

1Chronicles 26:1 ¶ Concerning the divisions of the porters: Of the Korhites *was* Meshelemiah the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.

1Chronicles 26:2 And the sons of Meshelemiah *were*, Zechariah the firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth,

1Chronicles 26:3 Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Elioenai the seventh.

1Chronicles 26:4 Moreover the sons of Obededom *were*, Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, and Sacar the fourth, and Nethaneel the fifth,

1Chronicles 26:5 Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth: for God blessed him.

1Chronicles 26:6 Also unto Shemaiah his son were sons born, that ruled throughout the house of their father: for they *were* mighty men of valour.

1Chronicles 26:7 The sons of Shemaiah; Othni, and Rephael, and Obed, Elzabad, whose brethren *were* strong men, Elihu, and Semachiah.

1Chronicles 26:8 All these of the sons of Obededom: they and their sons and their brethren, able men for strength for the service, *were* threescore and two of Obededom.

1Chronicles 26:9 And Meshelemiah had sons and brethren, strong men, eighteen.

1Chronicles 26:10 Also Hosah, of the children of Merari, had sons; Simri the chief, (for *though* he was not the firstborn, yet his father made him the chief;)

1Chronicles 26:11 Hilkiyah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth: all the sons and brethren of Hosah *were* thirteen.

1Chronicles 26:12 Among these *were* the divisions of the porters, *even* among the chief men, *having* wards one against another, to minister in the house of the LORD.

As noted in previous chapters, the porters were the gatekeepers charged with supervising access to the temple and ensuring that no unclean or unscrupulous person was allowed to enter. They were also divided into 24 groups to serve with the corresponding groups of priests, Levites and musicians.

I liked Guzik's comment: "Some would make a distinction between the spiritual work of the temple and the practical work of the temple and regard the spiritual work as more important. The Chronicler is careful to remind us that the work of these gatekeepers, whose service was more practical in nature, was esteemed by God as just as valuable."

1Chronicles 26:13 And they cast lots, as well the small as the great, according to the house of their fathers, for every gate.

1Chronicles 26:14 And the lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots; and his lot came out northward.

1Chronicles 26:15 To Obededom southward; and to his sons the house of Asuppim.

1Chronicles 26:16 To Shuppim and Hosah *the lot came forth* westward, with the gate Shallecheth, by the causeway of the going up, ward against ward.

1Chronicles 26:17 Eastward *were* six Levites, northward four a day, southward four a day, and toward Asuppim two *and* two.

1Chronicles 26:18 At Parbar westward, four at the causeway, *and* two at Parbar.

1Chronicles 26:19 *These are the divisions of the porters among the sons of Kore, and among the sons of Merari.*

Lots were cast to determine the gate assignments. Again it is pointed out that these assignments were made without prejudice to influence, wealth or seniority.

- East – Shelemiah, assisted by six Levites
- North – Zechariah, son of Shelemiah, assisted by four Levites
- South – Obededom, assisted by four Levites
- West – Shuppim and Hosah (2 entrances), assisted by four Levites at the gate from the causeway and two at the gate leading west

1Chronicles 26:20 ¶ *And of the Levites, Ahijah was over the treasures of the house of God, and over the treasures of the dedicated things.*

1Chronicles 26:21 *As concerning the sons of Laadan; the sons of the Gershonite Laadan, chief fathers, even of Laadan the Gershonite, were Jehieli.*

1Chronicles 26:22 *The sons of Jehieli; Zetham, and Joel his brother, which were over the treasures of the house of the LORD.*

1Chronicles 26:23 *Of the Amramites, and the Izharites, the Hebronites, and the Uzzielites:*

1Chronicles 26:24 *And Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, was ruler of the treasures.*

1Chronicles 26:25 *And his brethren by Eliezer; Rehabiah his son, and Jeshaiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomith his son.*

1Chronicles 26:26 *Which Shelomith and his brethren were over all the treasures of the dedicated things, which David the king, and the chief fathers, the captains over thousands and hundreds, and the captains of the host, had dedicated.*

1Chronicles 26:27 *Out of the spoils won in battles did they dedicate to maintain the house of the LORD.*

1Chronicles 26:28 *And all that Samuel the seer, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruah, had dedicated; and whosoever had dedicated any thing, it was under the hand of Shelomith, and of his brethren.*

This section is a record of those in charge of the temple treasury and all the valuable things specifically dedicated for temple use, e.g., the spoils of war. The treasury included the spoils of war that had been dedicated by the prophet Samuel, King Saul, Abner (Saul's military commander) and Joab (David's military commander).

1Chronicles 26:29 ¶ *Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were for the outward business over Israel, for officers and judges.*

1Chronicles 26:30 *And of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brethren, men of valour, a thousand and seven hundred, were officers among them of Israel on this side Jordan westward in all the business of the LORD, and in the service of the king.*

1Chronicles 26:31 *Among the Hebronites was Jerijah the chief, even among the Hebronites, according to the generations of his fathers. In the fortieth year of*

the reign of David they were sought for, and there were found among them mighty men of valour at Jazer of Gilead.

1Chronicles 26:32 And his brethren, men of valour, *were* two thousand and seven hundred chief fathers, whom king David made rulers over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, for every matter pertaining to God, and affairs of the king.

This section details those appointed to serve as officers and judges for the judicial system in Israel. JFB notes that there were three different groups: "...there were six thousand of them (1 Chronicles 23:4), who probably acted like their brethren on the principle of rotation, and these were divided into three classes — one (1 Chronicles 26:29) for the outward business over Israel; one (1 Chronicles 26:30), consisting of seventeen hundred, for the west of Jordan 'in all business of the Lord, and in the service of the king'; and the third (1 Chronicles 26:31, 32), consisting of twenty-seven hundred, 'rulers for every matter pertaining to God, and affairs of the king.'"

It is important to note that these men were responsible for matters requiring judgment both spiritual and mundane.

Verse 31 makes the point that these things were taking place in the 40th or last year of David's reign.