***1 Chronicles***

***Chapter 26***

***The Gatekeepers***

**The divisions of the gatekeepers: From the Korahites: Meshelemiah son of Kore, one of the sons of Asaph.**

**2 Meshelemiah had sons:**

**Zechariah the firstborn,**

**Jediael the second,**

**Zebadiah the third,**

**Jathniel the fourth,**

**3 Elam the fifth,**

**Jehohanan the sixth and Eliehoenai the seventh.**

**4 Obed-Edom also had sons:**

**Shemaiah the firstborn,**

**Jehozabad the second,**

**Joah the third,**

**Sacar the fourth,**

**Nethanel the fifth,**

**5 Ammiel the sixth,**

**Issachar the seventh**

**and Peullethai the eighth.**

**(For God had blessed Obed-Edom.)**

**6 His son Shemaiah also had sons, who were leaders in their father’s family because they were very capable men. 7 The sons of Shemaiah: Othni, Rephael, Obed and Elzabad; his relatives Elihu and Semakiah were also able men. 8 All these were descendants of Obed-Edom; they and their sons and their relatives were capable men with the strength to do the work—descendants of Obed-Edom, 62 in all.**

**9 Meshelemiah had sons and relatives, who were able men—18 in all.**

**10 Hosah the Merarite had sons: Shimri the first (although he was not the firstborn, his father had appointed him the first), 11 Hilkiah the second, Tabaliah the third and Zechariah the fourth. The sons and relatives of Hosah were 13 in all.**

**12 These divisions of the gatekeepers, through their chief men, had duties for ministering in the temple of the Lord, just as their relatives had. 13 Lots were cast for each gate, according to their families, young and old alike. 14 The lot for the East Gate fell to Shelemiah. Then lots were cast for his son Zechariah, a wise counselor, and the lot for the North Gate fell to him. 15 The lot for the South Gate fell to Obed-Edom, and the lot for the storehouse fell to his sons. 16 The lots for the West Gate and the Shalleketh Gate on the upper road fell to Shuppim and Hosah. Guard was alongside of guard: 17 There were six Levites a day on the east, four a day on the north, four a day on the south and two at a time at the storehouse. 18 As for the court to the west, there were four at the road and two at the court itself. 19 These were the divisions of the gatekeepers who were descendants of Korah and Merari.**

**26:1–19** The most extensive of the Chronicler’s lists of gatekeepers (see 9:17–27; 16:37–38). A list of gatekeepers in the postexilic period is found in Ezr 2:42 (Ne 7:45). (CSB)

**26:1** *Asaph.* This name appears to be an abbreviation of Ebiasaph (6:23; 9:19); he should not be confused with the temple musician (25:1–2, 6). (CSB)

**26:4–5** Numerous sons are again a sign of divine blessing (see note on 25:5). (CSB)

**26:4** *Obed-Edom.* Had cared for the ark when it was left at his house (see note on 13:13). (CSB)

**26:12** *duties.* Elaborated in 9:22–29. (CSB)

**26:14** *East Gate.* The main entrance; it had six guard posts, as opposed to four at the other gates (v. 17). (CSB)

**26:15** *South Gate.* The palaces of David and Solomon were south of the temple mount. The southern gate would be the main one used by the king, and this assignment probably reflects a particular honor for Obed-Edom (see notes on 26:4–5; see also Eze 46:1–10). (CSB)

**26:16** *Shalleketh Gate.* The only reference to a gate by this name; presumably it was on the western side. The Chronicler writes to an audience familiar with these topographical details.(CSB)

***The Treasurers and Other Officials***

**20 Their fellow Levites were in charge of the treasuries of the house of God and the treasuries for the dedicated things. 21 The descendants of Ladan, who were Gershonites through Ladan and who were heads of families belonging to Ladan the Gershonite, were Jehieli, 22 the sons of Jehieli, Zetham and his brother Joel. They were in charge of the treasuries of the temple of the Lord.**

**23 From the Amramites, the Izharites, the Hebronites and the Uzzielites:**

**24 Shubael, a descendant of Gershom son of Moses, was the officer in charge of the treasuries. 25 His relatives through Eliezer: Rehabiah his son, Jeshaiah his son, Joram his son, Zicri his son and Shelomith his son. 26 Shelomith and his relatives were in charge of all the treasuries for the things dedicated by King David, by the heads of families who were the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and by the other army commanders. 27 Some of the plunder taken in battle they dedicated for the repair of the temple of the Lord. 28 And everything dedicated by Samuel the seer and by Saul son of Kish, Abner son of Ner and Joab son of Zeruiah, and all the other dedicated things were in the care of Shelomith and his relatives.**

**29 From the Izharites: Kenaniah and his sons were assigned duties away from the temple, as officials and judges over Israel.**

**30 From the Hebronites: Hashabiah and his relatives—seventeen hundred able men—were responsible in Israel west of the Jordan for all the work of the Lord and for the king’s service. 31 As for the Hebronites, Jeriah was their chief according to the genealogical records of their families. In the fortieth year of David’s reign a search was made in the records, and capable men among the Hebronites were found at Jazer in Gilead. 32 Jeriah had twenty-seven hundred relatives, who were able men and heads of families, and King David put them in charge of the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh for every matter pertaining to God and for the affairs of the king.**

**26:20** *treasuries of the house of God.* The Levites in charge of these treasuries received the offerings of the people and cared for the valuable temple equipment (9:28–29). (CSB)

*treasuries for the dedicated things.* Received the plunder from warfare (vv. 27–28). Texts from Mesopotamian temples confirm the presence of temple officers who served as assayers to handle and refine the precious metals received as revenue and offerings. The procedure with reference to the offerings of the people may be seen in the reign of Joash (2Ch 24:4–14; 2Ki 12:4–16). Numerous passages reflect on the wealth collected in the temple (see, e.g., 29:1–9; 2Ch 4:1–22; 34:9–11; 36:7, 10, 18–19; 1Ki 14:25–28; 15:15, 18; 2Ki 12:4–18; 14:14; 16:8; 25:13–17). (CSB)

**26:26** *things dedicated by King David.* See note on 18:1–20:8; see also 2Ch 5:1. (CSB)

**26:27** *plunder taken in battle they dedicated.* Cf. Ge 14:17–20. (CSB)

**26:29–32** These verses designate the 6,000 officials and judges (23:4) who would work outside Jerusalem; they are drawn from two sub-clans of Kohath (6:18). Dt 17:8–13 envisages a judicial function for the priests and Levites (see 2Ch 19:4–11). (CSB)

**26:30, 32** *for all the work of the Lord and for the king’s service … for every matter pertaining to God and for the affairs of the king.* In the theocracy there is no division between secular and sacred, no tension in serving God and the king (cf. Mt 22:15–22; Lk 16:10–13; Ro 13:1–7; 1Ti 2:1–4; 1Pe 2:13–17). (CSB)

**26:31** *fortieth year.* The last year of David’s reign. (CSB)