

## June 4 Answers

- 1) God's approval of Solomon's temple and his dedicatory prayer. When Solomon finished praying (1 Kgs 8:56–61), God sent **fire** down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and sacrifices, and His **glory** filled the temple. The people bowed down with their faces to the ground and worshipped and gave praise to God. This teaches us that **humility** is the appropriate response when we are in God's presence, and that praise is proclaiming the **truth** about God's character (2 Chr 7:3). Solomon and the people celebrated a dedication festival and observed the Feast of **Tabernacles**. When it was over, they went home joyful and glad of heart. This shows us that worshipping God is a **blessing**, and that He is delighted when we find our **happiness** and satisfaction in Him. Solomon spent the next thirteen years building his palace. When he was finished, God appeared to him a **second** time and told him that He had heard his prayer and would grant his request. But God also warned Solomon that disobedience would bring disaster: **exile** from the land and destruction of the **temple**. This teaches us that we have the power to bring blessing or ruin on those under our authority. We have a solemn obligation to walk before God in integrity and uprightness of heart (1 Kgs 9:4).