

**Series:** Individual message: **Missionary Sunday**  
**Title:** Safeguard the Sacred  
**Text:** 1 Chron 26:18

## Introduction

We are in the graduation season.

- Every weekend another ceremony is happening on High School, College, and University campuses.
- Every day I see pictures of proud parents showing the young adults in their ceremonial gowns, walking through a line, receiving their diploma, shifting their tassels, and tossing their hats.
- It brings back memories of those days: the friends we had, the events we took place in, and the teachers we had.
- When these posts take place it stirs those memories.

I was reminded in a Northwest University Group, that being my alma mater, of a professor I had.

Dr. Thee was the New Testament Scholar and taught many classes on the Bible. Many of them were scheduled first hour or even zero hour. This meant that we would be in a dark classroom at 6am or 7am with this brilliant man, who unfortunately had a very monotone voice.

- His style of teaching was to have the lights off and use strips of clear overlays on an overhead projector. (You kids can look that up.)
  - It made it very difficult to stay awake. Many of us would be in the back and struggle to stay awake.
  - I recall going through Romans/ Galatians. Three times verse by verse from a different perspective of Paul's thematic style.
  - It was rough.
- His teaching style may have been an exercise of keeping one's eyes open. But when he preached he was one of the most engaging biblical communicators I had heard.
- He had a knack for bringing messages from obscure passages of the Scripture.

Today, in light of our missionary being here and giving us a report of great news of God's work in France and encouraging each of us to be witnesses, I decided I would forego a message from our series in Genesis today and bring you a message from an obscure passage.

## **1 Chron 26:18 KJV**

*At Parbar westward, four at the causeway, and two at Parbar.*

That is it. That is the verse I would like to speak on today.

- So what can we get out of this verse
- We have to look at it it's the context

### **Background**

In Chapter 22-28 we find that Solomon is charged with the building of the temple.

It is known as Solomon's Temple or the first temple

- It was fully constructed by 957BC and stood for almost 400 years until its destruction in 587/586 BC by the Neo-Babylonian Empire under the second Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar II, who subsequently exiled the Judeans to Babylon.
- 77 years later when the Israelites returned to their land, Nehemiah and Ezra saw to the rebuilding of the temple and it was known as the second temple, later known as Herod's Temple. It was built in 515 BC and destroyed in AD 70.

God does not allow David to build this temple.

- God calls his son, Solomon to do so.
- So David supplies all the things necessary and commissions his son to the task of building this temple.

From chapter 23 through chapter 27 we see the organization of the people around the temple.

- Organizing the Levites, the organization of the priests, the organization of the musicians, the division of the gatekeepers, treasurers, and officials.
- He organizes the military and the leadership among the tribes

### **David charges the people**

#### **1 Chron. 28:8**

*"Now therefore in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the Lord, and in the hearing of our God, observe and seek out all the commandments of the Lord your God, that you may possess this good land and leave it for an inheritance to your children after you forever. "*

## David charges his son Solomon

### 1 Chron. 27:9-10, 27

*“<sup>9</sup> Know the God of your father and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches all hearts and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will cast you off forever. <sup>10</sup>Be careful now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be strong and do it.”*

*“<sup>27</sup> Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished.”*

- Know God
- Serve Him
- He searches your heart and thoughts
- He is findable...so seek Him

So we see in the middle of these passages this verse:

### 1 Chron 26:18 KJV

*At Parbar westward, four at the causeway, and two at Parbar.*

“Parwār” is the right spelling; and the term answers to a Persian word denoting “summer-house,” i.e., a building open to light and air.

- He makes “the Parbar” a cloister running round the court of the Temple, from which the cells were entered.
  - Charles John Ellicott (1819–1905) English Christian theologian, academic and churchman. *Ellicott commentary*
  - This was the patio the surrounded the temple entrances known as the colonnades.
- To access the temple... you had to enter through one of the colonnades.



Last week we spoke of the birth of the Church and the power given to be witnesses. It was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. I spoke of the Days of Harvest and that the Harvest will come to a close on the Day of Ingathering.

Yet, since that day nearly 2000 years ago when the Holy Spirit was sent, we, the people of God have become the temple of the Holy Spirit.

## **YOU ARE THE TEMPLE**

### **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

*<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, <sup>20</sup> for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*

### **Ezekiel 36:27**

*And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

### **Romans 8:9**

*You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.*

### **1 John 2:27**

*But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.*

Acts 6 – men full of the Holy Spirit

Eph. 5 – be filled with the Holy Spirit

## **WE ARE THE CHURCH, YOU ARE THE TEMPLE**

- Everyone has a role
  - You are the temple – individual
  - We are the Church, the Body – together

## **Romans 12:4-5**

*<sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.*

## **1 Corinthians 12:12**

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.*

- There are roles within the church and ministries to engage with.
  - Directors, teachers, elders, deacons, health ministry, missions, youth, children, nursery, tech, worship, prayer, outreach, community service, etc.
    - Ephesians 4, Romans 12, 1 Cor. 12
  - I would call all of you who hear this message to consider your role in serving the Lord within the church.
  - With your ministry gifts, with manifestation gifts, with your motivational gifts, with your skills and talents, or simply your body doing the labor needed around all of the grounds and facilities.
  - These types of services, or their Jewish temple counterpoint, are listed in the chapters.

You are the temple and you are to safeguard the temple.

**You have to watch out at the gates and be the gatekeeper of the sacred**

## **SAFEGUARD WHAT IS SACRED**

**Your Parbar? – To protect what God has called sacred**

### **The Scriptures**

#### **2 Timothy 3:16 ESV**

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ...*

#### **Hebrews 4:12-14 ESV**

*For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed*

*to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.*

## **Salvation in Christ**

### **2 Timothy 1:12-14**

*But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. 13 Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.*

## **The Saints**

### **Psalm 97:10 NIV**

*Let those who love the Lord hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.*

## **The Sabbath**

### **Exodus 20:8**

*“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”*

### **Mark 2:27-28**

*<sup>27</sup> And he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup> So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.”*

### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

*<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, ...*

## **Yourself**

### **Heart**

#### **Proverbs 4:23 NIV**

*Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.*

## Speech

### Proverbs 13:3

*Those who guard their lips preserve their lives, but those who speak rashly will come to ruin.*

## Hearts and minds

### Philippians 4:6-7

*<sup>6</sup> do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

## Your Body

### Romans 12:1-2

*<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

## Your Soul

### Joshua 23:11-12 The MSG

*“Now, vigilantly guard your souls: Love God, your God. Because if you wander off and start taking up with these remaining nations still among you (intermarry, say, and have other dealings with them), know for certain that God, your God, will not get rid of these nations for you. They’ll be nothing but trouble to you.”*

- <sup>11</sup> Be very careful...

What holes have you allowed to form in your temple?

What has accessed and tainted that which is sacred?

Are you vigilant to guard the sacred and not be swayed by this present world’s point of view?

**1 Chron 26:18 KJV**

*At Parbar westward, four at the causeway, and two at Parbar.*

We must stand at the gate and stand firm to protect the treasures that are in this temple where the Spirit of God dwells

Prayer