

1 Kings 5-7

Good evening and thank you for joining us, would you please turn in your bibles to 1 Kings chapter 5? Tonight, we're going to set a C3 record as we study chapters 5-7-107 verses as we look at Solomons preparations and building of the temple in Jerusalem

Before he died David stockpiled materials to be used in the Temple construction. **1 Chronicles 22:5, "Now David said, "Solomon my son is young and inexperienced, and the house to be built for the LORD must be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all countries. I will now make preparation for it." So David made abundant preparations before his death.** Now we see the fulfillment of these preparations

The title of tonights message is The 1st Temple

Let's pray

1-3

1 Now Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, because he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram had always loved David. 2 Then Solomon sent to Hiram, saying:

3 You know how my father David could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the wars which were fought against him on every side, until the LORD put his foes[fn] under the soles of his feet. Remember it was David's idea to build the temple, but God prohibited him from building the Temple because David was a man of war.

4 But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor evil occurrence.

5 And behold, I propose to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spoke to my father David, saying, "Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, he shall build the house for My name." Notice the words "a house for My name..."

Solomon knew that no earthly structure could contain the Almighty God. The Temple was built to declare God's name

6 Now therefore, command that they cut down cedars for me from Lebanon; and my servants will be with your servants, and I will pay you wages for your servants according to whatever you say. For you know there is none among us who has skill to cut timber like the Sidonians.

7 So it was, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly and said, Blessed be the LORD this day, for He has given David a wise son over this great people! This is a very important verse. Notice that God used Gentiles to help the Hebrews build their Temple. This was forgotten by later Jews who grew to hate the Gentiles.

8 Then Hiram sent to Solomon, saying: I have considered the message which you sent me, and I will do all you desire concerning the cedar and cypress logs.

9 My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon to the sea; I will float them in rafts by sea to the place you indicate to me, and will have them broken apart there; then you can take them away. And you shall fulfill my desire by giving food for my household.

The payment for the lumber is food. And we saw last week how Solomon certainly had plenty to spare.

10-16

10 Then Hiram gave Solomon cedar and cypress logs according to all his desire. 11 And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand kors of wheat as food for his household, and twenty^[fn] kors of pressed oil. Thus Solomon gave to Hiram year by year.

12 So the LORD gave Solomon wisdom, as He had promised him; and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a treaty together.

13 Then King Solomon raised up a labor force out of all Israel; and the labor force was thirty thousand men. 14 And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month in shifts: they were one month in Lebanon and two months at home; Adoniram was in charge of the labor force. 15 Solomon had seventy thousand who carried burdens, and eighty thousand who quarried stone in the mountains, 16 besides three thousand three hundred^[fn] from the chiefs of Solomon's deputies, who supervised the people who labored in the work. The whole work force that labored on the Temple was 183,300 men.

17 And the king commanded them to quarry large stones, costly stones, and hewn stones, to lay the foundation of the temple.^[fn]

SHOW PIC When we go to the Temple Mount you see the enormous stones used by the Romans in the rebuilding of the Temple in 40 BC. The stones in verse 17 predate the stones we see today, but they were probably just as large. **CLOSE PIC**

18 So Solomon's builders, Hiram's builders, and the Gebalites quarried them; and they prepared timber and stones to build the temple.

In chapter 6 the construction begins.

CHAPTER 6

1 And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth^[fn] year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD. Verse 1 is extremely significant when it comes to the Old Testament timeline. The 4th year of Solomon's reign was the 480th year after the exodus. We know Solomon took over in 970 BC, which dates the Exodus at 1445 BC.

2 Now the house which King Solomon built for the LORD, its length was sixty cubits, its width twenty, and its height thirty cubits. If a cubit is 18" - the Temple was 90' long, by 30' wide, by 45' high.

3 The vestibule in front of the sanctuary^[fn] of the house was twenty cubits long across the width of the house, and the width of the vestibule^[fn] extended ten cubits from the front of the house.

