HEZEKIAH:

YAHWEH'S INSTRUMENT FOR CHANGE

Class 3: ***Seven Shepherds, and Eight Principal Men***

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THE COMPLACENT ECCLESIA

- The people were not being educated in the scriptures.
- The people spent their time on their own interests.
- Their leaders did not know God's laws.
- They were adorning themselves for show not Godliness.
- Energy was focused on materialism.
- They were spiritually starving.
- They loved the things of the world.

2 Chronicles 29:10

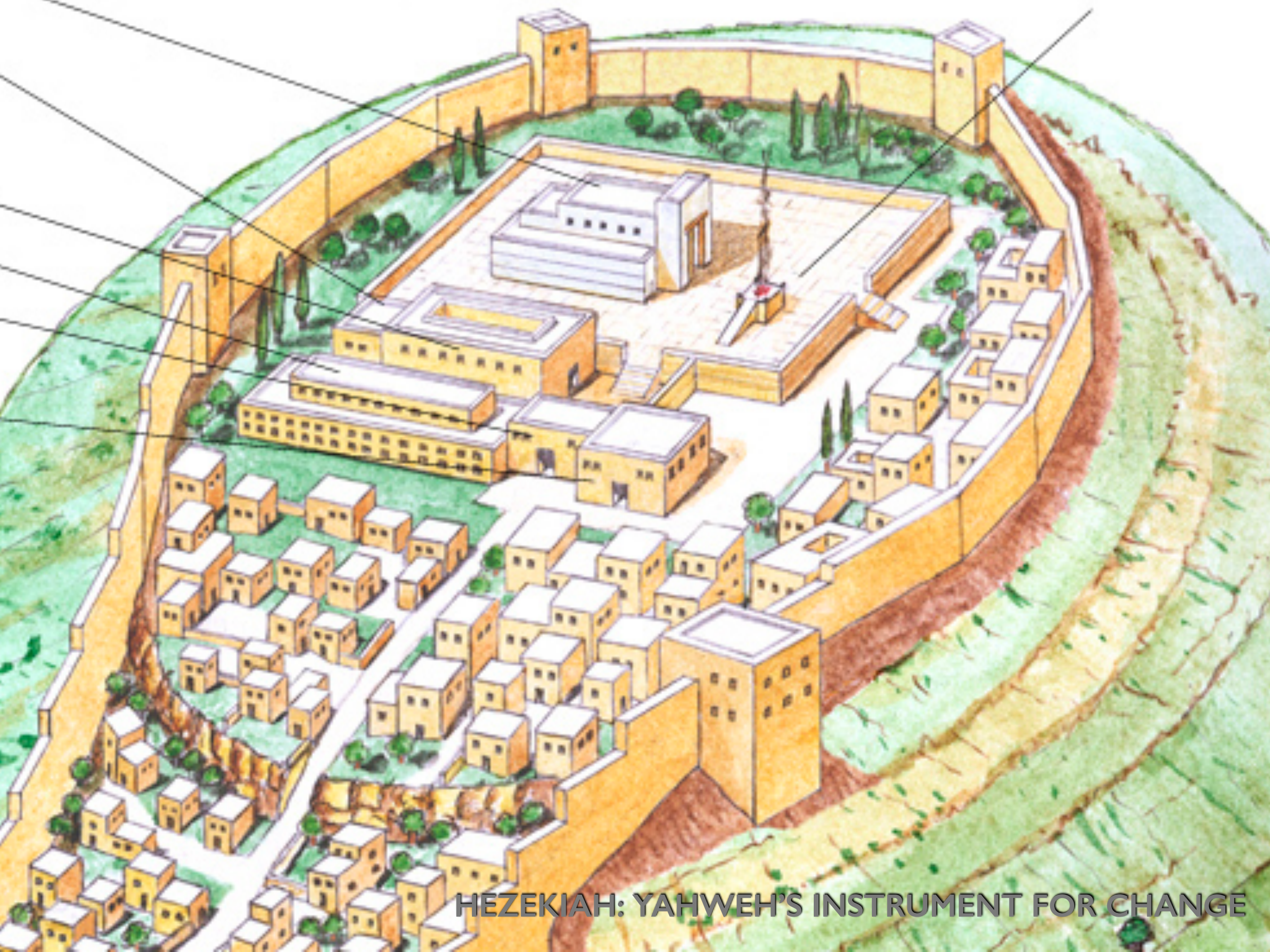
"Now *it is* in mine heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel, that his fierce wrath may turn away from us."

2 Chronicles 35:3

"And said unto the Levites that taught all Israel, which were holy unto the LORD."

