

Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

The Completion of the Temple

- Solomon had his palace built along with other associated buildings [1 Kgs 7:1-12].
 - The palace complex took 13 years to build [v. 1], much longer than the temple (7 ½ years).
 - The palace was 150 feet by 75 feet [v. 2], much larger than the temple (90 feet X 30 feet).
 - The palace, like the temple, was adorned with cedar wood from Lebanon [vv. 3-6].
 - Solomon built a hall of justice as well as a home for his wife, Pharaoh's daughter [vv. 7-8].
 - Like the temple, precut stone was used for the foundation and walls of these buildings [vv. 9-11].
 - The courtyard around the palace complex had a wall like the one around the temple [v. 12].
- Solomon recruited Hiram of Tyre to work in the temple [1 Kgs 7:13-47].
 - This Hiram is a skilled craftsman, not the king.
 - He was skilled for doing work in bronze [v. 14].
 - Hiram built two huge bronze pillars over 34 feet high, including the capitals [vv. 15-20].
 - The pillars (Jachin and Boaz) were erected on either side of the temple portico [vv. 21-22].
 - Hiram then built a large bronze reservoir (sea) that held 11,500 gallons of water [vv. 23-26].
 - Hiram continued his work by making 10 moveable stands (lavers) of bronze [vv. 27-40].
 - ✦ These stands were used when sacrificing animals.
 - ✦ Each stand held 230 gallons of water [v. 38].
 - The summary of Hiram's work also mentions the bronze utensils he made [vv. 41-47].
 - ✦ The utensils were cast in the clay ground of the Jordan valley [v. 46].
 - ✦ There were so many bronze utensils the weight was beyond measure [v. 47].
- The furniture inside the temple was made of gold [1 Kgs 7:48-50].
 - This included the altar of incense, the table of showbread, the lampstands, tongs, cups, snuffers, bowls, spoons and firepans.
 - Even the door hinges were made of gold.
- Solomon also brought in all the things dedicated by David [1 Kgs 7:51].