4 And he made for the house windows with beveled frames. If you recall, the tabernacle had no windows because the Shekinah glory of the Lord provided the light for the Holy of Holies. Here, however, windows were built in the temple evidently because the plans provided for failure—in case the glory of God would not be present.

5-7

5 Against the wall of the temple he built chambers all around, against the walls of the temple, all around the sanctuary and the inner sanctuary.^[fn] Thus he made side chambers all around it. 6 The lowest chamber was five cubits wide, the middle was six cubits wide, and the third was seven cubits wide; for he made narrow ledges around the outside of the temple, so that the support beams would not be fastened into the walls of the temple.

7 And the temple, when it was being built, was built with stone finished at the quarry, so that no hammer or chisel or any iron tool was heard in the temple while it was being built. This is incredible stones were cut offsite, and they were cut so precisely they'd fit together without the use of fasteners or mortar. We learn later in the Old Testament the only noise heard during the building of the Temple were the praises of the Levites. It was a shocking construction site...

Now there's an interesting story that is told in the construction of the temple. Once a stone was quarried, it was marked with a special mark. So that they would have the plan at the quarry for the building and the dimension of each stone, and then they also had another set of plans on the job. And again, each stone made especially for each slot and they would quarry the stone and send it, and they would mark where it went.

Well, a stone came from the quarry that didn't seem to fit into the building. And so the people didn't see or understand where this particular stone went, so they tossed it aside. Now this building was seven years in the construction. So in seven years the shrubbery and all can grow up and cover it.

And the story goes that this stone just became lost in this overgrow of shrubbery. So that when the temple was just about completed, the foreman sent a message to the quarry, "We're all set to lay the cornerstone, the chief stone of the building. Where is it?" And the quarry said, "That stone was made and already sent to the job." They said, "Well, it's not here." They said, "Well, it's been sent. Look for it." And someone said, "Well, remember

that stone we threw over there in the bushes?" And they went over, and sure enough, the stone that was rejected by the builders was the chief cornerstone of the building.

**Psalm 118:22 The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.**

Peter quotes this verse in Acts when standing before the Sanhedrin, and 2 more times in his epistles. And he is showing them a parallel, Peter shows that actually it's speaking of Christ, the chief cornerstone who was rejected by the religious builders in Israel. But God has made Him the head cornerstone over all.

8-13

8 The doorway for the middle story^[fn] was on the right side of the temple. They went up by stairs to the middle story, and from the middle to the third.

9 So he built the temple and finished it, and he paneled the temple with beams and boards of cedar. 10 And he built side chambers against the entire temple, each five cubits high; they were attached to the temple with cedar beams.

11 Then the word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying: 12 "Concerning this temple which you are building, if you walk in My statutes, execute My judgments, keep all My commandments, and walk in them, then I will perform My word with you, which I spoke to your father David. 13 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake My people Israel." Even while construction is going on, the Lord reminds Solomon of what truly matters. The Lord was much more interested in Solomon's obedience than He was in the temple building.

God is always more interested in the worker, than the work

14-16

14 So Solomon built the temple and finished it. 15 And he built the inside walls of the temple with cedar boards; from the floor of the temple to the ceiling he paneled the inside with wood; and he covered the floor of the temple with planks of cypress. 16 Then he built the twenty-cubit room at the rear of the temple, from floor to ceiling, with cedar boards; he built it inside as the inner sanctuary, as the Most Holy Place. **SHOW PIC** Solomon's Temple had a similar layout to Moses' Tabernacle. There was an outer court that contained the bronze altar and lavers where the priests washed. Then the Temple proper – the 90 x 30 x 45' structure consisted of two courts. The innermost court or the Holy of Holies was 30' square.

