

Now it came to pass, when David was dwelling in his house, that David said, to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under tent curtains."...

1 Chronicles 17:1 (NKJV)

1 Chronicles 17:2-14 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> Then Nathan said to David, "Do all that is in your heart, for God is with you." <sup>3</sup> But it happened that night that the word of God came to Nathan, saying,

4"Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the Lord "You shall not build Me a house to dwell in. <sup>5</sup> For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought up Israel, even to this day, but have gone from tent to tent, and from one tabernacle to another.

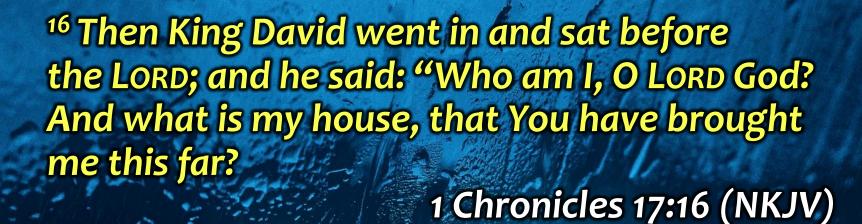
<sup>6</sup> Wherever I have moved about with all Israel, have I ever spoken a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?'"

<sup>7</sup> Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel.

<sup>8</sup> And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a name like the name of the great men who are on the earth.

<sup>9</sup> Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, <sup>10</sup> since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel. Also I will subdue all your enemies. Furthermore I tell you that the LORD will build you a house. <sup>11</sup> And it shall be, when your days are fulfilled, when you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up your seed after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

<sup>12</sup> He shall build Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. <sup>13</sup> I will be his Father, and he shall be My son; and I will not take My mercy away from him, as I took it from him who was before you.



## Introduction 2019 fleeting past quickly

John 14:26-27 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup> But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

<sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:26-27 (NKJV)

 Look at where you are in your life journey and to look farther back on how far you have travelled with God

- You have brought me this far:
- 1. David in the palace
- 2. Paul locked up in prison
- 3. You and I at present



Now it came to pass, when David was dwelling in his house, that David said, to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the Lord is under tent curtains."

1 Chronicles 17:1 (NKJV)



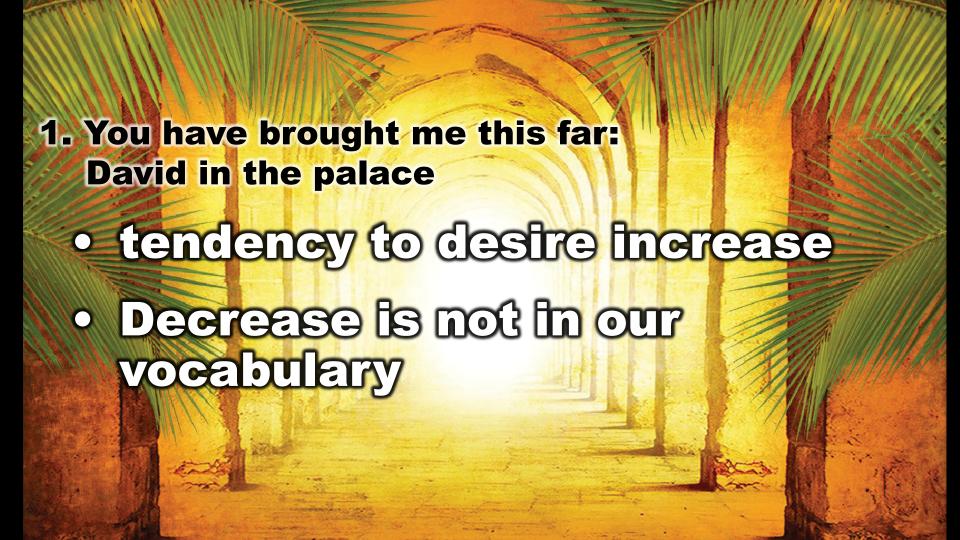
Luke 12:15-18, 21 (NKJV)

