

Sacred Assembly slide

Text #

DIFFERENT 2024

{use the same slide as last week ...}

2 Chronicles 29:11-12a

My sons, don't be negligent now, for the Lord has chosen you **to stand** in His presence, to serve Him, and to be His ministers and burners of incense."

¹² Then the Levites **stood up** ...

What did the Levites **stand up for?**

2 Chronicles 29:30-36

Then King Hezekiah and the officials told the Levites to sing **praise** to the Lord in the words of David and of the seer Asaph. So they sang praises with rejoicing and **knelt low and worshiped**.

³¹ Hezekiah concluded, "Now you are consecrated to the Lord. Come near and bring sacrifices and thanksgiving offerings to the Lord's temple." So the congregation brought sacrifices and thanksgiving offerings, and all those with **willing hearts** brought burnt offerings ... the burnt offerings were abundant, along with the fat of the fellowship offerings and with the drink offerings for the burnt offering. So the service of the Lord's temple was established. ³⁶ Then Hezekiah and all the people **rejoiced over how God** had prepared the people, for it had come about **suddenly**.

{come up one at a time}

The Levites stood up for **happiness and awe.**

- a) We are hard-wired to seek awe and happiness.
- b) Where we look will shape the direction of our lives.

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1) Know **the goal: joy (happiness & awe) in the **supremacy of God****

Problem: Habits before heart

Colossians 1:11-14

being strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience **with joy**; ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be **preeminent**. ¹⁹ For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through Him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

Problem: Serious joy

Matthew 13:44

“The kingdom of heaven is like **treasure**, buried in a field, that a man found and reburied. Then in his **joy** he goes and sells **everything** he has and buys that field.

Hebrews 12:2

fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the **joy** set before Him endured **the cross**, despising **the shame**, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Problem: The drift of the age

Matthew 24:11-14

And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. ¹² Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the **love of many will grow cold**. ¹³ But the one who **endures** to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.

2 Chronicles 29:15-17

They gathered their brothers together, **consecrated themselves**, and went according to the king's command by the words of the Lord to cleanse the Lord's temple. ¹⁶ The priests went to the entrance of the Lord's temple to cleanse it. They took all the **unclean** things they found in the Lord's sanctuary to the courtyard of the Lord's temple. Then the Levites received them and took them outside to the Kidron Valley. ¹⁷ They began the consecration on the first day of the first month, and on the eighth day of the month they came to the portico of the Lord's temple. They consecrated the Lord's temple for eight days, and on the **sixteenth** day of the first month they finished.

2) Get **empty so God can **fill**.**

Psalms 16:11

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is **fullness of joy**; at your right hand are **pleasures** forevermore.

{all together one slide; keep formatting}

Are we living in the fullest enjoyment of God?

Have we said “Yes” to all of God’s “Yes” to us in Christ?

No? Maybe? Not now?

a) The process: **displacement** of self, **replacement** with God

b) The process: we have to **look back**

Philippians 3:7-9a, 12-14

But everything that was a gain to me, I have considered to be a loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I also consider **everything to be a loss** in view of the **surpassing value** of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them as dung, so that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him ... Not that I have already reached the goal or am already perfect, but I make every effort to take hold of it because I also have been taken hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: **Forgetting what is behind** and **reaching forward** to what is ahead, ¹⁴ I pursue as my goal **the prize** promised by God’s heavenly call in Christ Jesus.

c) The process: **Confession & Repentance**

What stands in the way? What has built up?

2 Chronicles 29:18-19

Then they went inside to King Hezekiah and said, “We have cleansed the whole temple of the Lord, the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and the table for the rows of the Bread of the Presence and all its utensils. ¹⁹ We have **set up and consecrated** all the utensils that King Ahaz rejected during his reign when he became unfaithful. They are in front of the altar of the Lord.”

2 Chronicles 29:20-24

²⁰ King Hezekiah got up early, gathered the city officials, and went to the Lord’s temple. ²¹ They brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven male goats as a sin offering for the kingdom, for the sanctuary, and for Judah. Then he told the descendants of Aaron, the priests, to offer them on the altar of the Lord. ²² So they slaughtered the bulls, and the priests received **the blood** and splattered it on the altar. They slaughtered the rams and splattered **the blood** on the altar. They slaughtered the lambs and splattered **the blood** on the altar. ²³ Then they brought the goats for the sin offering right into the presence of the king and the congregation, who laid

their hands on them. ²⁴The priests slaughtered the goats and put their **blood** on the altar for a sin offering, to make atonement for all Israel, for the king said that the burnt offering and sin offering were for all Israel.

3) The presence of **blood earnestness**

{one at a time}

Neglecting the Blood:

- **Indifference**
- **Lightness/Trivial**
- **Contempt for God**
- **Religion & Legalism**

Image of Pearl Harbor Arizona Memorial with oil coming up from the sunken ship
<https://external-preview.redd.it/lsds2dsnhdaKEdlH6HgRfJHCyUFe0-BD3rTi-BKg5i0.jpg?width=1057&height=553.403141361&auto=webp&s=0b30448b7443f8d485c2869a91dc8fe16f59daa6>

Image of Christ on the Cross ... From Christmas Eve

To get what God has for us, we have to go through the blood Jesus shed for us.

2 Chronicles 29:31a

Hezekiah concluded, “Now you are consecrated to the Lord. **Come near** ... So the congregation brought sacrifices and thanksgiving offerings, and all those with **willing hearts** brought burnt offerings.

Hebrews 10:19-25

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have **boldness** to enter the sanctuary through the **blood of Jesus**— ²⁰He has inaugurated for us a new and living way through the curtain (that is, through his flesh)— ²¹and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, ²²let us **draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. ²³Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since He who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us **consider one another** in order to provoke love and good works, ²⁵not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

2 Chronicles 29:36

Then Hezekiah and all the people **rejoiced** over how God had prepared the people, for it had come about **suddenly**.

Acts 2:1-2

When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were **all together** in one place. **Suddenly** ...

2 Chronicles 29:11-12a

My sons, don't be negligent **now**, for the Lord has chosen you to stand in his presence, to serve him, and to be his ministers ... Then the Levites **stood up**:

4) Give God our **unconditional willingness**

{all together; one slide}

**When invitation of God's "Come to Me" is received
with the "now" of our obedience,
we can expect the suddenly of God's graciousness ...**

Sacred Assembly slide w/text #