

I Kings Lesson 07 *

I Kings Chapter 7

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Memory verses for this week: *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: Deu 27:7 And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God.*

Introduction: In last week's lesson, we studied about the beginning of the work on the temple. Thousands of men worked, and some were highly skilled craftsman. It took seven years of hard work to complete the temple which was twice the size of the tabernacle. One of the wonders in its completion was that no iron tool or any kind of hammer could be used inside the house, making it crucial that all parts fitted together perfectly as they were brought in. This week we will be discussing Solomon's house and the furnishings of the temple.

Solomon launched into a vast building program early in his reign. The temple required seven years, and his house and the other building took thirteen to complete. This means that twenty years of his forty year reign was spent in building. This was a costly undertaking that required high taxes and the conscription of much labor. This led to a feeling of discontent among the people and contributed greatly to the division of the kingdom.

I. SOLOMON'S HOUSE

1Ki 7:1 But Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.

1Ki 7:2 He built also the house of the forest of Lebanon; the length thereof was an hundred cubits, and the breadth thereof fifty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits, upon four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams upon the pillars.

1Ki 7:3 And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.

1Ki 7:4 And there were windows in three rows, and light was against light in three ranks.

1Ki 7:5 And all the doors and posts were square, with the windows: and light was against light in three ranks.

We begin Chapter 7 with the measurements and types of house he built. It took 13 years in building his house. No extensive preparation had been made for this, and there was no haste in building as in the case of the Temple. Verse 2 speaks of the additional house of the forest of Lebanon. This seems to have been like an armory, 150' x 75' x 45' high.

1 Kings 10:17 And he made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three pound of gold went to one shield: and the king put them in the house of the forest of

Lebanon.

Isaiah 22:8 And he discovered the covering of Judah, and thou didst look in that day to the armour of the house of the forest.

1Ki 7:6 And he made a porch of pillars; the length thereof was fifty cubits, and the breadth thereof thirty cubits: and the porch was before them: and the other pillars and the thick beam were before them.

1Ki 7:7 Then he made a porch for the throne where he might judge, even the porch of judgment: and it was covered with cedar from one side of the floor to the other.

Verse six speaks of a large porch referred to as the porch of pillars. It was also called the porch of judgment as it was designed where Solomon might judge the people from this porch.

1 Kings 10:18 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the best gold.

We need to be reminded that God has a judgment throne for the lost.

Revelation 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

Of course there is also a judgment seat for Christians, not to determine whether we go to heaven or not, but to determine our rewards.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

1Ki 7:8 And his house where he dwelt had another court within the porch, which was of the like work. Solomon made also an house for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken to wife, like unto this porch.

Verse 8 indicates that the king had his own house and the queen had hers also. This was the daughter of King Pharaoh. In the future, the bible is clear that Christ's bride will dwell with Him. The bride of course is the New Testament church.

Revelation 21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Paul described who the bride would be in his letter to the Corinthians.

*2Co 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a **chaste virgin** to Christ.*

1Ki 7:9 All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of hewed stones, sawed with saws, within and without, even from the foundation unto the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.

1Ki 7:10 And the foundation was of costly stones, even great stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits.

1Ki 7:11 And above were costly stones, after the measures of hewed stones, and cedars.

1Ki 7:12 And the great court round about was with three rows of hewed stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the LORD, and for the porch of the house.

Verses 9 through 12 give us a description of the building materials used in building the house. There were costly hewed stones which made up the strong foundation of the home. The Great Court is mentioned in verse 12 which had 3 rows of hewed stones and a row of cedar beams on both the inner court and the porch of the house.

II. THE FURNISHINGS OF THE TEMPLE BUILT

1Ki 7:13 And king Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre.

1Ki 7:14 He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to king Solomon, and wrought all his work.

Adam Clarke explained about this craftsman name Hiram.

Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre - This was not the Tyrian king, mentioned before, but a very intelligent coppersmith, of Jewish extraction by his mother's side, who was probably married to a Tyrian.

Verse 13 speaks of this man Hiram and his workings in brass. Apparently he was an excellent craftsman. His mother was an Israelite woman of the tribe of Naphtali and his father was a gentile of Tyre. (Be careful to not confuse Hiram with King Hiram who made the league with Solomon to build the temple). The temple and its furnishings not only typify Christ, but also the believer.

This Temple should be as beautiful as the Holy Spirit can make it, therefore we should be yielded to His master strokes. Our bodies are called temples over in I Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

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?

