

1 Kings 5:1-8:66

Celebrate! Solomon and the Nation Build/Dedicate the Temple

The 1st Temple: Solomon's Temple (966 to 586 BC)

The 2nd Temple: Zerubbabel's/Herod's Temple (535 BC to 70 AD)

.....*During the Church Age Every Believer is a Temple of the Holy Spirit*.....

The 3rd Temple: Anti-Christ's Temple (??? to the 2nd Advent of Christ)

The 4th Temple: Christ's Temple (2nd Advent to the New Heavens/New Earth-Rev 21:22)

The Preparations for Building the Temple 5:1-18

King David knew his generation was just one small link in the chain of God's program for human history...King Solomon, as he oversaw the process of building the Temple, understood he was in a privileged position not because of who/what He was but because of who/what God is.

The Construction of the Temple 6:1-7:47

The Building of the Temple 6:1-6:38

The project took seven years to complete (without personal computers!)

The Building of Solomon's Palace 7:1-12

This is a parenthesis within the larger story about the Temple

- 1: Some interpret this as a bad thing: Solomon took more time on his house than the LORD's
- 2: Others interpret it as a good thing: Solomon was both heavenly minded and earthly good

The Furnishings of the Temple 7:13-51

An outstanding (but probably very expensive) artisan was hired for this important task

The Dedication of the Temple 8:1-66

Solomon and the nation celebrated (because they appreciated) what this meant:

Solomon "assembled the Elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes" to be involved in the procession that took the Ark of the Covenant from Zion to the Temple Mount.

1 Kings 8:14-21 (Historical Perspective-the Sovereignty of God)

Then the king faced about and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel was standing. He said, blessed be the LORD the God of Israel, who spoke with His mouth to my father David and has fulfilled *it* with His hand, saying, since the day that I brought My people Israel from Egypt, I did not choose a city out of all the tribes of Israel *in which* to build a house that My name might be there, but I chose David to be over My people Israel. Now it was in the heart of my father David to build a house for the name of the LORD the God of Israel. But the

LORD said to my father David, because it was in your heart to build a house for My name, you did well that it was in your heart. Nevertheless you shall not build the house, but your son who will be born to you, he will build the house for My name. Now the LORD has fulfilled His word which He spoke; for I have risen in place of my father David and sit on the throne of Israel, as the Lord promised, and have built the house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. There I have set a place for the ark, in which is the covenant of the Lord, which He made with our fathers when He brought them from the land of Egypt.

1 Kings 8:27 (Theological Perspective-The Transcendence of God)

But will God indeed dwell on the Earth? Behold, Heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You, how much less this house which I have built! IOWs: the LORD doesn't need a "house" to live in as if He were homeless, all of this it to His glory and for our benefit!

1 Kings 8:41-43 and 60 (Soteriological Perspective-The Love of God)

Also concerning the foreigner who is not of Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for Your name's sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your mighty hand, and of Your outstretched arm); when he comes and prays toward this house, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name, to fear You, as *do* Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name....so that all the peoples of the Earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no one else

1 Kings 8:61-62 and 66 (Lifestyle Perspective-Believe, Behave and Be Thankful)

Let your heart therefore be wholly devoted to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments...the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifice before the Lord....on the eighth day Solomon sent the people away...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.

Christians Have a Responsibility to "Party" As Long As We Do So The Right Way(s) for the Right Reason(s)

The Principle: Believers Should Actively Appreciate and Appropriately Celebrate Key Accomplishments/Achievements as Unto the LORD

Two Examples for the Life of Jesus: 1-The first sign miracle of our Lord-He supernaturally provided a plethora of refreshments to keep a party/wedding reception going!?! (John 2:1-11)
2-The Lord going out of His way to be in Jerusalem to celebrate Hanukkah just a few months before the crucifixion, even though this was dangerous and totally freaked out the 12 Disciples

**Birthdays, Weddings/Anniversaries, Graduations, Holidays, Family Reunions are...
...Special Occasions That Should Be Appreciated/Celebrated to God's Glory by God's People.**