

GOD'S ROADIES

If you go to a concert, here are some questions you might not have thought about; or maybe you have. Who sets up the gear? Who tears it down? Who tests the gear to make sure it is working? Who loads it up in the truck to move it to the next venue? Who drives the truck?

For most musicians it is themselves who do it all, but for many big name artists it is the road crew or roadies for short who do all this. This is a crucial part of the concert process that is rarely seen or heard. It can be a thankless job.

The OT priests were of the tribe of Levi. More specifically they were Aaron's sons. Aaron was the great grandson of Levi. What about all the other Levites? What are they supposed to do since they don't have land of their own?

Levi had three sons: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. Each of these families was given a specific task in regards to the tabernacle. In general, they were in charge of taking down the tabernacle when Israel was ready to move to a different place, carrying the tabernacle and the things in it to the place where they were going, and setting it all back up once they got there.

Gershonites was in charge of the curtains and ropes used in the courtyard and entrance, the Kohathites were in charge of the things found in the sanctuary where the sacrifices were offered, and the Merarites were in charge of the frame on which the curtains and ropes were placed. In a way, it sounds like they were God's roadies.

Sometimes we worry that if we are not in front of the church ministering on a Sunday, we are not being valuable to God's kingdom. I wonder if we have placed too much emphasis on Sunday worship in our Christian lives. Have we held on to the OT concept of Aaron's sons as priests? The sacrifice has been made through Jesus. We are all priests. Our worship is a sacrifice of praise and service.

When we do the job of God's roadies, we are being pleasing to God and useful too. When we do jobs like cleaning the building, building ramps for the elderly, making sure the lawn is mowed, and playground is in good shape, the bulletin is done, the sick are visited, the downtrodden are encouraged, etc., we are doing the job of Levi's sons.

Just as roadies make sure the people can enjoy the presence and blessings of the musician, we are working as God's roadies to make sure people can experience and worship Jehovah. We are creating an environment where we can find and experience His presence and blessings in our lives.

--Alex Swango