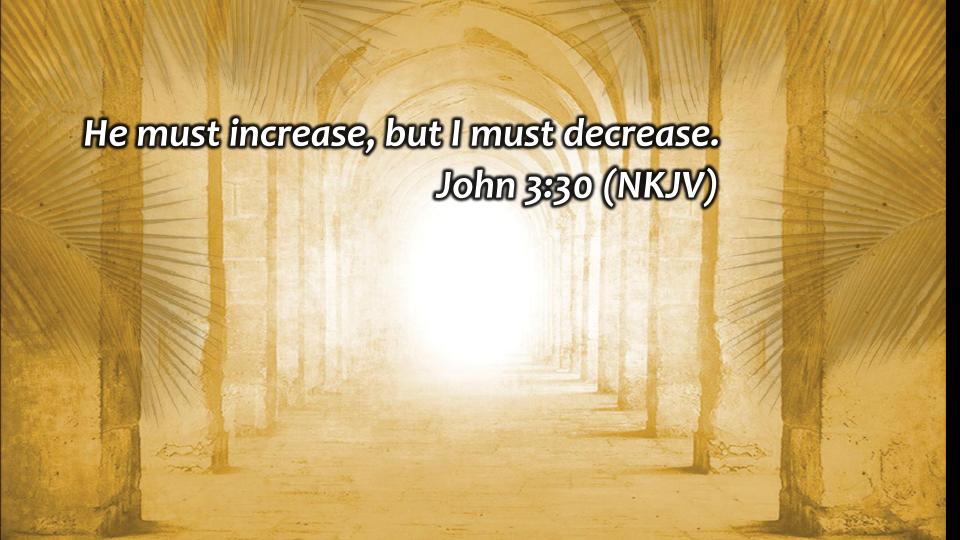
<sup>15</sup> And He said to them, <sup>a</sup>Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." <sup>16</sup> Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?"

<sup>18</sup> So he said, I will do this: I will pull down by barns and build greater, and there I will store all my goods ....

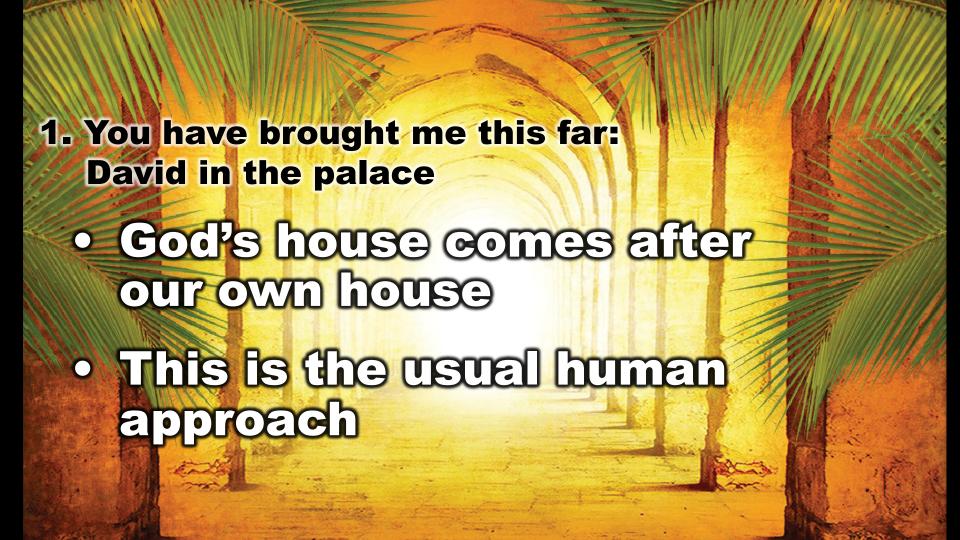
<sup>21</sup> So is he who lays up trasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.<sup>22</sup>

Luke 12:15-18, 21 (NKJV)





- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - David had his heart in the right place: God's temple
  - Do all that is in your heart
  - God had His Tabernacle in a Tent



