

WORD 2022

Fathers

Atmosphere – Awareness - Anticipation

Mothers

Investment – Involvement - Interaction

Look Around!

You

CHANGING THE ATMOSPHERE

2 Chronicles 5:2-14 Solomon then summoned to Jerusalem the elders of Israel and all the heads of tribes—the leaders of the ancestral families of Israel. They were to bring the Ark of the Lord's Covenant to the Temple from its location in the City of David, also known as Zion. 3 So all the men of Israel assembled before the king at the annual Festival of Shelters, which is held in early autumn.

4 When all the elders of Israel arrived, the Levites picked up the Ark. 5 The priests and Levites brought up the Ark along with the special tent and all the sacred items that had been in it. 6 There, before the Ark, King Solomon and the entire community of Israel sacrificed so many sheep, goats, and cattle that no one could keep count!

7 Then the priests carried the Ark of the Lord's Covenant into the inner sanctuary of the Temple—the Most Holy Place—and placed it beneath the wings of the cherubim. 8 The cherubim spread their wings over the Ark, forming a canopy over the Ark and its carrying poles. 9 These poles were so long that their ends could be seen from the Temple's main room—the Holy Place—but not from the outside. They are still there to this day. 10 Nothing was in the Ark except the two stone tablets that Moses had placed in it at Mount Sinai, where the Lord made a covenant with the people of Israel when they left Egypt.

11 Then the priests left the Holy Place. All the priests who were present had purified themselves, whether or not they were on duty that day. 12 And the Levites who were musicians—Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, and all their sons and brothers—were dressed in fine linen robes and stood at the east side of the altar playing cymbals, lyres, and harps. They were joined by 120 priests who were playing trumpets. 13 The trumpeters and singers performed together in unison to praise and give thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals, and other instruments, they raised their voices and praised the Lord with these words:

"He is good!

His faithful love endures forever!"

At that moment a thick cloud filled the Temple of the Lord. 14 The priests could not continue their service because of the cloud, for the glorious presence of the Lord filled the Temple of God.

- Atmosphere speaks of a pervading or surrounding influence or spirit.

Changing/ Impacting Atmosphere (Personal, Home, Church and Work)

1. Preparations for Dedication!
2. All were summoned to participate! (vs.2)
3. The task was to bring the Ark of the Lord's Covenant to Jerusalem. (vs.2-3)
 - a. This was "No Business as Usual"
4. There is a God Ordained Way
 - a. God's way vs. Our way
5. There was an attitude of sacrifice and generosity! (vs.6)
 - a. When there is a spirit of generosity and sacrifice it communicates and importance and value!!!
 - b. Both the "Giver" and the "Receiver" are encouraged blessed!!

6. Priest, Treasure and Poles! (vs. 7-10)

a. **1 Peter 2:4-10** You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

5 And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. **What's more, you are his holy priests.** Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. 6 As the Scriptures say, "I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem, chosen for great honor, and anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced."

7 Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him, "The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone."

8 And, "He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

9 But you are not like that, **for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession.** As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

10 Once you had no identity as a people; **now you are God's people.** Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy." NLT

b. 2 Corinthians 4:6-7 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- **Treasures in Jars of Clay**

- 7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ESV

c. We are now the priest, carrying a great treasure!

7. Prepared and Ready (vs. 11)

a. All ready and anyone can receive!

b. Hebrews 11:6 It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists and that he cares enough to respond to those who seek him.

8. An Attitude of Worship (vs. 12-13) (Worship Deeper article)

- a. Put simply, **worship is declaring the greatness of someone or something.**
- b. It is the act of giving up your own glory to make sure everyone knows that the thing being worshiped is pretty awesome.
- c. To put it even more succinctly, **worship is bowing down to lift up.**
- d. **Romans 12:1-2** So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life — your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life — and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. 2 Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. **THE MESSAGE**
- e. Worship is an attitude of the heart! Personal, home, work, and church. **We all worship!**
The questions are what are you bowing down to lift up?

9. Declaring Him and His Goodness! (vs.13)

- a. **"He is good! His faithful love endures forever!"**
- b. Your focus has a lot to do with your atmosphere!
 - i. Stinking thinking produces a stinking atmosphere!
- c. Quote from Dr. Tony Evans:
- d. Expectation is the atmosphere for miracles!

10. God shows up and His Glory fills the Place!

- a. Personal life
- b. Homes
- c. Work
- d. Church

11. I don't like your way!!!

a. 2 Chronicles 6 – 7

b. 2 Chronicles 7:19-22 "But if you or your descendants abandon me and disobey the decrees and commands I have given you, and if you serve and worship other gods, 20 then I will uproot the people from this land that I have given them. I will reject this Temple that I have made holy to honor my name. I will make it an object of mockery and ridicule among the nations. 21 And though this Temple is impressive now, all who pass by will be appalled. They will ask, 'Why did the Lord do such terrible things to this land and to this Temple?'

22 "And the answer will be, 'Because his people abandoned the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who brought them out of Egypt, and they worshiped other gods instead and bowed down to them. That is why he has brought all these disasters on them.'" NLT

