

“SACRED SUPPORT”

2 Kings 12:4-14

We deal with large numbers of Pastors/support. You watch over time how men do & develop. It is directly connected to their attitudes toward support.

I. THE PRINCIPLE OF FELLOWSHIP

A. Simple rule of life is the need for partners

1. No one/no couple can fulfill the purposes of God by themselves!

a. *Go into all the world...* but God knows you cannot accomplish by yourself: Financially/help

B. But God has instituted the plan of Fellowship: Partnering together to accomplish the will of God

1. *Phil 1:5* For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

a. Fellowship: Joint-sharing - partnership Each partner supplies something to accomplish the common goal

2. Our scripture shows the principle of partnership

a. King (direction) priests (distribution) people (finances) workmen (skill/labor)

1. Together they rebuild the temple – so other people can be helped by God

C. We are a part of a Fellowship

1. We partner together to reach an individual city/nation for God

a. Leaders (direction) people (supply the finances) Priests (able to labor/apply skill to build)

2. This is unique! Not done by every church/organization in the world

a. *Go: No equipment* b. *No ongoing support: Impact teams/revivals* c. *Conferences*

II. THE PRINCIPLE OF UNFAITHFULNESS

A. Our scripture shows a problem in Fellowship

1. *V7* why have you not repaired the damages of the temple!

a. A Leader gave direction / the people gave finances...but you aren't doing your part!

2. He reminds them of their connection to the people

a. *V5* from his acquaintance/NKJV constituency...NCV from the people he serves

1. You're acting like you're alone – but you're not! You are connected to others

3. This plays out in men who go into the ministry: Pastors/Pioneers/missionaries

a. Men who are not laboring for the ministry: Safaris/holidays/excursions

1. *He hasn't outreached or gone to prayer in 3 months* 2. *Second family holiday in 6 weeks!*

b. Men who have no reverence for the money they're asking for: No big deal – send thousands!

c. Men who are constant takers: Never get to the point of cutting support or giving back

B. There needs to be a reverence for support: Support is sacred! Holy to God

1. David: 2 Sam 23: Mighty men bring him a drink – because he is thirsty

a. But he poured it out unto the Lord: This is the blood of men who support me!

1. Unto the Lord: *I am working for you/seeking to honor you*; God sees what you're doing!

2. Blood of men: *This is their life! Hours labored/sacrifices made*; They are expecting you to do right

2. A principle is laid down here: God will find someone else to do His work!

a. *2 Kings 12:8* the priests agreed they would not receive more money from the people, nor repair the temple damages.

b. *2 Kings 12:11* Next they weighed the money and gave it to the people in charge of the work on the Temple. With it they paid the carpenters and the builders who worked on the Temple of the LORD,

III. THE PRINCIPLE OF FAITHFULNESS

A. What God is looking for is faithful men

1. *2 Kings 12:15* Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hand they delivered the money to be bestowed on workmen: for they dealt faithfully.

a. Fidelity: Accurately represent or reproduce (Hi-fidelity)

2. These are the people who please God

a. **They allow the work of God to be accomplished:** *V14* gave it to the workmen and repaired the house of the Lord

b. **He remembers them:** many places in the Bible faithful men are recorded

1. *Luke 16:10-12* He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

a. Much/true riches/your own

c. **He chooses them for larger tasks:** Stephen faithful – made impact through his preaching/touched Saul