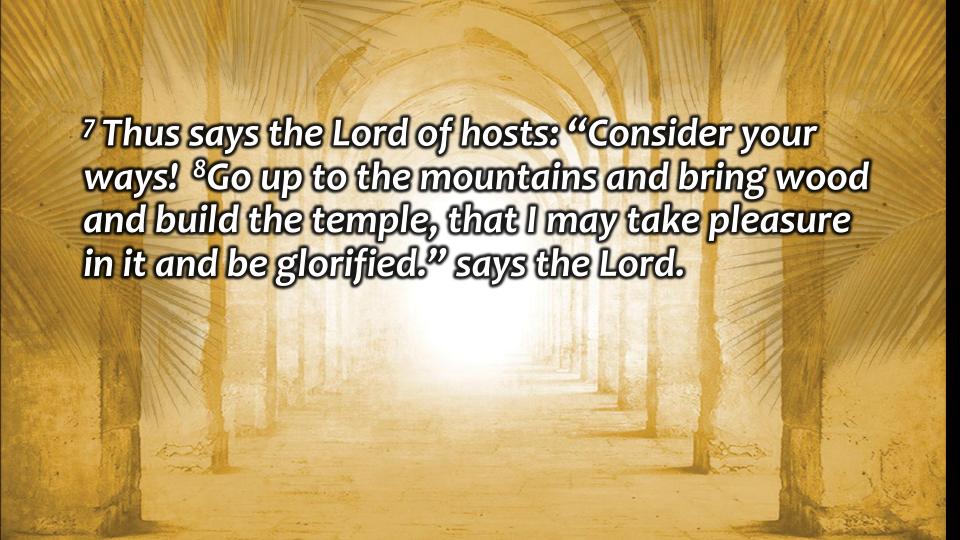
- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - people in the days of Haggai who had arrived and kept thinking about their own houses but gave no thought to the house of God

Haggai 1:1-9 (NKJV)

In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,

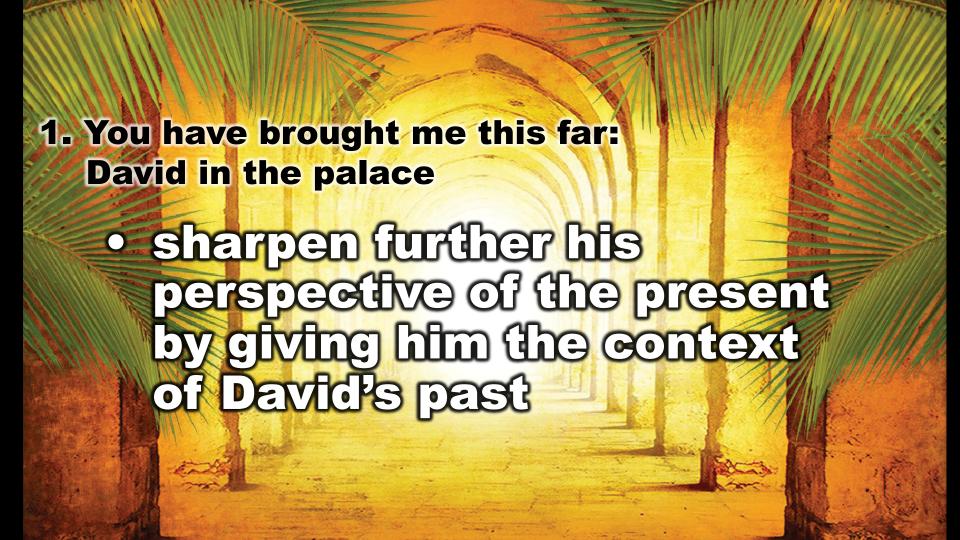
<sup>2</sup> "Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: "This people says, "The time has not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built." 3 Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying 4<sup>a</sup>ls it time for you yourselves to dwell in your panelled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?"

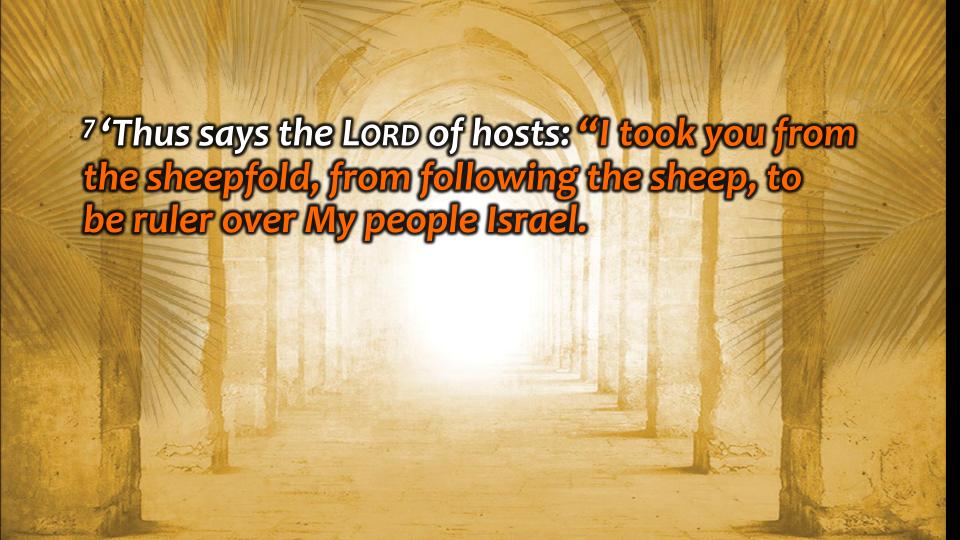
<sup>5</sup> Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: "Consider your ways! 6 You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes."