Inside the Holy of Holies was the Ark of the Covenant and God's Shekinah glory. In the Holy Place sat the Menorah, and Table of Shewbread, and Altar of Incense. On either end of the Holy Place was a veil of separation. **CLOSE PIC**

17 And in front of it the temple sanctuary was forty cubits long. 18 The inside of the temple was cedar, carved with ornamental buds and open flowers. All was cedar; there was no stone to be seen. 19 And he prepared the inner sanctuary inside the temple, to set the ark of the covenant of the LORD there. (the Holy of Holies)

20-26

20 The inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high. He overlaid it with pure gold, and overlaid the altar of cedar.

21 So Solomon overlaid the inside of the temple with pure gold. He stretched gold chains across the front of the inner sanctuary, and overlaid it with gold.

22 The whole temple he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the temple; also he overlaid with gold the entire altar that was by the inner sanctuary.

23 Inside the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olive wood, each ten cubits high.

24 One wing of the cherub was five cubits, and the other wing of the cherub five cubits: ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. 25 And the other cherub was ten cubits; both cherubim were of the same size and shape. 26 The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was the other cherub. These olive angels stood 15' high and had a 15' wingspan

Hebrews 9 tells us the Tabernacle - and evidently the Temple that followed - were a small-scale model of God's throne room in heaven.

Whenever we're allowed a glimpse into heaven we always see angels hovering near God's throne. Solomon's Temple also had its angels – made from olive wood.

In Revelation 4:6 when John sees the heavenly scene he sees FOUR living creatures. It's interesting that Solomon makes two cherubim for the Temple - but you'll recall the Ark also had two cherubim attached to the lid or mercy seat. That means Solomon also had a total of FOUR cherubim in the earthly Holy of Holies.

27-30

27 Then he set the cherubim inside the inner room;[fn] and they stretched out the wings of the cherubim so that the wing of the

one touched one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall. And their wings touched each other in the middle of the room. 28 Also he overlaid the cherubim with gold.

29 Then he carved all the walls of the temple all around, both the inner and outer sanctuaries, with carved figures of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers. 30 And the floor of the temple he overlaid with gold, both the inner and outer sanctuaries.

In today's gold market the Temple is estimated to cost \$56m. Imagine a building with only 14,000 square feet of floor space at this price tag!

31 For the entrance of the inner sanctuary (or Holy of Holies) he made doors of olive wood; the lintel (or header) and doorposts were one-fifth of the wall. It's interesting the veil in the Tabernacle was replaced by a door in the Temple. Of course this begs the question-why when Jesus was crucified are we told the veil in the Temple tore from top to bottom?

This was a different Temple. Solomon's structure was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BC. The Temple of Jesus' day was called "The Second Temple" – it was rebuilt by Zerubbabel and refurbished and expanded by King Herod. It had a veil.

32-36

32 The two doors were of olive wood; and he carved on them figures of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold; and he spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees. 33 So for the door of the sanctuary he also made doorposts of olive wood, one-fourth of the wall. 34 And the two doors were of cypress wood; two panels comprised one folding door, and two panels comprised the other folding door. 35 Then

he carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers on them, and overlaid them with gold applied evenly on the carved work.

36 And he built the inner court with three rows of hewn stone and a row of cedar beams.

What a contrast there was between the Tabernacle and the Temple... The Tabernacle was portable. The Temple was permanent. The Tabernacle was erected in the desert - the Temple built on a mountain. The Tabernacle was ugly to the eye. When you approached it all you saw were the dark, badger skins that served as its covering. On the other hand, the Temple glistened in the sunshine. Everyone in Jerusalem could see its beauty and glory.

The Tabernacle was ordinary - whereas the Temple was glorious. You could only see the beauty of the Tabernacle from the inside.

This is a picture of Jesus. According to Isaiah 53, at His first appearance Jesus was without form and comeliness. He lacked physical attraction. But at His second appearance He'll radiate with glory.

His first coming was temporary. He lived a short life. When Jesus comes again He'll rule forever.

37 In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid, in the month of Ziv. (October / November) 38 And in the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its details and according to all its plans. So he was seven years in building it.

