

One Jehovah Jireh

1 Chronicles 29:10 – 14

I. Intro

- A. Continue to focus on basic doctrine of Christian faith, using number one as emphasis
- B. Past weeks: one true word (Holy Scripture), one path (only way to God through His Son, Jesus Christ), one greater than – us becoming less and God becoming greater in us, one heart devotion – our worship/devotion totally/completely given to God
- C. Today: God, source/provider of all things, source/provider of all our blessings – one Jehovah Jireh (means *the Lord will provide*); this week and next; message come at perfect time – present church budget for next year
- D. One of Jesus' top topics of discussion was possessions and giving; giving can be a sensitive topic for many, because to them it's personal/private – but subject of possessions and giving is very much a spiritual issue; those who fight against this topic miss one of the more deeper relational experiences in the Christian life
- E. An important doctrinal fact about possessions and giving, all must understand – [SLIDE] God owns everything, we own nothing
- F. **READ 1 Chronicles 29:10 – 14**
- G. Prayer as we discuss possessions and giving – 1) God will give all of us power over any materialistic strongholds in our lives; 2) God will lead us all to surrender all things to Christ with a thankful and trusting attitude
- H. **Question:** If all your possessions were taken away from you tomorrow, what would you be the most upset about losing?
- I. Focus today – God is the source/provider of all things because God owns everything

II. Real Owner of All

- A. Many times people allow their possessions to define who they are; see it even in churches – number of members, how big the buildings, how much staff; having stuff matters to everyone
- B. **Question:** How many arguments, feuds, wars have been started because different people or groups lay claim to the same thing? Said earlier – we own nothing
- C. Passage today, prayer of David for God's people occurs just before his death; notice how David acknowledges God's ownership – **REFER v. 11 – 12, 14** – God's one true Word can't be any clearer
- D. Many names in scripture used for God: *Elohim* – strong one, *Yahweh* – I Am who I Am; used over 400 times in the Bible, *Adonai* – owner

E. Psalm 24:1 (ESV)

The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

F. God's words to Job: Job 41:11 (ESV)

11 Who has first given to me, that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine.

G. Phrase used often: *All is all and that's all all means; Another – everything literally means everything*

H. Psalm 50:10-12 (ESV)

10 For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

11 I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.

12 "If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.

I. Downside of ownership – anxiety, stress; the more we own, the more we're responsible for maintaining, so therefore the more stress we have

J. Knowing, believing, understanding that God owns it all changes everything

K. Honestly because of sin of pride and selfishness, we tend to categorize what is God's and what is ours; actually heard people claim, *I've worked hard for what I have therefore I'm entitled to it and it all belongs to me*

L. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (ESV)

17 Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.'

18 You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, ...

III. Two Views of Ownership

A. Selfish and Selfless [SLIDE]

B. Story of Daniel, taken into Babylonian captivity, brought into Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon's court; Nebuchadnezzar fell into trap that it was his own efforts that made Babylon great/mighty empire

i. Daniel 4:30-31 (ESV)

30 [Nebuchadnezzar] said, "Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?"
(example of selfish ownership)

31 While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you, **(Nebuchadnezzar lost it all)**

ii. Forced to literally live like an animal, *eat grass like an ox*, for seven seasons of time (almost two years); all Nebuchadnezzar thought was his really wasn't

iii. 1 Corinthians 4:7 (ESV)

7 For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? (again, selfish view/perspective of ownership)

C. Another king, David, had a very different perspective

- i. **David's greatest desire was to build a great temple for God, a place where people could worship and God would be honored; wasn't God's plan for David, his son Solomon would build the temple; David, because of his great influence and relationships was able to obtain resources/materials for the project before his death – 110 tons of gold and 260 tons of silver**
- ii. **David certainly could've claimed ownership, could've patted himself on the back and boasted of how he had provided all the costly materials**
- iii. **REFER v. 14; READ 1 Chronicles 29:15 – 16**
- iv. **Even though David had worked hard to obtain all gold and silver, the piles of materials for this temple, he understood that all of it was God's and God had graciously provided it for His people – the one Jehovah Jireh**
- v. **This is a “selfless” perspective of ownership**

D. September 11th, our freedoms from God; selfish vs. selfless perspective of our freedoms

IV. Close

- A. **Look around – roof/ceiling, walls/floors, pews/cushions and all furnishings, technology, AC/heat, all buildings – all things many members of this body, past and present, worked hard for – all given to/for us by the one Jehovah Jireh; this is not ours, it all belongs to God the one and only owner – *Adonai***
- B. **Think about all your many possessions, from the money in your pockets or purses (regardless of how much or how little) to your cars/houses/etc. - all things you've worked hard for; it's not yours, it all belongs to God the one Jehovah Jireh, the one and only owner – *Adonai***
- C. **When we fully believe/understand that, we too will declare the same words as David - [SLIDE] *Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.***