

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

1 Kings 8:54–66

2 Chronicles 7:1–10

Solomon's Blessing

54 It happened that when Solomon finished praying to Yahweh all of the prayer and this plea, he got up from before the altar of Yahweh, from kneeling down on his knees with his palms outstretched to heaven.

55 He stood and blessed all of the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

56 "Blessed be Yahweh who gave a resting place to his people Israel. According to all that he promised, not one word has fallen from all of his promises *concerning* the good which he spoke through the hand of Moses his servant.

57 May Yahweh our God be with us as he was with our ancestors, and may he not leave us or abandon us,

58 to incline our hearts toward him, to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his judgments which he commanded our ancestors.

59 Let these my words which I pleaded before Yahweh *be* near to Yahweh our God, by day and by night, to maintain the justice of his servant and the justice of his people Israel as each day requires

60 so that all of the people of the earth may know that Yahweh, he *is* God; there is none other.

61 Let your heart be completely with Yahweh our God by walking in his statutes, by keeping his commands as this day."

God's Visible Sign of Approval

Sacrifices and Celebration

62 Then the king and all of Israel with him offered a sacrifice in the presence of Yahweh.

63 Solomon sacrificed the fellowship offerings which he offered to Yahweh: twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep; and the king and all of the Israelites dedicated the house of Yahweh.

64 On that day the king consecrated the middle of the courtyard before the house of Yahweh because he offered there the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, and the fat of the fellowship offerings because the bronze altar that was in the presence of Yahweh was too small to hold the burnt offerings and the grain offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings.

1 And when Solomon finished praying,

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

2 And the priests were not able to go into the house of Yahweh, for the glory of Yahweh had filled the house.

3 When all the Israelites saw the fire come down and the glory of Yahweh upon the house, they knelt down *with their* faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to Yahweh, for *he is* good, for his loyal love *is* everlasting.

4 Then the king and all the people were offering a sacrifice before Yahweh.

5 And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand cattle and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

6 And the priests stood at their posts with the Levites, with the instruments of the song of Yahweh that King David had made to give thanks to Yahweh—for his loyal love *is* everlasting—whenever David offered praise by their hand. Now the priests sounded trumpets *standing* opposite them, and all Israel stood.

7 And Solomon consecrated the middle of the courtyard that *was* before the house of Yahweh, for there he had made the burnt offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings, for the bronze altar that Solomon had made was not able to hold the burnt offerings, cereal offerings, and the fat.

<p>The Dedication Festival (from the 8th to the 14th) 65 Solomon held the festival at that time and all of Israel with him, a great assembly from Lebo Hamath up to the wadi of Egypt before Yahweh our God, for seven days <i>and</i> seven days, <i>a total of</i> fourteen days.</p>	<p>8 And Solomon held a feast at that time <i>of</i> seven days. And all Israel <i>was</i> with him, a very great assembly, from Lebo-Hamath to the river of Egypt.</p>
<p>The Feast of Tabernacles (from the 15th to the 22nd)</p>	<p>9 And on the eighth day [22nd] they made a solemn assembly, for they held the dedication of the altar seven days and the feast seven days.</p>
<p>Solomon Dismisses the People (23rd) 66 On the eighth day [23rd], he sent the people away, and they blessed the king, and they went to their tents rejoicing and in good spirits because of all the goodness that Yahweh had shown to David his servant and to Israel his people.</p>	<p>10 And on the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their tents rejoicing and festive of heart on account of the goodness that Yahweh had done for David, Solomon, and Israel his people.</p>

Solomon's Palace (960t–948t BC)

