David my father, saying, ‘Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, he will build the house for My name.’”

The building of a house for our Heavenly Father was a monumental task with much labor and expense being used for the creation of it. The next few chapters are devoted to the amazing things that were made for it as well as all of the costly stones and materials used in it’s construction. While I was reading I couldn’t help but think about what takes place only a few chapters later when after the space of only forty years the people had walked away from God and were serving pagan idols on every hill and only a few years after that the same temple built for God would be filled with idols as well. The same vessels that were to be used for His glory in the space of no time at all in terms of human history would be used to provoke Him to anger.

How excited do you think God really was at the completion of this magnificent temple in His honor? He knew the hearts of men and that the prosperity and peace they were enjoying would quickly turn their hearts from seeking Him to seeking their own self indulgence. This is our word of warning when we think that we are building something of this world to bring glory to God. All the big cathedrals and big plans that Christians get excited about truly will pass away and only the heart that stays steadfast on God will remain. This is not to say that we shouldn’t do big things for God, but we should know that in the space of a lifetime all that we have built of earth, hay, and stubble (Materials of the earth) will truly be burned up and only the things that are invisible will remain.

Anyone can see a magnificent structure and say, “Praise God!” But a person laboring in the poor and downtrodden places of the world, working with invisible but living stones, will create an invisible but truly beautiful and everlasting monument to the glory of God. We need to exchange our costly building materials for living stones. Only then will we be building a structure that will never break God’s heart. One of the best things about living stones is that each one of us can start today! We don’t need to wait for a good plan or enough money or the right training. We just need to start with the people around us. The people we meet at the store, the person who bags our groceries, the person who is struggling with a heavy burden either literally or spiritually. Seek the Lord in the morning for Him to direct you to someone. Seek the Lord at night that He might teach you what to say for the next person you meet. These are the invisible stones. No one is reaching them. Everyone is too busy trying to come up with a big plan that will “really” glorify God. But God knows the end of big things that look good on the outside. He wants a real building made out of living and invisible stones. One of the big differences is that man gets no glory or acclaim from it and God truly receives a real kingdom because the invisible is what is truly visible to Him.

Let us start today! May God give each of us a new spirit of strength and boldness
to just start where we’re at with the people around us.

God bless!

Sept. 9,10 Written by a fellow servant of Jesus -Seth