2 Chronicles 29:4

"And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the east street,"



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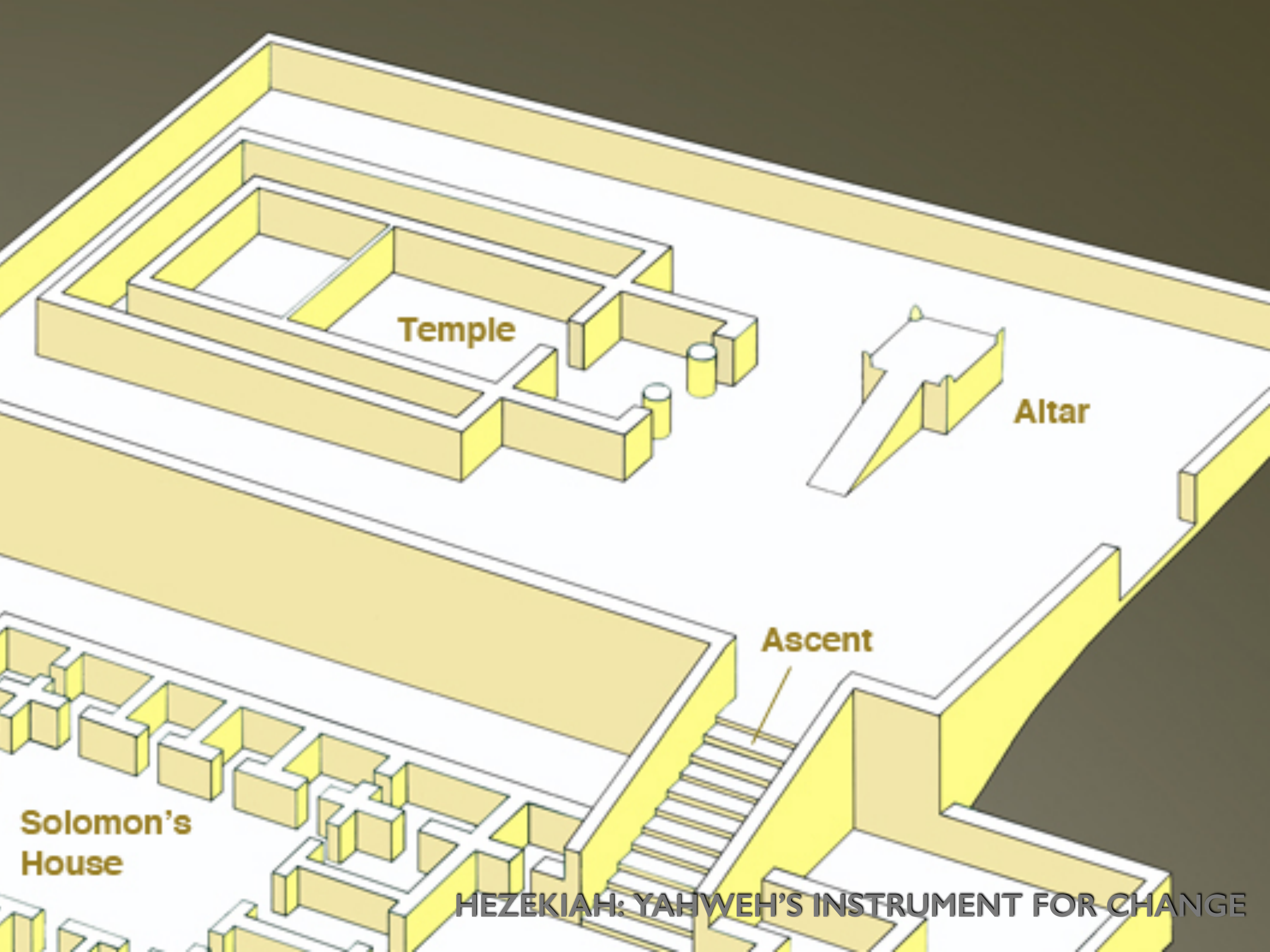

HEZEKIAH: YAHWEH'S INSTRUMENT FOR CHANGE

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*

2 Chronicles 29:5

"And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy *place*."

2 Chronicles 29:5

"And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy *place*."

Matthew 7:5

"Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*
2. Gave them a part in the vision

2 Chronicles 29:6

"For our fathers have trespassed, and done *that which was* evil in the eyes of the LORD our God, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their faces from the habitation of the LORD, and turned *their* backs."

2 Chronicles 29:7

"Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and put out the lamps, and have not burned incense nor offered burnt offerings in the holy *place* unto the God of Israel."

2 Chronicles 29:8-9

8 Wherefore the wrath of the LORD was
upon Judah and Jerusalem, and he hath
delivered them to trouble, to astonishment,
and to hissing, as ye see with your eyes.
9 For, lo, our fathers have fallen by the
sword, and our sons and our daughters and
our wives *are* in captivity for this.

