

**1Chronicles 16:1 ¶** So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it: and they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God.

**1Chronicles 16:2** And when David had made an end of offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD.

**1Chronicles 16:3** And he dealt to every one of Israel, both man and woman, to every one a loaf of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine.

The narrative continues from the previous chapter...

As noted in the previous chapter, they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God after the ark had been safely placed in the tent that David had specifically prepared to house it. After the offerings had been made David blessed the people in the name of the LORD. He then gave every person present a loaf of bread, a good piece of flesh and a flagon of wine.

Guzik notes: "The burnt offerings spoke of *consecration*. The peace offerings spoke of *fellowship*. This was a day of great consecration and fellowship with God."

**1Chronicles 16:4** And he appointed *certain* of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, and to record, and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel:

**1Chronicles 16:5** Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, Jeiel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Mattithiah, and Eliab, and Benaiah, and Obedom: and Jeiel with psalteries and with harps; but Asaph made a sound with cymbals;

**1Chronicles 16:6** Benaiah also and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God.

David appointed certain Levites to serve the LORD before the ark to burn incense, make petitions on behalf of the people and sing praises to God. Asaph was the designated leader, and Zechariah was his first assistant. Others serving with him are also listed. As noted, some were assigned to play specific instruments.

**1Chronicles 16:7 ¶** Then on that day David delivered first *this psalm* to thank the LORD into the hand of Asaph and his brethren.

David had prepared a song in honor of this day, and he gave it to Asaph and his brethren to perform. These words are mirrored in the first 15 verses of Psalm 105 and are basically repeated in Psalm 96.

**1Chronicles 16:8** Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

**1Chronicles 16:9** Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

David's song begins with a call for his people to give thanks to the LORD and publicly testify of all that He had done for Israel. He encouraged them to sing songs of praise to the LORD as they told of His great miracles on behalf of Israel.

As a gifted musician, David knew that music was one of the most powerful ways to spread the message of God's great works.

Thought: How much time do we spend talking about God in comparison to other things? He should dominate every aspect of our life and conversation.

A very pointed quote from Spurgeon noted by Guzik: "All the good that we enjoy comes from God. Recollect that! Alas, most men forget it. Rowland Hill used to say that worldlings were like the hogs under the oak, which eat the acorns, but never think of the oak from which they fell, nor lift up their heads to grunt out a thanksgiving."

**1Chronicles 16:10 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.**

**1Chronicles 16:11 Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.**

David declares that those who seek the LORD should rejoice and glorify His name. He then encourages the people to personally ask the LORD to strengthen them on a daily continual basis.

I think David's time in the wilderness especially served to impress upon him the importance of seeking the LORD's provision for him on an ongoing basis. We who claim His name today would do well to follow his advice. If we are constantly in communion with the LORD, we are not likely to yield to evil temptations and will be more likely to make wise choices.

**1Chronicles 16:12 Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;**

**1Chronicles 16:13 O ye seed of Israel his servant, ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

I believe David takes this admonition right from the mouth of God as recorded by Moses. The LORD urged His people to "remember" all that He had done for them as a means of encouragement and motivation concerning future choices. That memory would include both miracles of provision and judgment. David reminds the people again that God had specifically chosen them as His servants from among all the nations on earth.

We who know Christ as Savior also fall into the category of God's chosen people and are privileged to be His servants. That status should be reflected in everything we do and say. Our testimony is most powerful when the truth of what we say is reflected in how we live.

*1 Peter 2:5-10 "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ....But ye are*

*a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."*

*1 John 3:18 "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."*

*Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

**1Chronicles 16:14 He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.**

**1Chronicles 16:15 Be ye mindful always of his covenant; the word which he commanded to a thousand generations;**

**1Chronicles 16:16 Even of the covenant which he made with Abraham, and of his oath unto Isaac;**

**1Chronicles 16:17 And hath confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,**

**1Chronicles 16:18 Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance;**

**1Chronicles 16:19 When ye were but few, even a few, and strangers in it.**

David goes on to declare that though the LORD is the God of Israel, He is sovereign over all nations on earth. Israel needs to remember, however, that the LORD made an everlasting covenant with their forefathers. Part of that covenant promise was to give the children of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob the land of Canaan as their inheritance. This covenant was made when they were but few in number living as foreigners in the land.

Another good quote from Guzik: "It was entirely appropriate that this psalm focuses on the idea of His covenant, because it was written for the arrival of the ark of the covenant into the place David prepared for it in Jerusalem."

**1Chronicles 16:20 And when they went from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people;**

**1Chronicles 16:21 He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproveth kings for their sakes,**

**1Chronicles 16:22 Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.**

Though they lived as nomads among the nations, the LORD's protective hand was over them. He warned kings of the nations not to touch His people or harm His prophets.

For example, remember how the LORD dealt with Pharaoh when Abraham had Sarai pose as his sister...

*Genesis 12:17-19 "And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife. And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, What is this that*

*thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife? Why saidst thou, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go thy way."*

...and with Abimelech, king of Gerar.

