Subject: Blessing the God Who Blesses All

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 29:9-20

Whenever we sing the Doxology we sing these words, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." It is true that all blessings flow from God. Whatever we have comes from Him, and whatever we give to Him was first given by Him. King David understood this, and we need to understand it as well. All things belong to God and come from God.

David wanted to build a temple for God, but God said "No." That assignment was given to Solomon, David's son. But David was involved in preparing for it, especially in collecting the gold, silver, wood, and other materials that would be used in construction. David and the people of God gave willingly and generously so that the temple could be built, and this chapter tells us about the dedication of these building materials to God. It is an important passage for this time in our church. Now is a time much like it was for David and the Jews. It is a time of thanksgiving for what God has done for our church and through our church.

## 1. The People's Offering to God (vs. 9)

Their offerings were joyful and they were willing. They gave abundantly and cheerfully.

• <u>2 Corinthians 9:7</u> Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

## 2. <u>David's Praise for God (vs. 10-17)</u>

David understood who deserved the credit for all their giving...not the people, but God. Our giving comes from the resources God first gives to us.

• <u>1 Corinthians 16:2</u> Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Verse 10 – David blessed the God who blessed them with all the gifts they were able to bring to Him. This is what Paul said in his letter to the Ephesians:

• <u>Ephesians 1:3</u> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

David understood the truth we often sing, "Come thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy praise." God is the fountain, the source of every blessing.

Notice the word "all" in these verses (vs. 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20).

Verse 11 – David praised God for His greatness, power, glory, victory, and majesty because all things in heaven and earth belong to Him. He is the supreme King over all things.

Verse 12 – David praised God as the source of all riches and honor. He praised God for His sovereign rule and His authority, which He delegates in part to others.

Verse 13 – This is a summary of praise for God's name (all that He is, all His glorious attributes).

Verse 14 – David asks a rhetorical question and then gives the answer. He and the people have been able to give willingly and abundantly because God has been so generous to them.

Verse 15 – David understands that he and the people have the privilege to live and serve God for just a short time, just like their forefathers had. He knew their opportunity for serving God would soon be gone. We need to understand that and live like it. Jonathan Edwards said this as part of his resolutions: "O God, stamp eternity on my eyeballs."

Verse 16-17 – David praises God again for His goodness and generosity. He knows that God sees their gifts, but He also sees their hearts and knows their motives in giving.

## 3. David's Prayer to God (vs. 18-19)

Verses 18-19 – In his prayer David was mindful that God was the God of his forefathers, of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel (Jacob). He prayed that this attitude of gratitude and generous giving would always be in the thoughts of the hearts of the people. In other words, he prayed that their devotion to God would never grow cold. He prayed for Solomon that he would have a heart to obey God's Word and do His will in building the temple.

Verse 20 – David called for the people to bless God. They did so and bowed their heads in humility and worshiped God. What a worship service! What a dedication to the Lord for who He is, for all He provided, and for all they were able to give back to Him.

The words of our hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God" were written by Martin Rinkart. The words remind us that all blessings come from God and He is worthy of our praise. It says:

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices Who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices; Who from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on our way, With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today."

Our attitude is the key to our worship. Our attitude toward giving and worship is based on our thoughts toward God. A. W. Tozer was right when he said, "What comes to mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us." What we think about God will determine our attitude, our giving, our praises, our prayers, our obedience, and our worship.