



WELCOME!

We are glad you are joining us.

December 1, 2024

Worship Team led by David Dillon

Message by Karl Helvig

Advent

Text: Zechariah 4:6

What Are You Trying to Build? Not By Might, Part 1

Advent is a time to cultivate _____ of God's arrival.

What are you *anticipating* this advent?

There has got to be a _____ way.

Have you ever had an experience where, despite your best efforts, things just don't go the way you plan?

What are you trying to _____ this advent season?

"Building Projects" of Advent

Community Image _____

Generosity _____ Signaling

_____ Sentimentality

Are we trying to build the right things?

Are we building in the right way?

In what object do you place your _____?

Mathew 1:20

YOUR MOVE

What are you anticipating?

What are you building?

How are you building it?

Notes for further study:

The Hebrew word for **“Might”** is, **“chayil”**: **strength, valor, army, wealth, capability**

- **Word Origin:** Derived from the root חיל (chul), which can mean to twist, whirl, dance, writhe, or travail.
- The Hebrew word "chayil" encompasses a range of meanings including physical strength, moral valor, military might, and material wealth. It is often used to describe individuals of great capability or resources, whether in terms of physical prowess, moral integrity, or economic power. In the context of the Bible, "chayil" is frequently associated with warriors, armies, and individuals of noble character or significant influence.
- In ancient Israelite society, "chayil" was a term of high regard, often used to describe men of military prowess or women of noble character. The concept of "chayil" was integral to the community's understanding of leadership and virtue. Warriors were esteemed for their strength and bravery, while women of "chayil" were praised for their industriousness and moral fortitude, as seen in Proverbs 31.

The Hebrew word for **“Power”** is: **koach**: **Strength, power, might, ability, force**

- **Word Origin:** Derived from an unused root meaning to be firm or vigorous
- **Corresponding Greek / Hebrew Entries:** -(dynamis): Often translated as power or strength, used in the New Testament to describe God's power and the power given to believers. (ischys): Refers to strength or might, often in the context of physical or moral power.
- **Usage:** The Hebrew word "koach" primarily denotes physical strength or power, but it can also refer to mental or spiritual strength. It is used to describe the might of individuals, nations, and even God Himself. In the context of human ability, it often implies the capacity to perform tasks or achieve goals. When referring to God, it underscores His omnipotence and sovereign power over creation.
- **Cultural and Historical Background:** In ancient Israelite culture, strength and power were highly valued attributes, often associated with leadership and divine favor. Physical strength was essential for survival, warfare, and labor. The concept of "koach" also extended to the spiritual realm, where it was seen as a gift from God enabling individuals to fulfill their divine calling. The Israelites recognized that true strength came from God, who empowered them to overcome their enemies and achieve victory.

The Hebrew word for **“Spirit”** is: **ruach**: **Spirit, wind, breath**

- **Word Origin:** Derived from the root רוח (ruach), which means to breathe or blow.
- **Corresponding Greek / Hebrew Entries:** - **G4151 - πνεῦμα (pneuma)**: Often used in the New Testament to denote spirit, wind, or breath, similar to "ruach" in the Old Testament.
- **Usage:** The Hebrew word "ruach" is a multifaceted term that primarily denotes "spirit," "wind," or "breath." In the Old Testament, it is used to describe the Spirit of God, human spirit, and natural phenomena like wind. It conveys the idea of life, power, and divine presence. "Ruach" is often associated with God's creative and sustaining power, as well as His presence and influence in the world and in individuals.
- **Cultural and Historical Background:** In ancient Hebrew culture, "ruach" was understood as a vital force or life-giving breath. It was seen as an essential element of life, akin to the breath that animates living beings. The concept of "ruach" as spirit also reflects the Hebrew understanding of God's immanence and transcendence, where God's Spirit is both present in creation and beyond it. The term is deeply embedded in the Hebrew worldview, which sees the physical and spiritual realms as interconnected.