Hebrews 3:6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

Solomon's temple was costly, but the temple of the Holy Ghost cost much more, because it required the sacrifice of God's dear son.

1Ki 7:15 For he cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high apiece: and a line of twelve cubits did compass either of them about.

1Ki 7:16 And he made two chapiters of molten brass, to set upon the tops of the pillars: the height of the one chapter was five cubits, and the height of the other chapter was five cubits:

1Ki 7:17 And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the chapiters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapter, and seven for the other chapter.

1Ki 7:18 And he made the pillars, and two rows round about upon the one network, to cover the chapiters that were upon the top, with pomegranates: and so did he for the other chapter.

1Ki 7:19 And the chapiters that were upon the top of the pillars were of lily work in the porch, four cubits.

1Ki 7:20 And the chapiters upon the two pillars had pomegranates also above, over against the belly which was by the network: and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows round about upon the other chapter.

1Ki 7:21 And he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple: and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof Jachin: and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz.

1Ki 7:22 And upon the top of the pillars was lily work: so was the work of the pillars finished.

This craftsman Hiram built two pillars of brass. In verse 21, the word "Jachin" means "He shall establish." "Boaz" means "in it is strength."

God has a promise to the overcomers.

Revelation 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

These pillars were destroyed and the prophecy concerning them and its fulfillment of their destruction is found in Jeremiah Chapter 27 and in II Kings Chapter 25.

Jer 27:19 For thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, and concerning the sea, and concerning the bases, and concerning the residue of the vessels that remain in this city,

Jer 27:20 Which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took not, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem;

Jer 27:21 Yea, thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels

that remain in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem;

Jer 27:22 They shall be carried to Babylon, and there shall they be until the day that I visit them, saith the LORD; then will I bring them up, and restore them to this place.

2Ki 25:13 And the pillars of brass that were in the house of the LORD, and the bases, and the brasen sea that was in the house of the LORD, did the Chaldees break in pieces, and carried the brass of them to Babylon.

2Ki 25:14 And the pots, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the spoons, and all the vessels of brass wherewith they ministered, took they away.

2Ki 25:15 And the firepans, and the bowls, and such things as were of gold, in gold, and of silver, in silver, the captain of the guard took away.

2Ki 25:16 The two pillars, one sea, and the bases which Solomon had made for the house of the LORD; the brass of all these vessels was without weight.

2Ki 25:17 The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, and the chapter upon it was brass: and the height of the chapter three cubits; and the wreathen work, and pomegranates upon the chapter round about, all of brass: and like unto these had the second pillar with wreathen work.

The Altar of Brass stood outside the temple. The burnt offerings and sacrifices offered on this altar 30' x 30' x 15' high. The type of the cross and brass is typical of judgment.

2Ch 4:1 *Moreover he made an altar of brass, twenty cubits the length thereof, and twenty cubits the breadth thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof.*

1Ki 7:23 And he made a molten sea, ten cubits from the one brim to the other: it was round all about, and his height was five cubits: and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.

1Ki 7:24 And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.

1Ki 7:25 It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward.

1Ki 7:26 And it was an hand breadth thick, and the brim thereof was wrought like the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies: it contained two thousand baths.

It says he also made a molten sea. This furnished water for the cleansing of the priests. The believer today is a priest (1 Peter 2:9) and needs the daily cleansing of the Word of God (Ephesians 5:25-27).

1Pe 2:9 *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:*

1Pe 2:10 *Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.*

Eph 5:24 *Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own*

husbands in every thing.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

This molten sea of water contained approx. 16,250 gallons of water. It was supported by 12 oxen. The oxen were burden bearers and typical of service.

In Barnes Notes, he mentions several things about the molten sea.

The “molten sea “of Solomon, so called from its great size, took the place of the laver of the tabernacle [Exo 30:18-21](#), which was required for the ablutions of the priests. It was ten cubits, or fully fifteen feet, in diameter at top, and therefore forty-seven feet in circumference, with a depth of 5 cubits, or 7 12 feet. The “2,000 baths” may give the quantity of water ordinarily supplied to the “sea;” the “3,000 baths” the utmost that the laver could anyhow take. Bowls of a considerable size are represented in the Assyrian bas-reliefs; but none of such dimensions as Solomon’s. The largest mentioned by the Greeks held only 5,400 gallons, less than one-third of the contents of the “molten sea,” even according to the lowest estimate.

1Ki 7:27 And he made ten bases of brass; four cubits was the length of one base, and four cubits the breadth thereof, and three cubits the height of it.