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*
2. Gave them a part in the vision
3. Built the urgency by explaining the crisis.

2 Chronicles 29:11

"My sons, be not now negligent: for the LORD hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense."

Deuteronomy 18:5

"For the LORD thy God hath chosen him out of all thy tribes, to stand to minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons for ever."

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*
2. Gave them a part in the vision
3. Built the urgency by explaining the crisis.
4. Uses scripture to remind them of their role.

Two from each of the divisions of the tribe of Levi

1. Mahath
2. Joel
3. Kish
4. Azariah
5. Joah
6. Eden

Two from each of the divisions of the tribe of Levi

1. Mahath
2. Joel
3. Kish
4. Azariah
5. Joah
6. Eden

Two principal men from each of the significant families of Levi

1. Shimri
2. Jeiel
3. Zechariah
4. Mattaniah
5. Jehiel
6. Shimei
7. Shemaiah
8. Uzziel

Micah 5:4 (*RV*)

"And he shall stand, and shall feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; And they shall abide: For now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth."

Micah 5:5

"And this *man* shall be the peace, When the Assyrian shall come into our land: And when he shall tread in our palaces, Then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, And eight principal men."

Two from each of the divisions of the tribe of Levi

1. Mahath
2. Joel
3. Kish
4. Azariah
5. Joah
6. Eden

Two principal men from each of the significant families of Levi

1. Shimri
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Two from each of the divisions of the tribe of Levi

1. Mahath
2. Joel
3. Kish
4. Azariah
5. Joah
6. Eden
7. Hezekiah

Two principal men from each of the significant families of Levi

1. Shimri
2. Jeiel
3. Zechariah
4. Mattaniah
5. Jehiel
6. Shimei
7. Shemaiah
8. Uzziel

Micah 5:6

"And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, And the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: Thus shall he deliver *us* from the Assyrian, When he cometh into our land, And when he treadeth within our borders."

2 Chronicles 29:15

"And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD."

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*
2. Gave them a part in the vision
3. Built the urgency by explaining the crisis.
4. Uses scripture to remind them of their role.
5. They were engaged in the business of Yahweh.

2 Chronicles 29:16

"And the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD, to cleanse *it*, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took *it*, to carry *it* out abroad into the brook Kidron."

2 Chronicles 29:17

"Now they began on the first *day* of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of the LORD: so they sanctified the house of the LORD in eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first month they made an end."

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*
2. Gave them a part in the vision
3. Built the urgency by explaining the crisis.
4. Uses scripture to remind them of their role.
5. They were engaged in the business of Yahweh.
6. 16 years of filth is cleaned in 16 days.

2 Chronicles 29:20

"Then Hezekiah the king rose early, and gathered the rulers of the city, and went up to the house of the LORD."

2 Chronicles 29:21

"And they brought seven bullocks, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven he goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the sanctuary, and for Judah. And he commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer *them* on the altar of the LORD."

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2 Chronicles 29:24

"And the priests killed them, and they made reconciliation with their blood upon the altar, to make an atonement for all Israel: for the king commanded *that* the burnt offering and the sin offering *should be made* for all Israel."

2 Chronicles 29:31

"Then Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the LORD, come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the Lord. And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank offerings; and as many as were of a free heart burnt offerings."

2 Chronicles 29:34

"But the priests were too few, so that they could not flay all the burnt offerings: wherefore their brethren the Levites did help them, till the work was ended, and until the *other* priests had sanctified themselves: for the Levites *were* more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests."

2 Chronicles 29:36

"And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, that God had prepared the people: for the thing was *done* suddenly."

SHARING THE VISION

1. Chose the teachers of Israel *2 Chron. 35:3*
2. Gave them a part in the vision
3. Built the urgency by explaining the crisis.
4. Uses scripture to remind them of their role.
5. They were engaged in the business of Yahweh.
6. 16 years of filth is cleaned in 16 days.
7. Change is embraced by the priests, Levites, rulers, and the congregation.

1. Why would Hezekiah choose the priests and the Levites as his first choice to get his reforms started?

2. What would be the equivalent in the ecclesia today to what is described in verse 7.

3. In v10 Hezekiah says that he wants to make a covenant with Yahweh. Where did God make a covenant with the children of Israel?

4. When did God choose the Levites to be his servants and to stand before him? cp v11

5. What did God want the people understand as they made the following offerings?

Sin offering -

Burnt offering -

Meal offering -

Peace offering -

6. Why do you think some of the priests had not sanctified themselves? What lesson can we learn from this?