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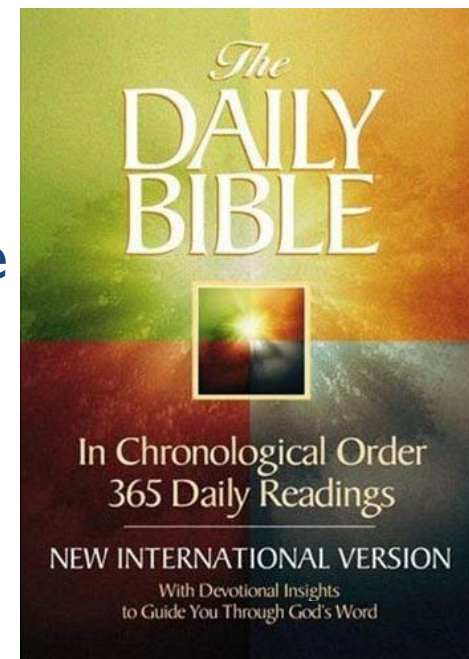
one year one bible one church one lord

The Reign of Solomon Lesson 20

May 16, 2010

This Week

- ▶ We'll cover readings for May 9-May 15
- ▶ Portions of 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles
 - ▶ Solomon Secures His Kingship
 - ▶ Solomon Blessed with Wisdom
 - ▶ Building of the Temple
 - ▶ Dedication of the Temple
 - ▶ Construction of Cities and Royal Palace
 - ▶ Extent of Solomon's Glory



What the King Will Do ...

▶ I Samuel 8:10-13

- ▶ ¹⁰Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, “This is what the king who will reign over you will do: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. ¹²Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. ¹³He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.



What the King Will Do ... (cont.)

▶ I Samuel 8:14-18

- ▶ ¹⁴He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. ¹⁵He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. ¹⁶Your menservants and maidservants and the best of your cattle and donkeys he will take for his own use. ¹⁷He will take a tenth of your flocks, and **you yourselves will become his slaves**. ¹⁸When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, **and the LORD will not answer you in that day.**”



What the King Must NOT Do

▶ Deuteronomy 17:14-17

- ▶ ¹⁴When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, “**Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us,**” ¹⁵be sure to appoint over you the king the LORD your God chooses. He must be from among your own brothers. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not a brother Israelite. ¹⁶The king, moreover, **must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself** or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, “You are not to go back that way again.” ¹⁷He **must not take many wives,** or his heart will be led astray. He **must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.**



We Begin to See the Prophecy Fulfilled

- ▶ **Conscripted Labor – Page 597**
 - ▶ 30,000 Israelites in shifts of 10,000/month sent to Lebanon
- ▶ **Forced Labor – Page 608**
 - ▶ All aliens in the land were conscripted for the slave labor force
- ▶ **Horses and Chariots – Page 610**
 - ▶ 1400 chariots and 12,000 horses (or horsemen)
- ▶ **Solomon's Provisions – Page 611**
 - ▶ A large quantity of grain and meat, provided by the district officers each month



Solomon Anointed King

- ▶ What events precede Solomon's rise to the throne?
 - ▶ Adonijah assumes that he will be the next king
 - ▶ He conspires with Abiathar the priest and Joab to make it happen
 - ▶ He holds a coronation ceremony of sorts and invites all of David's royal men, except Solomon, Nathan, Benaniah and others who might interfere
 - ▶ Bathsheba reminds David of his promise to make Solomon king
 - ▶ David has Solomon anointed by Nathan and Zadok, then placed on the throne



Solomon Seals His Kingdom

- ▶ **What steps does Solomon take to solidify his power?**
 - ▶ Adonijah, the pretender to the throne and full brother of Absalom, is executed
 - ▶ Abiathar, the priest who supported Adonijah, is removed from office, but spared because he once carried the Ark of the Covenant
 - ▶ Joab, the conspiratorial leader of the army, is executed because he shed the blood of innocent men – Abner and Amasa
 - ