

God's Approval of His Temple (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

1 Kings 8:54–66

2 Chronicles 7:1–10

Solomon's Blessing

54 When Solomon had finished praying this entire prayer and supplication to the LORD,

he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread toward heaven.

55 And he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying:

56 "Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised; not one word has failed of all His good promise, which He promised through Moses His servant.

57 May the LORD our God be with us, as He was with our fathers; may He not leave us or forsake us,

58 that He may incline our hearts to Himself, to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His ordinances, which He commanded our fathers.

59 And may these words of mine, with which I have made supplication before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, that He may maintain the cause of His servant and the cause of His people Israel, as each day requires,

60 so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no one else.

61 Let your heart therefore be wholly devoted to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day."

62 Now the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifice before the LORD.

63 Solomon offered for the sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered to the LORD, 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep.

1 Now when Solomon had finished praying,

fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

2 The priests could not enter into the house of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house.

3 All the sons of Israel, seeing the fire come down and the glory of the LORD upon the house, bowed down on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave praise to the LORD, *saying*, "Truly He is good, truly His lovingkindness is everlasting."

4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifice before the LORD.

5 King Solomon offered a sacrifice of 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep.

So the king and all the sons of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD.

64 On the same day the king consecrated the middle of the court that *was* before the house of the LORD, because there he offered the burnt offering and the grain offering and the fat of the peace offerings; for the bronze altar that *was* before the LORD *was* too small to hold the burnt offering and the grain offering and the fat of the peace offerings.

Thus the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

6 The priests stood at their posts, and the Levites also, with the instruments of music to the LORD, which King David had made for giving praise to the LORD—“for His lovingkindness is everlasting”—whenever he gave praise by their means, while the priests on the other side blew trumpets; and all Israel was standing.

7 Then Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that *was* before the house of the LORD, for there he offered the burnt offerings

and the fat of the peace offerings because the bronze altar which Solomon had made was not able to contain the burnt offering, the grain offering and the fat.

Great are the LORD's Works (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

Psalm 111

- 1 Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with all *my* heart,
In the company of the upright and in the assembly.
- 2 Great are the works of the LORD;
They are studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 Splendid and majestic is His work,
And His righteousness endures forever.
- 4 He has made His wonders to be remembered;
The LORD is gracious and compassionate.
- 5 He has given food to those who fear Him;
He will remember His covenant forever.
- 6 He has made known to His people the power of His works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.
- 7 The works of His hands are truth and justice;
All His precepts are sure.
- 8 They are upheld forever and ever;
They are performed in truth and uprightness.
- 9 He has sent redemption to His people;
He has ordained His covenant forever;
Holy and awesome is His name.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*;
His praise endures forever.

The Righteous Will Never Be Moved (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

Psalm 112

- 1 Praise the LORD!
How blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
Who greatly delights in His commandments.
- 2 His descendants will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches are in his house,
And his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 Light arises in the darkness for the upright;
He is gracious and compassionate and righteous.
- 5 It is well with the man who is gracious and lends;
He will maintain his cause in judgment.
- 6 For he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be remembered forever.
- 7 He will not fear evil tidings;
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- 8 His heart is upheld, he will not fear,
Until he looks *with satisfaction* on his adversaries.
- 9 He has given freely to the poor,
His righteousness endures forever; [[2 Cor 9:9](#)]
His horn will be exalted in honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be vexed,
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;
The desire of the wicked will perish.

Festival at the Temple (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

1 Kings 8:54–66

The Dedication Festival (from the 8th to the 14th)

65 So Solomon observed the feast at that time, and all Israel with him, a great assembly from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of Egypt, before the LORD our God, for seven days and seven *more* days, *even* fourteen days.

The Feast of Tabernacles (from the 15th to the 22nd)

Solomon Dismisses the People (23rd)

66 On the eighth day [23rd] he sent the people away and they blessed the king. Then they went to their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had shown to David His servant and to Israel His people.

2 Chronicles 7:1–10

8 So Solomon observed the feast at that time for seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly *who came* from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of Egypt.

9 On the eighth day [22nd] they held a solemn assembly, for the dedication of the altar they observed seven days and the feast seven days.

10 Then on the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people to their tents, rejoicing and happy of heart because of the goodness that the LORD had shown to David and to Solomon and to His people Israel.

Unless the LORD Builds a House (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

Psalm 127

A Song of Ascents, of Solomon.

- 1 Unless the LORD builds the house,
They labor in vain who build it;
Unless the LORD guards the city,
The watchman keeps awake in vain.
- 2 It is vain for you to rise up early,
To retire late,
To eat the bread of painful labors;
For He gives to His beloved *even in his sleep*.
- 3 Behold, children are a gift of the LORD,
The fruit of the womb is a reward.
- 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,
So are the children of one's youth.
- 5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;
They will not be ashamed
When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Blessed Is Everyone Who Feels the LORD (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

Psalm 128

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 How blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,
Who walks in His ways.
- 2 When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands,
You will be happy and it will be well with you.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
Within your house,
Your children like olive plants
Around your table.
- 4 Behold, for thus shall the man be blessed
Who fears the LORD.
- 5 The LORD bless you from Zion,
And may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- 6 Indeed, may you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel!

My Soul Longs for the Courts of the LORD (Tishri [October] 960 BC)

Psalm 84

*For the choir director; on the Gittith.***A Psalm of the sons of Korah.**

- 1 How lovely are Your dwelling places,
O LORD of hosts!
- 2 My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD;
My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- 3 The bird also has found a house,
And the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

- Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts,
My King and my God.
- 4 How blessed are those who dwell in Your house!
They are ever praising You. *Selah*.
- 5 How blessed is the man whose strength is in You,
In whose heart are the highways *to Zion*!
- 6 Passing through the valley of Baca they make it a spring;
The early rain also covers it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength,
Every one of them appears before God in Zion.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
Give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*.
- 9 Behold our shield, O God,
And look upon the face of Your anointed.
- 10 For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand *outside*.
I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God
Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- 11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
The LORD gives grace and glory;
No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- 12 O LORD of hosts,
How blessed is the man who trusts in You!

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