

I Kings 5-6 –14 July 2022

“Building The Temple For The Lord”

Introduction

- *I & II Kings demonstrate that a king’s allegiance to God’s Law is the key to success & protection
- *The 1st half of I Kings depicts the reign of Solomon
- *The 2nd half of I Kings begins the divided kingdom
- *Chap 1-2 we saw the purging of the sinful men from the kingdom by bold actions of godly people
- *Chap 3-4 we saw Solomon’s desire for God’s wisdom yet his struggles to worship God in purity & truth
 - *He already began political polygamous marriages
 - *He allowed worship in the pagan high places
- *Now his heart’s set on building the temple that David asked for
- *This is a time of great prosperity, but even in that environment, there are great dangers to avoid while building & advancing for God & His kingdom
- *Let’s see 3 dangers to avoid while building the Kingdom of God in our own lives**

1st danger while building is that worship turns into work (Chap 5:1-16)

Read Chap 5:1-5

1. David couldn't build for he was a man at war, but the son, he can build a kingdom in peace
2. Solomon purposed in his heart to follow after the Lord's declared will
 - a. Motivation to love & do for God is good
 - b. But don't let it change to
 - i. Pride in what WE'VE done
 - ii. Routine of what we HAVE TO do
3. As for Hiram, he's a lover of David
 - a. Good for Christians to be attractive
 - b. But will Hiram become a lover of God?

Read Vs 6

1. So the ask is for massive trees from Lebanon
2. Solomon will pay fair wages for the work

Read Vs 7-9

1. Cooperation helps everyone even financially

2. Totally different than Lebanon today in fighting over the Natural Gas wells in the Med

Read Vs 10-12

1. Hiram respected the Lord (vs 7), but we don't know if he was saved
2. This is a respectful business transaction
 - a. Respect isn't what it takes to be saved, faithful worship is
 - b. Read John 6:29 – Don't let complexity of effort become pride of self-effort
3. Notice Hiram expected to be paid, worship costs you something
 - a. When David bought Temple area, he said, "I will not offer God what costs me nothing"

Read Vs 13-16

1. Taking this number of workers from around the country in war times wouldn't have been possible
 - a. This draft of men (including Jeroboam) would later be a reason kingdom would split
 - b. Worship has to come from willing heart, not from compulsion or it's just work

2nd danger while building is to neglect the Chief Cornerstone (Chap 5:17-6:14)

Read Chap 5:17-18

1. Notice the foundation was made of giant, cut stones of great quality – Two applications of this
 - a. Early work (in our our lives) determines the quality of the whole (Luk 6:48, I Cor 3:9-11)
 - i. Behind-the-scenes efforts are most important
 - b. Christ the chief cornerstone
 - i. Tradition of it being lost b/c it didn't seem to go with the rest
 - ii. Read Psa 118:22 & Matt 21:42
 - iii. Read Act 4:8-12 & I Pet 2:6-8 q Isa 28:16
 - iv. He needs to be, not a stone, but the chief cornerstone in our lives

Read Chap 6:1-4

1. This is in 967 BC
2. House of the Lord is the Holy Place & the Holy of Holies also called the oracle

Read Vs 5-6

1. Priest's quarters while they ministered
2. But interesting hr didn't connect them to Holy place which was designed by God in Tabernacle

Read Vs 7

1. Even in preparing the house, it was a place of worship, stones were prepared in quarry outside
 - a. Application: Prepare our hearts before coming to church, don't fly in 10 minutes late
2. Foundation of worship begins with a Person
 - a. Read Eph 2:19-22

Read Vs 8-10

1. Describing rooms just around the temple proper

Read Vs 11-14

1. No indication that the Lord spoke to Solomon to command him to build this temple, he built it from the Word of the Lord given to David (faith)
 - a. And now the Lord speaks (relationship)
2. Act of faith in what we KNOW & God will relay MORE info

3rd danger is that we build the outside but neglect building the heart (Chap 6:15-38)

Read Chap 6:15-16

1. Describes the walls & floors from cedar and fir

Read Vs 17-20

1. Holy of Holies was 1/3 the length, Holy Place was 2/3 length & ornamented w/ buds & flowers

Read Vs 21-22

1. Stone for foundation, cedar for walls, but gold covering the Holy of Holies
2. 'Partitions by the chains of gold' – he even decorated the walls with gold

Read Vs 23-28

1. 2 giant cherubim in the Holy of Holies to match the ones on the Mercy Seat of the Ark
2. Olive trees speak of the religious privilege or heritage of Israel

Read Vs 29-30

1. H of H decorated w/ cherubim & flowers

Read Vs 31-32

1. Doors separating 2 rooms made of Olive again

Read Vs 33-35

1. Doors and 2 posts to the Holy Place

Read Vs 36

1. Inner Court walls has 3 rows deep of stone and then cedar wall interior

Read Vs 37-38

1. 7.5 years to build in all (13 yrs for his house)

The Application

1. Building up the outside can...
 - a. Clouded what God was picturing in simplicity and truth w/ the Tabernacle
 - b. Used windows for natural light instead of relying on divine light
 - c. Items overlaid w/ gold instead of pure gold
2. This temple was accepted of God b/c of David's motivation to honor God (chap 8:18)
 - a. Not b/c it was marvelous & expensive
 - b. Matt 24:2 – not 1 stone left on another

Conclusion

So, even in times of great prosperity, there's dangers to watch out for

1. **Don't allow worship to turn into work**
 - a. Worship is a sacrifice, not a paid job
 - b. Are you a Hiram or a David?
2. **Don't neglect the Chief Cornerstone Jesus**
 - a. You'll either stumble over Jesus the Rock or you'll accept His Lordship
 - b. Just accepting that He's a stone in the building of your life isn't enough
3. **Don't neglect inside as you work outside**
 - a. Jesus warned there are many who honor him w/ their words, but their heart is far away
 - b. Psm 37:16 – A little w/ the righteous is better than the riches of the wicked
 - c. Psm 51:6 – God desires truth in the inward
 - d. Jesus said to “clean FIRST within the cup & platter that the outside may be clean also”