

I Kings-Lesson 06

I Kings Chapter 6

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Memory verses for this week: *Jas 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*

Introduction: Last week we studied about the league made between Solomon and Hiram, the King of Tyre. Because of the great friendship Hiram had with King David, he agrees to help Solomon in regards to building the temple. He agrees to provide much of the needed materials and some of the skilled craftsman (the Sidonians) to help on the work of the temple. Solomon agrees to provide the food and sends 30,000 Jews to work. 10,000 are sent each month and the other 20,000 remained at home in an alternating cycle. Also there were 150,000 strangers sent to work. This week we will be discussing the plan of the temple.

I. The Date of the Start of the Building of the Temple

1Ki 6:1 And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.

The temple was built on one of the mountains of Moriah. There is an immense shelf of rock here which furnished a firm and splendid foundation for the building of the Temple. The Islamic Mosque of Omar is built there today, but will be removed for the building of the new Temple in days to come.

It is possible that this was the very mount where Abraham offered up Isaac as a sacrifice to God.

Genesis 22:2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

We know that this choice site was obtained by King David long before.

2 Chronicles 3:1 Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

The date they began the temple was 480 years from the Exodus Egypt. They

only had this temple for 380 years when it was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar. This coincided with the fourth year of Solomon's reign. This was the time they began the work. Every great work has a beginning. God's work of redemption had its beginning before the foundation of the world.

1 Peter 1:20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.

II. GENERAL PLANS OF THE TEMPLE

1Ki 6:2 And the house which king Solomon built for the LORD, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits.

1Ki 6:3 And the porch before the temple of the house, twenty cubits was the length thereof, according to the breadth of the house; and ten cubits was the breadth thereof before the house.

The temple's measurements were given in verses 2 and 3. It was 90 feet long; 30 feet wide; 45 feet high; and the porch was 30 feet long. This was exactly twice as large as the tabernacle.

It had to have a solid foundation which we talked about last week in Chapter 5.

1Ki 5:17 And the king commanded, and they brought great stones, costly stones, and hewed stones, to lay the foundation of the house.

Christ is the foundation of salvation and of the church. When Jesus addressed Peter and the disciples, it was Christ who was the rock, not Peter mentioned there in Matthew Chapter 16.

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Christ is the one true foundation of the church that He founded.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1Ki 6:4 And for the house he made windows of narrow lights.

1Ki 6:5 And against the wall of the house he built chambers round about, against the walls of the house round about, both of the temple and of the oracle: and he made chambers round about:

1Ki 6:6 The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad: for without in the wall of the house he made narrowed rests round about, that the beams should not be fastened in the walls of the house.

It says that the temple had narrow windows for both light and air. Noah's ark had

a window in the top. We know all light comes from God. Even the sun itself is a gift from the Heavenly Father. The bible clearly states that Jesus is the light of the world. One day he will be the one bringing for the the light in the new city of Jerusalem which will be the home of the bride of Christ.

*Joh 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am **the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*

Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

Rev 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

The temple varied from the original tabernacle as it had no windows and did not depend on the natural light, but was lighted by the candlestick. The chambers are listed in verses 5, 6, 8, and 10. The chambers were built along the outside wall of the temple. The small rooms were for the priests to stay while they were serving in the temple. The priests were organized in courses. There was a set rotation of the priests and when they finished their course they went back to their regular dwelling place.

Luke 1:8 And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course.

1Ki 6:7 And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.

1Ki 6:8 The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house: and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.

1Ki 6:9 So he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.

1Ki 6:10 And then he built chambers against all the house, five cubits high: and they rested on the house with timber of cedar.

They had to do the work without making any sound. Total silence prevailed as the temple was built on the inside. Imagine the skill that must have been required to fashion every piece exactly. They did this so as to not violate the law.

Deu 27:5 And there shalt thou build an altar unto the LORD thy God, an altar of stones: thou shalt not lift up any iron tool upon them.

Deu 27:6 Thou shalt build the altar of the LORD thy God of whole stones: and thou shalt offer burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD thy God:

Bro. Bynum said in the lesson plan that fanfare and noise is not the mark of God's work. We should be doing things decently in order in all things regarding the church.

Verse 8 discussed the doors. These were functional doors. We know Christ is the door of salvation.

John 10:9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

III. SOLOMON CHARGED

1Ki 6:11 And the word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying,

1Ki 6:12 Concerning this house which thou art in building, if thou wilt walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with thee, which I spake unto David thy father:

God delivers the charge to Solomon. Man should listen carefully when God speaks.

