

Davidic Worship

The Royal Priesthood of God's People



Message Outline

- 1 Chronicles 22:2–19 Preparation for the Temple
- 1 Chronicles 23:1–32 Levites organized into four divisions by type of work
 - Work of the Temple
 - Officers and judges
 - Worshippers
 - Porters / gatekeepers



Message Outline

- 1 Chronicles 24:1–31 The divisions of the priests into 24 (verse 4)
- 1 Chronicles 25:1–31 The divisions of the musicians 24 lots (vs 31)
- 1 Chronicles 26:1–32 The divisions of the gatekeepers 24 divisions (vss 17–19)
- 1 Chronicles 27:1–34 division of Officers and tribal leaders (12 + 12) (vs 15–16)



The Four Jobs of the Levites

1 Chronicles 23:4–5 KJV Of which, twenty and four thousand were to set forward the **work of the house of the LORD**; and six thousand were **officers and judges**: (23:5) Moreover four thousand were **porters**; and four thousand **praised the LORD** with the instruments which I made, said David, to praise therewith.



Priests Divided into 24 Courses

1 Chronicles 24:4 KJV And there were more chief men found of the sons of Eleazar than of the sons of Ithamar; and thus were they divided. Among the sons of Eleazar there were **sixteen** chief men of the house of their fathers, and **eight** among the sons of Ithamar according to the house of their fathers.



Musicians Divided into 24 Lots

1 Chronicles 25:1–31 KJV Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, **who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals:...**...(25:9) Now the first lot came forth for Asaph to Joseph:...(25:31) **The four and twentieth** to Romamtiezer, he, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve.



Gatekeepers Divided into 24 Divisions

1 Chronicles 26:17–19 KJV Eastward were **six** Levites, northward **four** a day, southward **four** a day, and toward Asuppim **two** and **two**. (26:18) At Parbar westward, **four** at the causeway, and **two** at Parbar. (26:19) These are the divisions of the porters among the sons of Kore, and among the sons of Merari.



Divisions of Officers and Tribal Leaders in a Federal System (12+12)

1 Chronicles 27:1–16 KJV Now the children of Israel after their number, to wit, the chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds, and their officers that ~~serviced the~~ **king in any matter of the courses**, which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year, of every course were twenty and four thousand...



Divisions of Officers and Tribal Leaders in a Federal System (12+12)

1 Chronicles 27:1–16 KJV ... (27:15) The **twelfth** captain for the **twelfth** month was Heldai the Netophathite, of Othniel: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.

(27:16) Furthermore over the **tribes** of **Israel**: the ruler of the Reubenites was Eliezer the son of Zichri: of the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maachah:



Four Beasts and 24 Elders

➤ The imagery of the four beasts and 24 elders in Revelation is a reference to David's organization of the Levites in 1 Chr 23–27



Four Beasts and 24 Elders

- There's not an exact granular corerrespondence
 - Adapted from Mosaic to the New Covenant
 - New Covenant Priesthood is of all believers, rather than just Levites
 - New Covenant Temple is in Heaven
 - The Four Beasts are presented differently in Ezekiel and Revelation



Adapted from Mosaic to the New Covenant

- David lived under the Mosaic covenant, so he did a granular division of the Levites into four functioning units
- Under the New Covenant, all believers are priests



Priesthood of All Believers was God's Original Intention

Exodus 19:5–6 NKJV Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. (19:6) And you shall be to Me a **kingdom of priests** and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."



Priesthood of All Believers was God's Original Intention

- Explains why the division of officers and judges is listed as a subcategory of Levites in 1 Chr 23:4 "...six thousand were officers and judges..."
- Yet, the detailed description of officers in chapter 27 also includes all twelve tribes as both judges over the people and officers in David's court (12 + 12)



New Covenant Priesthood is of All Believers, Rather Than Just Levites

1 Peter 2:9 NKJV But you are a chosen generation, **a royal priesthood**, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;



New Covenant Temple is in Heaven

Hebrews 9:11–24 NKJV But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle ~~not~~ **made with hands**, that is, not of this creation... ..(9:24) For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, ~~but into heaven itself~~, now to appear in the presence of God for us;



New Covenant Temple is in Heaven

Revelation 15:5–6 NKJV After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. (15:6) And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands.



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

Ezekiel 10:12-14 NKJV And their whole body, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, were full of eyes all around. (10:13) As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing, "Wheel..."



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

Ezekiel 10:12-14 NKJV ...(10:14)
Each one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, the second face the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

Revelation 4:7–8 NKJV The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle...



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

Revelation 4:7–8 NKJV ...(4:8) The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

- Both represent the creature with eyes all around and faces of a lion, ox, man, and eagle
- Ezekiel has each creature having all four faces of each animal
- In Revelation each creature has a specific distinct face



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

- Eyes represent the ability to see God's light. Scripture is presented as a light
- Both Testaments have a Pentateuch composed of a history book with doctrine and four doctrinal books
 - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy – Law
 - Matthew, Mark, Luke John, Acts – grace



Scripture as Light

2 Peter 1:19–21 NKJV And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a **light that shines in a dark place**, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; (1:20) knowing this first, that **no prophecy of Scripture** is of any private interpretation, (1:21) for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

- The Pentateuch was all written by Moses, so its four books of the law all have identical faces and in all four faces
- In the New Testament, there are four authors that produce the five books of the gospel, so each creature has a distinct face



The Four Beasts Are Presented Differently in Ezekiel and Revelation

- The four living beasts represent the use of Scripture to guide worship
- The 24 elders represent each believer taking their place as King and Priest before God's Throne



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Scripture Passages

1 Chronicles 22:2-19, 1 Chronicles 23:1-32, 1
Chronicles 24:1-31, 1 Chronicles 25:1-31, 1
Chronicles 26:1-32, 1 Chronicles 27:1-34, 1 Peter
2:9, Exodus 19:5-6, Hebrews 9:11-24, Revelation
15:5-6, Ezekiel 10:12-14, Revelation 4:7-8, 2 Peter
1:19-21,



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