1 Kings 7:1–12

- 1 Solomon built his house *over* thirteen years, and he finished all of his house.
- 2 He built the House of the Forest of Lebanon; one hundred cubits its length, fifty cubits its width, and thirty cubits its height, on four rows of cedar pillars and cedar beams atop the pillars.
- 3 It was covered with cedar above, and the supporting beams which *were* on the forty-five pillars, fifteen *to* the row.
- 4 *There were* three rows of specially designed windows; *with* window to window three times.
- 5 All of the doorways and the doorframes *had* four-sided casings, with opening to opposite opening three times.
- 6 The hall of pillars he made fifty cubits *in* its length and thirty cubits *in* its width, and a porch *was* in front of them, with pillars and an overhang in front of them.
- 7 He made the hall of the throne where he *would* pronounce judgment, the hall of justice, and *it was* covered with cedar from the floor to the rafters.
- 8 His house where he would live in the next courtyard on the inside of the porch was like this work, and he would make a house like this porch for the daughter of Pharaoh whom Solomon had taken *as* wife.
- 9 All of these *were* of precious stones, according to the measurement of dressed stone, sawn with a saw on all sides; from *the* foundation up to the eaves and from *the* outside up to the great courtyard.
- 10 *The* foundation *was of* precious stones, *and* large stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits
- 11 with precious stones above, just the right size, and cedar.
- 12 The great courtyard all around had three rows of dressed stones and a row of cedar beams; for *both* the courtyard of the inner house of Yahweh and for the porch of the house.

God's Second Personal Appearance to Solomon (c. 948t BC)

1 Kings 9:1–9

2 Chronicles 7:11–22

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| <p>1 It happened that as Solomon finished the building of the house of Yahweh, the king's house, and all the things Solomon desired to do,</p> <p>2 Yahweh appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him in Gibeon.</p> <p>3 Yahweh said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea which you have made before me.</p> | <p>11 And Solomon finished the house of Yahweh and the house of the king. And all that came into the heart of Solomon to do with respect to the house of Yahweh and his own house he accomplished.</p> <p>12 Then Yahweh appeared to Solomon at night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.</p> <p>13 When I hold back the heavens so that there is not rain, and when I command the locust to devour the earth, and if I send disease among my people,</p> <p>14 <i>then if</i> my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and will pray and will seek my face and will turn from their evil ways, then I myself shall hear from the heavens and</p> |
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<p>I have consecrated this house which you have built, by putting my name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.</p> <p>4 As for you, if you walk before me as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and with uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, <i>and if</i> you keep my ordinances and my judgments,</p> <p>5 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, as I promised David your father, saying, 'A man will not be cut off for you from upon the throne of Israel.'</p> <p>6 "If ever you or any of your descendants turn from <i>following</i> me and do not keep my commandments <i>and</i> my ordinances that I have set before you and you go and serve other gods and bow down to them,</p> <p>7 then I will cut Israel off from the face of the land that I have given to them, <i>even</i> the house which I have consecrated for my name I will cast away from my face; and Israel shall become a proverb and an object of taunting among all the peoples.</p> <p>8 This house shall become a heap of ruins; all those passing by will be appalled by it and hiss, and they will say, 'On what account did Yahweh do this to this land and to this house?'</p> <p>9 And they will say, 'Because they have forsaken Yahweh their God who brought their ancestors out from the land of Egypt and they embraced other gods and bowed down to them and served them. Therefore, Yahweh brought on them all of this disaster.'"</p>	<p>will forgive their sins and heal their land.</p> <p>15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer of this place.</p> <p>16 And now I have chosen and consecrated this house for my name to be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time.</p> <p>17 Now <i>as for</i> you, if you will walk before me as David your father walked and do according to all that I have commanded you and will keep my ordinances and judgments,</p> <p>18 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom as I promised to David your father, saying, 'A man shall not be cut off for you <i>from</i> ruling over Israel.'</p> <p>19 "But if you turn yourselves away and forsake my ordinances and my commandments which I have given before you <i>all</i> and will go and serve other gods and bow down to them,</p> <p>20 then I will uproot them from upon my land that I have given to them, and this house that I have consecrated for my name I will send away from before my face, and I will make it a proverb and a taunt among all the nations.</p> <p>21 And <i>as for</i> this house, which was exalted, all who pass by it will be appalled and will say, 'Why has Yahweh done thus to this land and to this house?'</p> <p>22 Then they will say, 'Because they forsook Yahweh, the God of their ancestors, who brought them out from the land of Egypt, and <i>they</i> laid hold of other gods and worshiped them and served them. Therefore he has brought upon them all this evil.'"</p>
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