1 Peter 1:25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

All scripture reveals what God has said to man.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

God gives several points in the charge to Solomon there in Verse 12.

- a. If thou wilt walk in my statutes.
- b. If thou wilt execute my judgments.
- c. If thou wilt keep all my commandments to walk in them.

If they would do all of these things, then God would perform his word with them as He had promised to David his father.

1Ki 6:13 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.

Not only would he perform his word, but he would also dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.

IV. FINISHING, FURNISHINGS & ORNAMENTATION OF THE TEMPLE

1Ki 6:14 So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

1Ki 6:15 And he built the walls of the house within with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house, and the walls of the ceiling: and he covered them on the inside with uwood, and covered the floor of the house with planks of fir.

1Ki 6:16 And he built twenty cubits on the sides of the house, both the floor and the

walls with boards of cedar: he even built them for it within, even for the oracle, even for the most holy place.

1Ki 6:17 And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long.

1Ki 6:18 And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.

1Ki 6:19 And the oracle he prepared in the house within, to set there the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

1Ki 6:20 And the oracle in the forepart was twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in breadth, and twenty cubits in the height thereof: and he overlaid it with pure gold; and so covered the altar which was of cedar.

1Ki 6:21 So Solomon overlaid the house within with pure gold: and he made a partition by the chains of gold before the oracle; and he overlaid it with gold.

So the work continued and Solomon finished the building of the temple. Verse 14 mentions the boards of cedar and the walls of the ceiling and how they were covered the floor with planks of fir. It was the most holy place ever created for the Lord. The materials used and the size of the temple is given again in verses 17 through 22. Verse 21 says that Solomon overlaid the house with pure gold. Gold is typical of divinity. The oracle mentioned in verse 19 was a technical term for both the ark and the room where it was kept: the most holy place in the temple.

1Ki 6:22 And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house: also the whole altar that was by the oracle he overlaid with gold.

1Ki 6:23 And within the oracle he made two cherubims of olive tree, each ten cubits high.

1Ki 6:24 And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the other wing of the cherub: from the uttermost part of the one wing unto the uttermost part of the other were ten cubits.

1Ki 6:25 And the other cherub was ten cubits: both the cherubims were of one measure and one size.

1Ki 6:26 The height of the one cherub was ten cubits, and so was it of the other cherub.

1Ki 6:27 And he set the cherubims within the inner house: and they stretched forth the wings of the cherubims, so that the wing of the one touched the one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house.

1Ki 6:28 And he overlaid the cherubims with gold.

Inside this special holy room was the Cherubim. They were quite large being five cubits on each wing. They were 10 cubits in height, and were set within the inner house. They were so wide that the cherubims stretched from one wall all the way to the other wall. These cherubims were overlaid with gold also.

1Ki 6:29 And he carved all the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, within and without.

1Ki 6:30 And the floor of the house he overlaid with gold, within and without.

There was beauty not just in the inner room but all the walls and floors had carved figures of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers. This beauty wrought by skilled men. The palm trees are typical of uprightness & fruitfulness. The flowers are typical of beauty, fragrance and purity. Christ is the most fruitful

and pure.

1Ki 6:31 And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

1Ki 6:32 The two doors also were of olive tree; and he carved upon them carvings of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold, and spread gold upon the cherubims, and upon the palm trees.

1Ki 6:33 So also made he for the door of the temple posts of olive tree, a fourth part of the wall.

1Ki 6:34 And the two doors were of fir tree: the two leaves of the one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding.

1Ki 6:35 And he carved thereon cherubims and palm trees and open flowers: and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.

1Ki 6:36 And he built the inner court with three rows of hewed stone, and a row of cedar beams.

1Ki 6:37 In the fourth year was the foundation of the house of the LORD laid, in the month Zif:

1Ki 6:38 And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.

Verses 31 - 34 talk of the doors and the carvings on and about them. It took seven years to build the temple. Many things that are worthwhile, take a long time to produce.

Seven is the number of divine perfection. Example: God created the heavens and the earth in six days and on the seventh He rested.

Genesis 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

V. THE TYPOLOGY OF THE TEMPLE

Like the Tabernacle, the Temple is typical of Christ and His work in many different ways. Jesus spoke of His body as a temple.

John 2:19, 21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up... But he spake of the temple of his body.

The believer's body is the temple of the Holy Ghost.

1 Corinthians 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

2 Corinthians 6:16-17 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and

touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

The local Church is a temple. The saved and scripturally baptized Church member is a part of that building.

Ephesians 2:19-22 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

* Additional Comments added by E.L. Bynum in Oct. 2013.

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.