CHAPTER 7

1 But Solomon took thirteen years to build his own house; so he finished all his house.” The king spent almost twice as long to build his palace as he took to build the Temple

2 He also built the House of the Forest of Lebanon; its length was one hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits, with four rows of cedar pillars, and cedar beams on the pillars. The Hebrew text here is unclear. This house could either be an extension of the palace, called the house of the forest of Lebanon because of the way it was paneled, or it could be that Solomon constructed a summer cottage in Lebanon

3-12

3 And it was paneled with cedar above the beams that were on forty-five pillars, fifteen to a row. 4 There were windows with beveled frames in three rows, and window was opposite window in three tiers. 5 And all the doorways and doorposts had rectangular frames; and window was opposite window in three tiers.

6 He also made the Hall of Pillars: its length was fifty cubits, and its width thirty cubits; and in front of them was a portico with pillars, and a canopy was in front of them.

7 Then he made a hall for the throne, the Hall of Judgment, where he might judge; and it was paneled with cedar from floor to ceiling.[fn]

8 And the house where he dwelt had another court inside the hall, of like workmanship. Solomon also made a house like this hall for Pharaoh’s daughter, whom he had taken as wife.

9 All these were of costly stones cut to size, trimmed with saws, inside and out, from the foundation to the eaves, and also on the outside to the great court. 10 The foundation was of costly stones, large stones, some ten cubits and some eight cubits. 11 And

above were costly stones, hewn to size, and cedar wood. 12 The great court was enclosed with three rows of hewn stones and a row of cedar beams. So were the inner court of the house of the LORD and the vestibule of the temple. The writer also mentioned that some of the great architectural features of this palace were also used in the house of the LORD.

13-22

13 Now King Solomon sent and brought Hiram[fn] from Tyre. 14 He was the son of a widow from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a bronze worker; he was filled with wisdom and understanding and skill in working with all kinds of bronze work. So he came to King Solomon and did all his work.

15 And he cast two pillars of bronze, each one eighteen cubits high, and a line of twelve cubits measured the circumference of each. 16 Then he made two capitals of cast bronze, to set on the tops of the pillars. The height of one capital was five cubits, and the height of the other capital was five cubits. 17 He made a lattice network, with wreaths of chainwork, for the capitals which were on top of the pillars: seven chains for one capital and seven for the other capital. 18 So he made the pillars, and two rows of pomegranates above the network all around to cover the capitals that were on top; and thus he did for the other capital.

19 The capitals which were on top of the pillars in the hall were in the shape of lilies, four cubits. 20 The capitals on the two pillars also had pomegranates above, by the convex surface which was next to the network; and there were two hundred such pomegranates in rows on each of the capitals all around.

21 Then he set up the pillars by the vestibule of the temple; he set up the pillar on the right and called its name Jachin, and he set up

the pillar on the left and called its name Boaz. 22 The tops of the pillars were in the shape of lilies. So the work of the pillars was finished. Some believe that the pillars were meant to remind Israel of the twin pillars from the Exodus. The pillar of fire by night and the pillar of cloud by day were constant reminders of the presence of God in the wilderness.

23-25

23 And he made the Sea of cast bronze, ten cubits from one brim to the other; it was completely round. Its height was five cubits, and a line of thirty cubits measured its circumference.

24 Below its brim were ornamental buds encircling it all around, ten to a cubit, all the way around the Sea. The ornamental buds were cast in two rows when it was cast. 25 It stood on twelve oxen: three looking toward the north, three looking toward the west, three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east; the Sea was set upon them, and all their back parts pointed inward. **SHOW PIC** This huge bowl or laver stood on the back on 12 ornamental oxen – each facing outward. **CLOSE PIC**

26 It was a handbreadth thick; and its brim was shaped like the brim of a cup, like a lily blossom. It contained two thousand[fn] baths. 2000 baths would be over 10k gallons.

