

1Chronicles 25:1 ¶ Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:

1Chronicles 25:2 Of the sons of Asaph; Zaccur, and Joseph, and Nethaniah, and Asarelah, the sons of Asaph under the hands of Asaph, which prophesied according to the order of the king.

1Chronicles 25:3 Of Jeduthun: the sons of Jeduthun; Gedaliah, and Zeri, and Jeshaiiah, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with a harp, to give thanks and to praise the LORD.

1Chronicles 25:4 Of Heman: the sons of Heman; Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamtiezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth:

1Chronicles 25:5 All these *were* the sons of Heman the king's seer in the words of God, to lift up the horn. And God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters.

The focus in this chapter turns to the musicians. It's interesting to note that the military leaders assisted David in this process. The sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun were chosen to sing and play with harps, lyres and cymbals (strings and percussion).

Guzik provided this insight: "Their service was connected with the dynamic of prophecy in the sense that it was inspired by God. Their ministry in music was not merely the product of good musicianship; it was a gift of the Holy Spirit being exercised through them."

The sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah and Asarelah. They are identified principally as singers. A quick search shows that Asaph is credited with composing 12 of the psalms (50 & 73-83).

The sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiiah, Hashabiah and Mattithiah. They were assigned to play harps and sing praises to the LORD. Jeduthan is noted as the chief musician directing psalms 39, 62 and 77.

The sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Romamtiezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir and Mahazioth. They were assigned to play the horns. It is noted that Heman was one of the king's personal seers and was blessed with 14 sons and 3 daughters. Heman is credited with the composition of psalm 88.

1Chronicles 25:6 All these *were* under the hands of their father for song *in* the house of the LORD, with cymbals, psalteries, and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman.

1Chronicles 25:7 So the number of them, with their brethren that were instructed in the songs of the LORD, *even* all that were cunning, was two hundred fourscore and eight.

1Chronicles 25:8 ¶ And they cast lots, ward against *ward*, as well the small as the great, the teacher as the scholar.

A total of 288 men were chosen to serve in the music ministry. The musicians were also divided by lot into 24 courses to serve alongside the corresponding courses of priests and Levites.

Gill makes this observation on verse 8: "...no regard was had to the age of a person, his being the firstborn or a younger brother, or to his office and station, whether as a teacher or a learner in the science of singing; he was made the head of a course, as the lot came up; and it may easily be observed, by comparing the lots in the following verses with the sons of the chief singers, according to the order of them in 1 Chronicles 25:2 that the younger are often preferred in the courses by lot to the elder, of which even the first lot is an instance."

The rest of the chapter identifies the leaders of each group of 12 men.

1Chronicles 25:9 Now the first lot came forth for Asaph to Joseph: the second to Gedaliah, who with his brethren and sons *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:10 The third to Zaccur, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:11 The fourth to Izri, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:12 The fifth to Nethaniah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:13 The sixth to Bukkiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:14 The seventh to Jesharelah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:15 The eighth to Jeshaiiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:16 The ninth to Mattaniah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:17 The tenth to Shimei, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:18 The eleventh to Azareel, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:19 The twelfth to Hashabiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:20 The thirteenth to Shubael, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:21 The fourteenth to Mattithiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:22 The fifteenth to Jeremoth, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:23 The sixteenth to Hananiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:24 The seventeenth to Joshbekashah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:25 The eighteenth to Hanani, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

1Chronicles 25:26 The nineteenth to Mallothi, *he*, his sons, and his brethren,

were twelve:

1Chronicles 25:27 The twentieth to Eliathah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were twelve:*

1Chronicles 25:28 The one and twentieth to Hothir, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were twelve:*

1Chronicles 25:29 The two and twentieth to Giddalti, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were twelve:*

1Chronicles 25:30 The three and twentieth to Mahazioth, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were twelve:*

1Chronicles 25:31 The four and twentieth to Romantiezer, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were twelve.*