

Over The Cellars Of Oil

1 Chronicles 27:28 (KJV)

“28 And over the olive trees and the sycomore trees that were in the low plains was Baalhanan the Gederite: and over the cellars of oil was Joash”

Introduction

* What we find in *1 Chronicles* is a list of the officers who served in David's court along with the duties each carried out

* It must have been a great honor to be chosen by the king for a place of service

This list of officials from David's kingdom can teach us some lessons about serving the Lord

1. Each Person Had A Place Of Special Service

* God chooses what we do, where we do it and to what extent it is done

* No one else can do the job you have been specially designed to do!

* A Song was on by *Yolanda Adams [The Battle is the Lords]* – one of the verses emphasized that God wants to use you and the Battle is the Lords

2. Each Person Was Called By Name

* God knows each of you by name, He cares for and keeps up with His Own

* *Again Israel Houghton* was singing “*Let the Redeemed of the Lord say So*”

God has called us to not only serve Him – but we are to serve others

God has also called us to be light in darkness

God has called us and placed us in a place He can use us

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* We could spend time talking about each of these duties assigned in these verses, but I want to concentrate on verse 28.

I want to look at the man named Joash

* Joash: Means "*Jehovah hastens*"

He who was the keeper of the cellars of oil

- * Here is a man who was in a place of special service to the king
- * However, his job was not flashy or one that attracted a lot of attention
- * He served his king, but he did so in a dark, damp and deserted cellar

Let's look in on Joash and the job he was called upon to fulfill

- * I want to consider this man and I want to look at the cellar as a place of service
- * You might wonder what you and I can learn from a passage such as this

Well, we can learn a lot about *faithfulness to the Lord in our service*

- * You see, Joash represents much of the church this day and age
- * Like Joash, many Christians serve the Lord in obscurity

Yet, the service they provide is absolutely essential in the life of the church

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The Keeper Of The Oil

THE DUTIES OF HIS JOB

Keep The Oil

Oil was very important in Jewish society

It was used *Religiously* (Lev. 2:1)

And as *Lamp Fuel* (Ex. 27:20)

As an *Item of Commerce* (1 Kings 5:11)

As a *Medicine* (Luke 10:34)

In Cooking and in Cosmetics. (Oil was extremely important!)

Oil is also a symbol - It represents the Holy Spirit!

** We need some saints of God who will be keepers of the oil in our day!*

We need some who will keep old-fashioned preaching, praying, praising the Lord and personal holiness alive in our day

*** How about some Oil Praise and Oil Worship**

*** I'm talking about a Hot fire Praise and a Hot fire Worship**

*** Holy Ghost Presence not show but Presence – A lifestyle of witness**

In that day, the keeper of the oil literally kept the lights on in Israel

*** The keepers of the oil in the church today literally keep the lights on at the house of God!**

*** Example: Bill Wilson [Usher]**

Ephesians 5:17-20 (KJV)

“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”

Galatians 5:22-26 (KJV)

“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another”

Acts 1:8 (KJV)

“8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth”

The keepers of the oil in the church today literally keep the lights on at the house of God!

Stay In Place

* It must have been hard to stay in the cellar!

* If you want to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord just be faithful to Him to serve Him where He has placed you

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (KJV)

“1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”

If you want to always be in the will of the Lord, then keep on doing the last thing the Lord told you to do until He tells you to do something else

Watch For Intruders

- * He was to keep an eye on the oil and be sure none was stolen
- * We need watchers in our day!
- * We need some people who are wide awake, ensuring that the oil of the Spirit is not stolen by the thieves of complacency, apathy, worldliness or popularity
- * We must make sure that the Oil is being used to praise the Lord
- * The candlesticks would not burn unless the oil was being continually poured in – *a CONSTANT FLOW*

The duties of the ancient Watchmen

- * We need some with that same kind of commitment today!

1 Corinthians 16:13 (KJV)

“13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong”

Romans 16:17 (KJV)

“17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them”

2 Thessalonians 3:14 (KJV)

“14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed”

Revelation 3:1-2 (KJV)

1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God”

It would be easy to let the guard down when alone and discouraged in the cellar!

1 Peter 5:8-10 (KJV)

“8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you”

*** Keepers of the Oil**

*** Keepers of Salvation**

*** Keepers are also Demonstrators**

*** Keepers are steadfast and faithful to what they believe and what they are keeping – Keepers guard and protect!**

*** Keepers are a blessing to the now and the future**

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Joash was in a cellar the basement in the foundations a place that many times goes unnoticed

*** A thankless job!**

*** Do it for the King - He sees every effort**

Proverbs 15:3 (KJV)

“3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good”

Revelation 22:12-13 (KJV)

“12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be

13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last”

*** Keepers of the Oil understand who and how they are keeping the oil for**

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*** Be faithful until He changes your assignment**

*** Our job is only to be faithful!**

Don't Come Out For Any Reason

*** If you are serving the Lord, you are doing the greatest work in the world!**

*** Anything else is a step down!**

Nehemiah 6:3 (KJV)

“3 And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?”

*** Politically correctness will not cause you to leave the oil**

*** Adversity will not cause you to leave the oil**

*** The Hot Seat Pressure will not cause you to leave the oil**

*** Loneliness will not cause you to leave the oil**

*** Nothing will cause you to leave the oil**

It is a special person who will just stay put and serve the Lord, even when there is harassment, difficulty, fatigue, and what they do goes unnoticed

*** In this day and age it takes a person who is Spirit-filled and Spirit-led!**

*** *Joash* = “*"Jehovah hastens" - "Jehovah-fired"*!**

The person energized by God Himself will do the job of keeping the oil!

Conclusion

*** Are you a keeper of the Oil?**

*** Are you faithfully fulfilling your duties before the Lord?**

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