### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 30

1Thereafter, HezekiAh sent letters to all IsraEl and Judah, as well as letters to Ephraim and ManasSeh, inviting them to come to the Temple of Jehovah in JeruSalem to observe the Passover to Jehovah, the God of IsraEl.  
  
2Then the king and his governors laid plans for the entire assembly to come to JeruSalem to observe the Passover in the 2nd month, 3because they hadn’t been able to celebrate it at the correct time (since the Priests weren’t sufficiently purified and all the people hadn’t gathered in JeruSalem).  
  
4Well, this pleased the king and the [people] so much 5that they decided to send a proclamation throughout IsraEl (from BeerSheBa to Dan), inviting everyone to come and observe the Passover to Jehovah the God of IsraEl in JeruSalem (because most of them hadn’t responded to the [first] letters).  
  
6So they sent runners with letters from the king and his governors into all IsraEl and Judah (following the king’s orders), saying:  
  
 ‘Sons of IsraEl,  
  
 ‘Return to Jehovah, the God of AbraHam, IsaAc, and Jacob.  
  
 ‘For He will return to those who have escaped and survived the hand of the king of Assyria.  
  
 7‘Don’t be like your ancestors and your brothers who turned away from Jehovah, the God of their fathers; for He handed them over for destruction, as you can see has truly happened.  
  
 8‘Don’t stiffen your necks as did your fathers; give glory to Jehovah, your God! Come to the Holy Place that He made holy throughout the ages, and serve your God Jehovah, then He will turn His rage and anger away from you.  
  
 9‘For when you return to Jehovah, your brothers and your children will be shown pity by those who’ve taken them captive, and He will return this land to you! Jehovah our God is merciful and He feels compassion, so He won’t turn His face from us if we return to Him.’  
  
10Well, the runners traveled from city to city throughout the mountains of Ephraim and ManasSeh and into ZebuLun... And everywhere, people made fun of them and ridiculed them!  
  
11However, some of the men of Asher, ManasSeh, and ZebuLun did feel ashamed, and they came to Judah and into JeruSalem; 12and the hand of God gave them a united heart to do as the king and his governors had ordered… To follow the instructions of Jehovah.  
  
  
13Then they all gathered in JeruSalem, and so many people attended to observe the celebration of the fermentation-free bread (in the 2nd month), [that it turned into] a huge assembly!  
  
14And thereafter, everyone got up and demolished all the [pagan] altars in JeruSalem and they tore down all the altars upon which they’d burned incense to their lying idols, and threw them into the Cedar (Kidron) Wadi! Then they sacrificed the Passover on the 14th day of the 2nd month.  
  
15Well, the Priests and the Levites all felt ashamed, so they purified themselves and carried whole burnt offerings into the Temple of Jehovah.  
  
16Then each one took his station and handled his responsibilities, just as Moses (the man of God) had commanded, and the Priests received the [sacrificial] blood from the hands of the Levites, 17because many of them had been purified.  
  
However, not all of the Levites who were to sacrifice the Passover had yet been purified to Jehovah, 18and most of the people who had come from Ephraim, ManasSeh, IsSachar, and ZebuLun had not purified themselves... Yet they all ate the Passover, which was contrary to [what was written in] the Scriptures.  
  
19Then HezekiAh prayed for them, saying:  
  
 ‘O Jehovah, the good God,  
  
 ‘[Please] cover [the sins] of those of us who’ve straightened our hearts to search for You, the God of our ancestors, and who haven’t been purified as the Holy Things have been purified.’  
  
20Well, Jehovah listened to HezekiAh and He healed the people.  
  
21Then all the sons of IsraEl who were found in JeruSalem celebrated the holiday of the fermentation-free bread for 7 days with great joy, singing praises to Jehovah each day, as the Priests and Levites played their instruments to the Lord.  
  
22Then at the conclusion of the holiday of the fermentation-free bread loaves (at the end of 7 days of sacrificing for salvation and for praising Jehovah the God of their ancestors), HezekiAh spoke to the hearts of the Levites and to all those who were searching for Jehovah with a pure heart.  
  
23And thereafter, the entire assembly agreed to observe [the festival] for another 7 days…  
So they joyfully celebrated for 7 more days!  
  
24Then HezekiAh dedicated 1,000 calves and 7,000 sheep on behalf of those who had assembled from Judah, and the governors dedicated 1,000 calves and 10,000 sheep on behalf of the people… Giving many holy things to the Priests.  
  
25So, everyone was happy – the Priests, the Levites, the whole assembly of Judah, and everyone else who was found in JeruSalem, including the foreigners who had come from the land of IsraEl and those who were living in Judah.  
  
26It was a joyful day in JeruSalem, for there hadn’t been one like it since the days of Solomon, son of David, the king of IsraEl!  
  
27Then the Levite priests got up and blest the people… And the things they said were heard, because their prayers reached to the Sacred Home in the heavens.