

The Bishop's Corner

Rebuilding the House of God

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Hezekiah began to reign when he was five and twenty years old, and he reigned nine and twenty years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done. He in the first year of his reign, in the first month, opened the doors of the house of the Lord, and repaired them. And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the east street, and said unto them, ‘Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place.’ And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the Lord, to cleanse the house of the Lord (II Chronicles 29:1-5,15 KJV).”

The first thing that King Hezekiah does in his first year of reign is to open the temple of God because King Ahaz had caused the people to fall completely into idolatry and had shut the doors of the temple. Much like the people of God who had fallen into idolatry during King Ahaz’s reign, we too may have allowed many things into our temple (our affections) that require us to clean our house.

Before we can rebuild the house of God, we must first take an introspection of ourselves to see if we need to turn back to God. If we should find things in ourselves that are not pleasing to God, then we must get rid of them. The word of God edifies, exhorts and; comforts; and it is always right. Therefore we should check ourselves by God’s word each day. We should be able to spot things within ourselves that are not motivated by the Holy Ghost and allow him to remove them.

The things King Hezekiah had to remove from the temple represent the things that enter our affections and mind that don’t align with God’s will. Like King Hezekiah, we must also come to the point where we say we’re done with things that disagree with the Holy Ghost. Just like Hezekiah was cleansing the temple to set it up for worship, the Spirit wants to set us up for worship.

As we look at Hezekiah’s purging of the temple, we must look at ourselves and ask God to purge us. We can either start or delay God’s work of rebuilding His house. Whatever work God has called us to do, we must do it, and we must not be afraid to start the work over again, if necessary. But we must do the work of God for His glory and not for the praises of men because the praises of men take away our reward in heaven and dims our light in the world. We’re trying to produce heavenly people who love God as we do; therefore, we must reap the harvest because people need to be saved from earth and the corruption of it. But we can’t do anything until we allow God to cleanse us.

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction

