

OBEDIENCE

IN THE MIDST OF A MIGHTY WORK

1 KINGS 6:1-13



1 THE TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

1 Kings 6:1

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- Fourth year of Solomon's reign
- Month of Ziv (April–May)
- 480 years after the Exodus
- Construction of the Temple begins

SHORT COMMENT

The Temple was not an afterthought. It was the fulfillment of God's plan that had been unfolding since the Exodus. God had been preparing for this moment for generations.



KEY TRUTH: God's timing is never accidental.

3 THE SIDE CHAMBERS

1 Kings 6:5-6

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- Three levels of side rooms
- Built around the Temple walls
- Carefully engineered structure

SHORT COMMENT

These rooms likely stored treasures, offerings, supplies, and items used in Temple ministry.



KEY TRUTH: Even the support structures served God's purposes.

2 THE DESIGN OF THE TEMPLE

1 Kings 6:2-4

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- Temple dimensions given
- Larger than the Tabernacle
- Entrance porch constructed
- Narrow recessed windows added

SHORT COMMENT

The Temple replaced the portable Tabernacle as Israel's permanent center of worship. Every detail reflected God's order and design.



KEY TRUTH: God deserves our very best.

4 PREPARED BEFORE PLACEMENT

1 Kings 6:7

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- Stones cut at the quarry
- No hammer or iron tool heard at the Temple site

SHORT COMMENT

The preparation happened before the stones arrived. Peter later describes believers as "living stones" being built into God's spiritual house (1 Peter 2:5). God often prepares us before He places us.



KEY TRUTH: Preparation is part of God's plan.



"As for this temple you are building, if you follow my decrees, observe my laws and keep all my commands and obey them, I will fulfill through you the promise I gave to David your father."

1 KINGS 6:12 (NIV)

5 ORDER AND DESIGN

1 Kings 6:8-10

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- Entrance on the south side
- Winding staircases connected the floors
- Cedar beams and roofing completed

KEY TRUTH: God is a God of order.

SHORT COMMENT

Nothing about the Temple was random. Every room, staircase, and chamber was built according to God's design.

6 GOD INTERRUPTS THE CONSTRUCTION

1 Kings 6:11-12

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- God speaks to Solomon
- Obedience becomes the focus
- God's promises linked to faithful living

KEY TRUTH: God is more concerned with our walk than our work.

SHORT COMMENT

Right in the middle of the construction project, God addresses Solomon's heart. The Temple mattered. But Solomon's obedience mattered more.

7 GOD'S PRESENCE IS THE GOAL

1 Kings 6:13

VERSE BREAKDOWN

- God promises to dwell among Israel
- God promises not to forsake His people

KEY TRUTH: God's presence is the greatest blessing.

SHORT COMMENT

The Temple was never merely a building. The greatest blessing was not the building itself, but God's presence.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FILL IN THE BLANK

1. The stones for the Temple were completely prepared at the _____ before being brought to the Temple site.
2. God told Solomon that obedience was more important than the _____ he was building.

DIGGING DEEPER

3. Why do you think God interrupted the Temple construction to speak to Solomon about obedience? What does that teach us about the relationship between ministry activity and personal devotion to God?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What area of your life is God currently shaping and preparing before placing you into greater service?

REFERENCES



1 Kings 7:51



2 Kings 11:10



Nehemiah 13:4-9



Ezekiel 42:1-14