9 "You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?" says the Lord of hosts. "Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house."

Haggai 1:1-9 (NKJV)

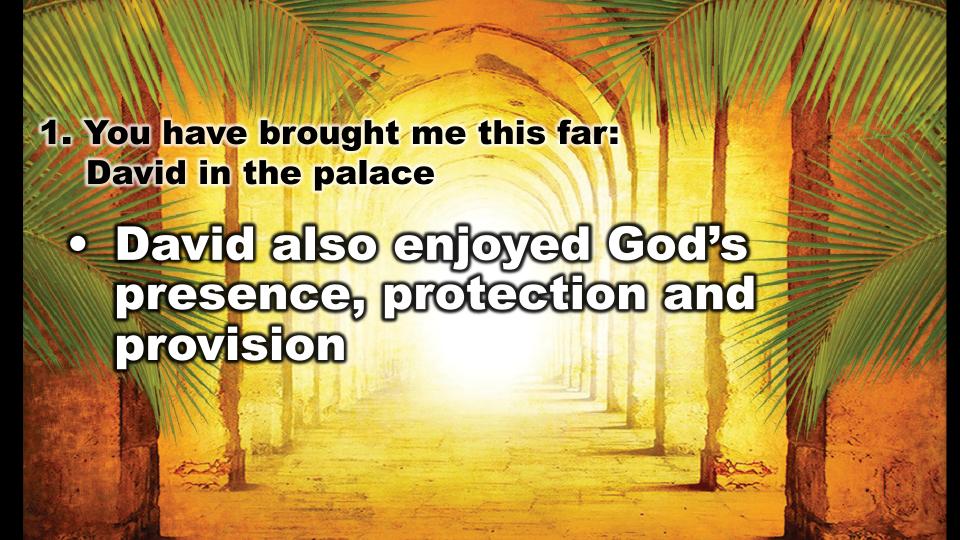


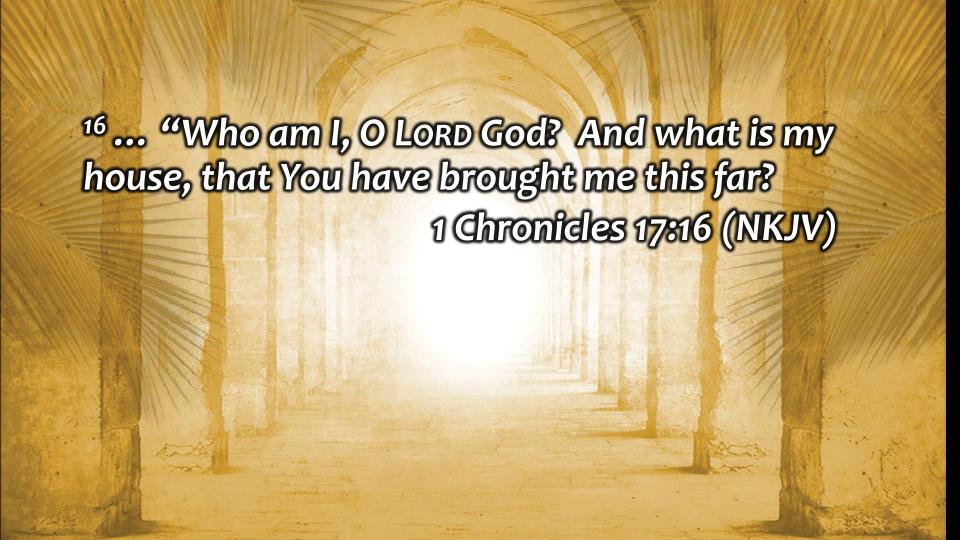


<sup>8</sup> And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a name like the name of the great men who are on the earth. Furthermore, I tell you that the Lord will build you a house.

1 Chronicles 17:7-8 (NKJV)







- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - e Blessings in relationships with people

God promised to bless David's descendants!

