I Kings 7-8 –21 July 2022 "Dedicating Ourselves To 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
- *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
- *In Chap 5-8 his heart's set on building David's temple
- *Chap 5-6 we looked at some dangers to avoid while building the kingdom of God
- *Now in 7-8 we see what it looks like to show dedication to the Lord for His great faithfulness to us
- *Let's see 6 keys for dedicating our lives to the Lord

1st key is to put our resources into Him (Chap 7:1-51)

Constructing Other Buildings (Vs 1-12)

Read Chap 7:1

- 1. Solomon took longer to build his own house than he did for the Temple
 - a. Read Haggai 1:4
 - b. Read Matt 6:33

Read Vs 2-5

1. This great hall was used to store 300 gold shields and all the gold drinking vessels

Read Vs 6

1. This was either an added entryway or a separate building

Read Vs 7

1. This was a judgement hall or throne room

Read Vs 8-12

1. Describes his personal house and a house for his Egyptian wife

Rest of chapter details furnishing The Temple Read Vs 13-14

1. This man of a mixed family, difficult upbringing was highly skilled & of great value

Read Vs 15-20

1. Describing the 2 pillars or columns that Hiram made

Read Vs 21-22

- 1. Placed them at the entry to the Temple
 - a. Jachin 'He shall establish'
 - b. Boaz 'In Him is strength'

Read Vs 23-26

- 1. Large washing laver or washing basin
- 2. Original was designed for the priest to wash their hands and feet in

Read Vs 27-39

1. 10 smaller lavers (240 gals) of brass with their decorative bases; 5 on N & 5 on S

Read Vs 40-45

1. Summation of all; brass used for items priests used representing man's effort and work

Read Vs 46-47

1. Excavations show area used for metallurgy

Read Vs 48-51

- 1. This is all the words given important articles
- 2. But even here he makes 10 extra lampstands a. You can't multiply Jesus

2nd key is to worship the invisible God in Spirit & in truth (Chap 8:1-11)

Now they bring the Ark to the Temple Read Chap 8:1-9

- 1. The centerpiece of it all has been brought in
- 2. Once a year atonement shed on top of the Law of Moses at this ark
- 3. Once forever atonement (Jesus) shed on top of the hill Calvary (Read John 1:17)

Read Vs 10-11

- 1. This shows God's acceptance of this temple
- 2. It wasn't acceptable b/c Solomon patterned it after the real one in heaven (Heb 8:5). He didn't. It's acceptable b/c of verse 18 (David)
- 3. Read John 4:23-24

3rd key is to seek relationship, not material gain (Chap 8:12-21)

Read Chap 8:12-13

- 1. Solomon reminds the people that the Lord's throne is surrounded by clouds & thick darkness representing the glory of the Lord (Psm 97)
 - a. Solomon rightly saw this as God's favor

Read Vs 14-16

- 1. Our goals should not be based around getting stuff but around getting relationships
- 2. Read Luk 12:16-21 vs Dan 12:3

Read Vs 17-21

- 1. The Lord has kept His promise
- 2. Remind people how good God is, it's exciting

4th key is to beg God for forgiveness & kindness (Chap 8:22-53)

Read Chap 8:22-26

1. Lord You have kept Your Word & I pray that You keep keeping Your Word

Read Vs 27-30

- 1. Lord hear the prayers of Your people that come from this place & the prayers prayed toward here
 - a. Just what Daniel did in Chap 6

Read Vs 31-32

1. Lord bring justice from this place

Read Vs 33-34

1. Lord forgive us when we need forgiveness

Read Vs 35-36

- 1. Lord when You withhold Your blessings b/c of sin & we repent, forgive, teach & restore blessing
 - a. Let the afflictions teach us

Read Vs 37-40

1. Lord whatever affliction comes, forgive the humble that understands their sin & need of You

Read Vs 41-43

1. Lord may the Gentiles receive from You... for Your glory

Read Vs 44-51

- 1. Lord deal compassionately with Israel as we face our enemies from outside the land
- 2. Notice, there are none that are sinless (vs 46)
- 3. There's an expectation that if there's sin, there will be repentance & forsaking of sin (vs 48)

Read Vs 52-53

1. Lord do all this b/c of Your great love for us

5th key is to beg God for faithfulness & closeness (Chap 8:54-61)

Read Chap 8:54-55

- 1. Before God, kneel; before the people, stand
- 2. Know your place in the chain of command

Read Vs 56-59

1. Stay close to the Lord for He is a faithful God Read Vs 60

1. Staying close to God shows others; God is good

Read Vs 61

- 1. How do we stay close? By keeping His ways
- 2. Read Psm 51:11-12
- 3. Think of Jesus in the Garden

6th key is to put our time into Him (Chap 8:62--66)

Read Chap 8:62-64

- 1. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins
- 2. Sacrifice proves their faith in dedicating themselves to God

Read Vs 65-66

- 1. 7 days for Feast of tabernacles & 7 days for this dedication of the Temple
 - a. Read Act 2:42 continue steadfastly
 - b. Heb 10:24-25 don't forsake assembling
- 2. They were glad for how faithful God had been
 - a. If joy depends on how good you'll be...it's a rollercoaster
 - b. If joy depends on how good God will be, then we're FULL of delight!

Conclusion

Knowing that there's still so much pride in us, it's a good thing to dedicate ourselves to the Lord. How do we do that?

- 1. Put our resources into Him
- 2. Worship the invisible God in Spirit & truth
- 3. Seek relationship, not material gain
- 4. Beg God for forgiveness & kindness
- 5. Beg God for faithfulness & closeness
- 6. Put our time into Him

Some people know that Lord & you do well

But other people know the joy to the Lord thru a life that's dedicated to Him!