27-39

27 He also made ten carts of bronze; four cubits was the length of each cart, four cubits its width, and three cubits its height. 28 And this was the design of the carts: They had panels, and the panels were between frames; 29 on the panels that were between the frames were lions, oxen, and cherubim. And on the frames was a pedestal on top. Below the lions and oxen were wreaths of plaited

work. 30 Every cart had four bronze wheels and axles of bronze, and its four feet had supports. Under the laver were supports of cast bronze beside each wreath. 31 Its opening inside the crown at the top was one cubit in diameter; and the opening was round, shaped like a pedestal, one and a half cubits in outside diameter; and also on the opening were engravings, but the panels were square, not round. 32 Under the panels were the four wheels, and the axles of the wheels were joined to the cart. The height of a wheel was one and a half cubits. 33 The workmanship of the wheels was like the workmanship of a chariot wheel; their axle pins, their rims, their spokes, and their hubs were all of cast bronze. 34 And there were four supports at the four corners of each cart; its supports were part of the cart itself. 35 On the top of the cart, at the height of half a cubit, it was perfectly round. And on the top of the cart, its flanges and its panels were of the same casting. 36 On the plates of its flanges and on its panels he engraved cherubim, lions, and palm trees, wherever there was a clear space on each, with wreaths all around. 37 Thus he made the ten carts. All of them were of the same mold, one measure, and one shape.

38 Then he made ten lavers of bronze; each laver contained forty baths, and each laver was four cubits. On each of the ten carts was a laver. 39 And he put five carts on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house. He set the Sea on the right side of the house, toward the southeast.

The next section describes the furnishings of the Temple
40-48

40 Hiram^[fn] made the lavers and the shovels and the bowls. So Hiram finished doing all the work that he was to do for King

Solomon for the house of the LORD: 41 the two pillars, the two bowl-shaped capitals that were on top of the two pillars; the two networks covering the two bowl-shaped capitals which were on top of the pillars; 42 four hundred pomegranates for the two networks (two rows of pomegranates for each network, to cover the two bowl-shaped capitals that were on top of the pillars); 43 the ten carts, and ten lavers on the carts; 44 one Sea, and twelve oxen under the Sea; 45 the pots, the shovels, and the bowls. All these articles which Hiram[fn] made for King Solomon for the house of the LORD were of burnished bronze. 46 In the plain of Jordan the king had them cast in clay molds, between Succoth and Zaretan. 47 And Solomon did not weigh all the articles, because there were so many; the weight of the bronze was not determined.

48 Thus Solomon had all the furnishings made for the house of the LORD: the altar of gold, and the table of gold on which was the showbread; 49 the lampstands of pure gold, five on the right side and five on the left in front of the inner sanctuary, with the flowers and the lamps and the wick-trimmers of gold; Notice, the one Menorah in the Tabernacle was replaced with 10 golden lamp stands.

50 the basins, the trimmers, the bowls, the ladles, and the censers of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner room (the Most Holy Place) and for the doors of the main hall of the temple.

SHOW VIDEO

51 So all the work that King Solomon had done for the house of the LORD was finished; and Solomon brought in the things which his father David had dedicated: the silver and the gold and the furnishings. He put them in the treasuries of the house of the

LORD. Now the construction is finished. Solomon plans an “open house”... and guess who pays a visit? Of course, God Himself shows up at Solomon’s dedication. And that’s where we’ll pick up next week – in 1 Kings 8

It’s important to remind ourselves that God is also building a Temple in our day. God is constructing a place today that He desires to honor and declare His name and nature. Where is this temple-it’s closer than you think! The New Testament tells us we are the Temple. **1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?**

Just as Solomon carved out stones to fit one on top of the other – **1 Peter 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**

Just as sacrifices were brought to the temple, our temple-this body, is to make sacrifices to our Lord. Hey never forget Jesus is a builder. He’s constructing a Temple today by making us fit – then by fitting our lives together - and coordinating our efforts to bring glory to His name. And just as any builder, sometimes He has to use a hammer and chisel doesn’t He?