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - Blessings in relationships with people

God's promise to help him leave a legacy

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - value blessings in relationships with people more than blessings in material possessions

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - relationships in my own family
  - extended family
  - church family
  - relationships that money cannot buy

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - Mixed bag of good and bad David had his fair share of sufferings

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - Mixed bag of good and bad pursued by King Saulpursued by Absalom

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - Mixed bag of good and bad hunted like a wounded prey by two powerful predators

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - Mixed bag of good and bad past sufferings amplify God's present blessings even more

difficult times in the past made us what we are today

- 1. You have brought me this far: David in the palace
  - Mixed bag of good and bad Thank God for bringing you this far

## 2. You have brought me this far: Paul locked up in prison

In whatever difficult situation you are in, you can still testify of great things God has done for you

2. You have brought me this far: Paul locked up in prison

You can start with the words: "You have brought me this far ..."

<sup>12</sup> But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ;



<sup>14</sup> and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. 15 Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill:



16 The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; 17 but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defence of the gospel.



<sup>18</sup> What then? Only, that in every way, whether in pretence or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice. 19 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,



expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.



<sup>21</sup> For to me to live, is Christ, and to die is gain. Philippians 1:12-21 (NKJV)





- Paul had :
  - a fantastic spirit
  - the passion for people & passion for preaching the gospel

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, <sup>5</sup> for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,



<sup>6</sup> being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;



<sup>7</sup> just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace.



For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:3-8 (NKJV)



- 2. You have brought me this far: Paul locked up in prison
- You can be at a hard place but there are people who will share your sufferings (fellowship of sufferings)

## 2. You have brought me this far: Paul locked up in prison

They are precious

12 But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel,.



13 so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; <sup>14</sup> and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.





 thrilled to be given the privilege to preach and granted the second chance in life

<sup>22</sup> But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labour; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.



<sup>24</sup> Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. <sup>25</sup> And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith,



<sup>26</sup> that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again. <sup>27</sup> Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent,



I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,

Philippians 1:22-27 (NKJV)





 Paul was always grateful for how far the Lord had brought him

<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 1 Corinthians 15:10 (NKJV)





 learn to suffer decrease by choice <sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I must decrease. John 3:30 (NKJV)





- experienced decrease over the years by choice
- There is a change in priority in life



 Paul experienced decrease arising from a change of priority in life <sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.



<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ Philippians 3:7-8 (NKJV)





 to decrease could mean simplicity and contentment in life Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. <sup>8</sup> And, having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 (NKJV)



We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. <sup>4</sup> But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: ... as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things. 2 Corinthians 6:3-4, 10 (NKJV)



- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- "Where are you?"
- context of where you have come from

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- absorbed in the present and become dissatisfied with what we have

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- where we have come from, we would be led invariably to gratitude and thanksgiving

<sup>25</sup> I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread. Psalm 37:25 (NKJV)

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- All you need to do is to recall or ask God to help you recall how the hand of God had been upon your life in the past

<sup>7</sup> Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel.

<sup>8</sup> And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a name like the name of the great men who are on the earth.

1 Chronicles 17:7-8 (NKJV)

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- I can never forget where I came from and how far God has brought me

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- made fresh commitments to serve God
- the closing challenge for us today

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- David decided & chose
- David made the commitment to give of himself

<sup>11</sup> Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the vestibule, its houses, its treasuries, its upper chambers, its inner chambers, and the place of the mercy seat; <sup>12</sup> and the plans for all that he had by the Spirit . . .

1 Chronicles 28:11-12

<sup>14</sup> He gave gold by weight for things of gold, for all articles used in every kind of service; also silver for all articles of silver by weight, for all articles used in every kind of service . . .

1 Chronicles 28:14 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> "All this," said David, "the LORD made me understand in writing, by His hand upon me, all the works of these plans."

1 Chronicles 28:19 (NKJV)

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- It was a decision, a choice and a commitment to work with the next generation to build the House of God

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- He made the decision, picked his choice and made a commitment

- 3. You have brought me this far: you and I at present
- Do not waiver between the choice for God and His Kingdom, and the choice for self and the things of the world

<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 1 Corinthians 15:9-10 (NKJV)9





<sup>17</sup> And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O God; and You have also spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come, and have regarded me according to the rank of a man of high degree, O LORD God.

<sup>18</sup> What more can David say to You for the honor of Your servant? For You know Your servant. <sup>19</sup> O LORD, for Your servant's sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all this greatness, in making known all these great things.

<sup>20</sup> O LORD, there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears."

1 Chronicles 17:17-20