



Lesson 106

Solomon Builds the Temple

Story Elements

Text: 1 Kings 5:1 – 8: 66; 2 Chron. 3:1 – 7:22

Setting: circa 964 B.C.

Main Characters: God, Solomon, and Hiram king of Tyre

Plot: Solomon builds the LORD's temple .

Key word(s): “But will God indeed dwell on the _____?”

Climax: *1 Kings 8:10 And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,*

David's Preparations

1. Though David could not build the temple, he prepared for many years. David chose the _____ for the temple (1 Ch. 22:1 cf. 2 Ch. 3:1-2); he gathered building materials in advance (1 Ch. 22:2-5); and he charged Solomon to build the temple and told him of all his preparations. (1 Ch. 22:6-16)

Detailed Statistics

2. (1 Ki. 5:1-18) David and the King of Tyre had enjoyed a long and lasting friendship. That friendship continued with Solomon. Solomon bought from Hiram _____ of Lebanon, considered the best wood for building. The cedar trees were floated down the coastline from Tyre to Joppa. In exchange, Solomon paid Hiram in 20,000 measures of wheat, barley, wine, and oil. (2 Ch. 22:10)
3. (1 Ki. 7:13-14) _____ of Tyre (not to be confused with the King by the same name) was hired to be the chief craftsman for the temple furnishings and decor. In addition to Hiram's skillful labor, 30,000 lumberjacks were conscripted to work (one month on, two months off), 70,000 transporters, 80,000 stone cutters, and 3,300 project administrators. (1 Ki. 5:13-18)
4. (1 Ki. 6:11-14) During the building of the temple, the LORD reiterated to Solomon the Davidic covenant and emphasized the necessity of Solomon's continued _____.

Dedication Service

5. (1 Ki. 6:1, 37-38) _____ years after the children of Israel came out Egypt Solomon commenced the building of the temple. 7 years later it was finished.
6. Some notable statistics about the temple:

- (a) It measured 90 feet long, 30 feet wide, and _____ feet high.
- (b) The interior of the temple was lined with cedar and overlaid with gold – the temple interior was wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling, pure gold. Some estimate the cost of rebuilding Solomon's temple in today's currency to be about \$100 _____ dollars, perhaps even more.
- (c) The two bronze pillars that were situated on either side of the entrance to the temple measured 27 feet high and 18 feet around. They were named “Jachin” (“he shall _____”) and “Boaz” (“in it is _____”). The pillars were not named after men but were tributes to the promises God made to David and a constant reminder to the nation of their need of God's establishing strength.

7. (1 Ki:8:1-66) The dedication service included bringing the tabernacle and all its furnishings to the new temple, a beautiful prayer of Solomon followed by a benediction, and the sacrificing of 22,000 bulls and 120,000 sheep. The _____ of the LORD filled the temple to such an extent that the priests were hindered in their official duties. (1 Ki. 8:11)

Application

8. Though for Israel's nearly 500 year history they had been without a temple, it quickly became a symbol of God's grace and presence. As grand as the temple was, Solomon knew that God is too infinitely glorious to be housed in any building. The temple would always be a symbol of God's _____ grace.

1 Kings 8:27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded? 28 Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day: 29 That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place.

Notes: _____

Answer Key: Key word(s): earth • 1. site • 2. cedars • 3. Hiram • 4. obedience • 5. 480 • 6. a) 45; b) billion; c) establish, strength • 7. glory • 8. condescending

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section.