*Genesis 20:1–7 "And Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar. And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, She is my sister: and Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah. But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife. But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, Lord, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation? Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this. And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her. Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine."*

**1Chronicles 16:23 Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.**

**1Chronicles 16:24 Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.**

David then urges the people to sing to the LORD in testimony of His salvation, His glory among the nations and His wondrous works among all the nations.

Some of those marvelous works we so take for granted; e.g., that He continues to hold the universe together so that the laws of nature that He set in motion continue to work in tandem to support life on planet earth.

**1Chronicles 16:25 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods.**

**1Chronicles 16:26 For all the gods of the people are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.**

**1Chronicles 16:27 Glory and honour are in his presence; strength and gladness are in his place.**

David identifies the LORD, THE One to be feared among all "gods" (little g) as deserving of great praise. The "gods" of the nations are but impotent idols. The LORD, however, is the Creator of the heavens. His presence is one of glory and honor, and He exudes strength and gladness.

**1Chronicles 16:28 Give unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.**

**1Chronicles 16:29 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

**1Chronicles 16:30 Fear before him, all the earth: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.**

David urges the nations to acknowledge that the LORD is full of glory and power. He deserves their offerings and worship in recognition of His holiness—His unique position as LORD and Creator. Everyone on planet earth should fear and tremble before Him. He has firmly fixed the earth so that it cannot be moved.

What is it like to worship the LORD in the “beauty of holiness.” I’m not sure we’ll truly understand that until we get to heaven. We get glimpses even in this fallen world as creation testifies to that beauty. I can hardly wait to experience the wonder and beauty of being in His presence with no taint of sin.

**1Chronicles 16:31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let *men* say among the nations, The LORD reigneth.**

**1Chronicles 16:32 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that *is* therein.**

**1Chronicles 16:33 Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he cometh to judge the earth.**

David declares that the heavens and earth should be glad and rejoice. I believe this is a reference to the angels as well as mankind. We should be thankful that “The LORD reigns.” He is totally in control within His own established parameters.

David even pictures every living thing in the seas and the fields rejoicing before the LORD. Even the trees of the wood can sing in the presence of the LORD as they wait for His coming to judge the earth.

**1Chronicles 16:34 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is good*; for his mercy *endureth* for ever.**

**1Chronicles 16:35 And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to thy holy name, *and* glory in thy praise.**

**1Chronicles 16:36 Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel for ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the LORD.**

David closes his song by giving thanks to the LORD because of His goodness and the truth that His mercy endures forever.

It is because of the pity and compassion of a long-suffering Father that we can experience mercy, His willingness to spare us the treatment we deserve. How thankful we can be as His children that His mercies and compassions are new every morning.

*Lamentations 3:22–23 “It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”*

David urges the people to cry out to God for His salvation and deliverance from the heathen (those that do not recognize Him as LORD). We should pray for

Him to gather us together so that we may give Him our thanks and rejoice in praising Him.

Again, David reiterates that the LORD God of Israel is to be adored (from the Hebrew) forever. All the people affirmed their agreement with David by saying “Amen” and praising the LORD.

“gather us together and deliver us” – David’s words concerned Israel. I read those words and look forward to the soon coming of Jesus to take His family home to heaven.

**1Chronicles 16:37 ¶ So he left there before the ark of the covenant of the LORD Asaph and his brethren, to minister before the ark continually, as every day’s work required:**

**1Chronicles 16:38 And Obededom with their brethren, threescore and eight; Obededom also the son of Jeduthun and Hosah *to be* porters:**

**1Chronicles 16:39 And Zadok the priest, and his brethren the priests, before the tabernacle of the LORD in the high place that *was* at Gibeon,**

**1Chronicles 16:40 To offer burnt offerings unto the LORD upon the altar of the burnt offering continually morning and evening, and *to do* according to all that is written in the law of the LORD, which he commanded Israel;**

**1Chronicles 16:41 And with them Heman and Jeduthun, and the rest that were chosen, who were expressed by name, to give thanks to the LORD, because his mercy *endureth* for ever;**

**1Chronicles 16:42 And with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those that should make a sound, and with musical instruments of God. And the sons of Jeduthun *were* porters.**

David then left the ark of the covenant of the LORD in the care of Asaph and his brethren to serve as they had been appointed. It seems that Obededom supervised those serving in Jerusalem. Other scripture identifies Abiathar as the priest in charge in Jerusalem, so maybe Obededom assisted him.

*1 Chronicles 18:16 “And Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Abimelech the son of Abiathar, were the priests”*

Zadok the priest was in charge over the priests that would minister at the tabernacle of the LORD in Gibeon. They would continue to offer the morning and evening sacrifices on the altar of burnt offerings as commanded by the LORD. It appears the Heman and Jeduthun led the group that would provide praise music at the tabernacle.

**1Chronicles 16:43 And all the people departed every man to his house: and David returned to bless his house.**

Once the celebration was over everyone went home. David went home and blessed his house.