

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."

God's Visible Sign of Approval

Sacrifices and Celebration

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. 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.

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. 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.

<p>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 <i>more</i> days, <i>even</i> fourteen days.</p> <p>The Feast of Tabernacles (from the 15th to the 22nd)</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>8 So Solomon observed the feast at that time for seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly <i>who came</i> from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of Egypt.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
--	--

Solomon's Palace (960t–948t BC)

1 Kings 7:1–12

- 1 Now Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.
- 2 He built the house of the forest of Lebanon; its length was 100 cubits and its width 50 cubits and its height 30 cubits, on four rows of cedar pillars with cedar beams on the pillars.
- 3 It was paneled with cedar above the side chambers which were on the 45 pillars, 15 in each row.
- 4 *There were artistic window* frames in three rows, and window was opposite window in three ranks.
- 5 All the doorways and doorposts *had squared artistic* frames, and window was opposite window in three ranks.
- 6 Then he made the hall of pillars; its length was 50 cubits and its width 30 cubits, and a porch *was* in front of them and pillars and a threshold in front of them.
- 7 He made the hall of the throne where he was to judge, the hall of judgment, and it was paneled with cedar from floor to floor.
- 8 His house where he was to live, the other court inward from the hall, was of the same workmanship. He also made a house like this hall for Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had married.
- 9 All these were of costly stones, of stone cut according to measure, sawed with saws, inside and outside; even from the foundation to the coping, and so on the outside to the great court.
- 10 The foundation was of costly stones, *even* large stones, stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits.
- 11 And above were costly stones, stone cut according to measure, and cedar.
- 12 So the great court all around *had* three rows of cut stone and a row of cedar beams even as the inner court of the house of the LORD, and 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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Now it came about when Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all that Solomon desired to do, 2 that the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as He had appeared to him at Gibeon. 3 The LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your supplication, which you have made before Me; | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's palace, and successfully completed all that he had planned on doing in the house of the LORD and in his palace. 12 Then the LORD 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. 13 If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, 14 and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land. |
|---|---|

<p>I have consecrated this house which you have built by putting My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.</p> <p>4 As for you, if you will walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you <i>and</i> will keep My statutes and My ordinances,</p> <p>5 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, just as I promised to your father David, saying, ‘You shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.’</p> <p>6 But if you or your sons indeed turn away from following Me, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods and worship them,</p> <p>7 then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them, and the house which I have consecrated for My name, I will cast out of My sight. So Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples.</p> <p>8 And this house will become a heap of ruins; everyone who passes by will be astonished and hiss and say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?’</p> <p>9 And they will say, ‘Because they forsook the LORD their God, who brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and adopted other gods and worshiped them and served them, therefore the LORD has brought all this adversity on them.’”</p>	<p>15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer <i>offered</i> in this place.</p> <p>16 For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that My name may be there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.</p> <p>17 As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, even to do according to all that I have commanded you, and will keep My statutes and My ordinances,</p> <p>18 then I will establish your royal throne as I covenanted with your father David, saying, ‘You shall not lack a man <i>to be</i> ruler in Israel.’</p> <p>19 But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods and worship them,</p> <p>20 then I will uproot you from My land which I have given you, and this house which I have consecrated for My name I will cast out of My sight and I will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.</p> <p>21 As for this house, which was exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?’</p> <p>22 And they will say, ‘Because they forsook the LORD, the God of their fathers who brought them from the land of Egypt, and they adopted other gods and worshiped them and served them; therefore He has brought all this adversity on them.’”</p>
--	--

Scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Bible, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation La Habra, Calif. Used by permission. All rights reserved. For Permission to Quote Information visit <http://www.lockman.org>.