



Be Prepared to Serve Jesus **2 Chronicles 30:1-9, 26-27**

They could not keep the Passover at that time because the priests had not consecrated themselves in sufficient number. . . (2 Chronicles 30:3)—ESV).

When the people of Israel demanded a king, the LORD recreated the kingdom of Israel to have three groups of spiritual leaders. *Kings*: King David and many of those who served with him led the people to worship in Jerusalem where King David had brought the Ark of the Covenant. David led by example: he wrote psalms for people to use for praising, singing, and praying to God. *Priests*: God expected the priests and Levites to lead in worship, make sacrifices, provide prescribed feasts of celebration to the LORD, and teach the Law of the LORD. *Prophets*: God called prophets to preach His Word and call everyone to repent, even kings and priests. Sometimes prophets worked together, such as Elijah and Elisha. But with God's help, Elijah faced the prophets of Baal alone and led God's people back to the LORD. King Hezekiah followed the LORD, and he wanted God's people, priests, prophets, leaders, and princes to follow the LORD according to the laws of God. He reestablished the Passover as the Law of God prescribed, so under his leadership there was great joy in Jerusalem when they finally celebrated the Passover as God prescribed. However, when King Hezekiah was ready to celebrate the Passover, not enough priests and Levites were consecrated to the LORD. Since there were not enough consecrated priests to serve the Lord, Hezekiah had to postpone the celebration of the Passover. As followers of Jesus Christ and as churches that believe in and teach the Bible as the Word of God, we need to remain consecrated to God and encourage one another to remain consecrated to God and love and obey the Lord Jesus Christ. Then, enough of us will be ready for any opportunity that may come our way to serve God and His people. Some of the ways to remain consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ involve prayer, daily Bible reading and study, worshiping the Lord in private and in public, and serving the Lord in every way that He leads us *right now*. In these ways, we can be prepared to serve Jesus whenever He calls.