



LONGING FOR THE

KING



2 Chronicles 29: 1-2

¹ Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abijah the daughter of Zechariah. ² And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

We should imitate Hezekiah because he took responsibility for his leadership.

2 Chronicles 29:3

³ In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the LORD and repaired them.

2 Chronicles 29: 6, 10-11

⁶ For our fathers have been unfaithful and have done what was evil in the sight of the LORD our God. They have forsaken him and have turned away their faces from the habitation of the LORD and turned their backs.

2 Chronicles 29: 6, 10-11

¹⁰ Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD, the God of Israel, in order that his fierce anger may turn away from us. ¹¹ My sons, do not now be negligent, for the LORD has chosen you to stand in his presence, to minister to him and to be his ministers and make offerings to him.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

We should imitate Hezekiah because he trusted God to deliver his people.

2 Chronicles 32:1

¹ After these things and these acts of faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and invaded Judah and encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them for himself.

2 Chronicles 32:6-7

⁶ And he set combat commanders over the people and gathered them together to him in the square at the gate of the city and spoke encouragingly to them, saying, ⁷ “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria

2 Chronicles 32:6-7

and all the horde that is with him, for there are more with us than with him. 8 With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles.” And the people took confidence from the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

Isaiah 37:15-17, 20

¹⁵ And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD: ¹⁶
“O LORD of hosts, God of Israel,
enthroned above the cherubim, you are
the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms
of the earth; you have made heaven
and earth. ¹⁷ Incline your ear, O LORD,
and hear; open your eyes, O LORD,

Isaiah 37:15-17, 20

and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.

²⁰ So now, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone are the LORD.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

We should imitate King Hezekiah because he obeyed God from the heart.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

Obedience from the heart results in great joy.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

Obedience from the heart is founded on God's Word.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

Obedience from the heart responds to God's character.

2 Chronicles 30:17-20

¹⁷ For there were many in the assembly who had not consecrated themselves. Therefore the Levites had to slaughter the Passover lamb for everyone who was not clean, to consecrate it to the LORD. ¹⁸ For a majority of the people, many of them from Ephraim,

2 Chronicles 30:17-20

Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet they ate the Passover otherwise than as prescribed. For Hezekiah had prayed for them, saying, "May the good LORD pardon everyone

2 Chronicles 30:17-20

¹⁹ who sets his heart to seek God, the LORD, the God of his fathers, even though not according to the sanctuary's rules of cleanness.” ²⁰ And the LORD heard Hezekiah and healed the people.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

Obedience from the heart promotes unity among God's people.

2 Chronicles 30:9

⁹ For if you return to the LORD, your brothers and your children will find compassion with their captors and return to this land. For the LORD your God is gracious and merciful and will not turn away his face from you, if you return to him.

Colossians 3:12-14

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other;

Colossians 3:12-14

as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

Obedience from the heart results in the joy of God's blessing.

2 Chronicles 30:23, 27

²³ Then the whole assembly agreed together to keep the feast for another seven days. So they kept it for another seven days with gladness.

²⁷ Then the priests and the Levites arose and blessed the people, and their voice was heard, and their prayer came to his holy habitation in heaven.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

We will see God: “They shall see God” (Matthew 5:8).

We will be shown mercy: “They shall receive mercy” (Matthew 5:7).

We will be part of God’s family: “They shall be called sons of God” (Matthew 5:9).

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

We will experience God's comfort:

“They shall be comforted”

(Matthew 5:4).

We will be co-owners of the whole world: “They shall inherit the earth”

(Matthew 5:5).

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

We will be satisfied with personal and universal righteousness: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied” (Matthew 5:6).

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

Have you heard God's blessing in your innermost being? Are the words, "You are my beloved child, in whom I delight" an endless source of joy and strength? Have you sensed, through the Holy Spirit, God speaking to you? That blessing - the blessing through the Spirit that is ours through Christ . . .

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

is the only remedy against idolatry. Only that blessing makes idols unnecessary . . . We usually discover this only after a life of looking for blessings in all the wrong places. It often takes an experience of crippling weakness for us to finally discover it.

Hezekiah | The Joy of Obedience

That is why so many of the most God-blessed people limp as they dance for joy.

-Tim Keller, Counterfeit Gods

2 Kings 20:16-21

¹⁶ Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the LORD:

¹⁷ Behold, the days are coming, when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says the LORD.

2 Kings 20:16-21

¹⁸ And some of your own sons, who will come from you, whom you will father, shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.” ¹⁹ Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “The word of the LORD that you have spoken is good.”

2 Kings 20:16-21

For he thought, “Why not, if there will be peace and security in my days?”

²⁰ The rest of the deeds of Hezekiah and all his might and how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

2 Kings 20:16-21

²¹ And Hezekiah slept with his fathers,
and Manasseh his son reigned in his
place.