1Ki 7:28 And the work of the bases was on this manner: they had borders, and the borders were between the ledges:

1Ki 7:29 And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubims: and upon the ledges there was a base above: and beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of thin work.

1Ki 7:30 And every base had four brasen wheels, and plates of brass: and the four corners thereof had undersetters: under the laver were undersetters molten, at the side of every addition.

1Ki 7:31 And the mouth of it within the chapter and above was a cubit: but the mouth thereof was round after the work of the base, a cubit and an half: and also upon the mouth of it were gravings with their borders, foursquare, not round.

1Ki 7:32 And under the borders were four wheels; and the axletrees of the wheels were joined to the base: and the height of a wheel was a cubit and half a cubit.

1Ki 7:33 And the work of the wheels was like the work of a chariot wheel: their axletrees, and their naves, and their felloes, and their spokes, were all molten.

1Ki 7:34 And there were four undersetters to the four corners of one base: and the undersetters were of the very base itself.

1Ki 7:35 And in the top of the base was there a round compass of half a cubit high: and on the top of the base the ledges thereof and the borders thereof were of the same.

1Ki 7:36 For on the plates of the ledges thereof, and on the borders thereof, he graved cherubims, lions, and palm trees, according to the proportion of every one, and additions round about.

1Ki 7:37 After this manner he made the ten bases: all of them had one casting, one measure, and one size.

1Ki 7:38 Then made he ten lavers of brass: one laver contained forty baths: and every laver was four cubits: and upon every one of the ten bases one laver.

1Ki 7:39 And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of

the house: and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward over against the south.

There were 10 Lavers and their bases. The molten sea furnished water for the Lavers. Under these lavers were bases with four brasen wheels. On the ledges of the bases were engravings of cherubims, lions, and palm trees.

1Ki 7:40 And Hiram made the lavers, and the shovels, and the basons. So Hiram made an end of doing all the work that he made king Solomon for the house of the LORD:

1Ki 7:41 The two pillars, and the two bowls of the chapters that were on the top of the two pillars; and the two networks, to cover the two bowls of the chapters which were upon the top of the pillars;

1Ki 7:42 And four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, even two rows of pomegranates for one network, to cover the two bowls of the chapters that were upon the pillars;

1Ki 7:43 And the ten bases, and ten lavers on the bases;

1Ki 7:44 And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;

1Ki 7:45 And the pots, and the shovels, and the basons: and all these vessels, which Hiram made to king Solomon for the house of the LORD, were of bright brass.

1Ki 7:46 In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarthan.

1Ki 7:47 And Solomon left all the vessels unweighed, because they were exceeding many: neither was the weight of the brass found out.

We find a summary of Hiram's work done in brass in verses 40-47.

1Ki 7:48 And Solomon made all the vessels that pertained unto the house of the LORD: the altar of gold, and the table of gold, whereupon the shewbread was,

1Ki 7:49 And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

1Ki 7:50 And the bowls, and the snuffers, and the basons, and the spoons, and the censers of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the house, to wit, of the temple.

1Ki 7:51 So was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the LORD. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the LORD.

Following the summary of the work in brass comes the summary of golden vessels. Gold is typical of Divinity. The golden altar of incense is mentioned in verse 48.

Exo 30:1 And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: of shittim wood shalt thou make it.

Exo 30:2 A cubit shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be: and two cubits shall be the height thereof: the horns thereof shall be of the same.

Exo 30:3 And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof

round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a crown of gold round about.

Exo 30:4 And two golden rings shalt thou make to it under the crown of it, by the two corners thereof, upon the two sides of it shalt thou make it; and they shall be for places for the staves to bear it withal.

Exo 30:5 And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold.

Exo 30:6 And thou shalt put it before the vail that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee.

Exo 30:7 And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it.

Exo 30:8 And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

Exo 30:9 Ye shall offer no strange incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering; neither shall ye pour drink offering thereon.

Exo 30:10 And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it is most holy unto the LORD.

Incense was offered on this altar. This stands for the place of prayer where prayers ascend as incense to the Lord.

Exo 30:8 And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

Heb 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

In verse 48 it speaks of the golden table for shewbread . Christ is the bread of life, for the believer priest to feed upon. The golden candlesticks typify Christ, oil the Holy Spirit, the wicks typify the believer. Only as we are in Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit, can we let the light of God shine from us, showing the beauty of Christ. In verse 50, we find the miscellaneous articles. Even the doors were swinging on golden hinges. In the believers life, everything hinges on Christ. Without him, we are nothing.

* 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.