

Need Grace to Rededicate Your “Temple”?

A beautiful picture of God’s grace is revealed in [2 Chronicles 29 & 30](#). Read the entire two chapters.

King Hezekiah Rededicates the Temple

2 Chronicles 29:4-7, GOD’S WORD Translation- 4 He brought the priests and Levites together in the square on the east side of the temple. 5 He said to them, **“Listen to me, Levites. Perform the ceremonies to make the temple of the Lord God of your ancestors holy. Remove anything that has been corrupted from the holy place.** 6 Our ancestors were unfaithful and did what the Lord our God considered evil. They deserted him. They turned away from the Lord’s tent and turned their backs on him. 7 They also shut the doors of the temple’s entrance hall, extinguished the lamps, and didn’t burn incense or sacrifice burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel.

The Priests and Levites Rededicate the Temple in Just 8 Days!

2 Chronicles 29:17, King James Version - Now they began on the first day of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of the Lord: so they sanctified the house of the Lord in eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first month they made an end.

Hezekiah Rejoiced Because the Thing Was Done Suddenly.

2 Chronicles 29:36, King James Version - And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, that God had prepared the people: for the thing was done suddenly.

The King Is Sovereign—He uses his authority to delay Passover.

In 2 Chronicles 29 & 30, King Hezekiah decides to delay Passover (a 7-day celebration) until the second month because he and his advisors felt like not enough people had sanctified themselves to hold it at the normal time. So the King decreed that it be held the next month.

2 Chronicles 30:1-5, New King James Version - 30 And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and also wrote letters to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, to keep the Passover to the Lord God of Israel. 2 **For the king and his leaders and all the assembly in Jerusalem had agreed to keep the Passover in the second month.** 3 **For they could not keep it at the regular time,** because a sufficient number of priests had not consecrated themselves, nor had the people gathered together at Jerusalem. 4 And the matter pleased the king and all the assembly. 5 So they resolved to make a proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beersheba to Dan, that they should come to keep the Passover to the Lord God of Israel at Jerusalem, since they had not done it for a long time in the prescribed manner.

People from some of the tribes mocked the messengers sent by the king, but later humbled themselves and heeded the call.

2 Chronicles 30:10-11, New King James Version - 10 So the runners passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh, as far as Zebulun; but they laughed at them and

mocked them. 11 Nevertheless some from Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun humbled themselves and came to Jerusalem.

But, everyone in the tribe of Judah felt a strong, God-given desire to heed the first call.

2 Chronicles 30:12, Living Bible - But in Judah the entire nation felt a strong, God-given desire to obey the Lord's direction as commanded by the king and his officers.

God gives grace to those who prepare their hearts to seek Him.

2 Chronicles 30:17-20, New King James Version - 17 For there were many in the assembly who had not sanctified themselves; therefore the Levites had charge of the slaughter of the Passover lambs for everyone who was not clean, to sanctify them to the Lord. 18 For a multitude of the people, many from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet they ate the Passover contrary to what was written. **But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, "May the good Lord provide atonement for everyone 19 who prepares his heart to seek God,** the Lord God of his fathers, though he is not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary." 20 **And the Lord listened to Hezekiah and healed the people.**

The King Is Gracious—He extends the Passover celebration for an additional 7 days!

2 Chronicles 30:23, New King James Version - Then the whole assembly agreed to keep the feast another seven days, and they kept it another seven days with gladness.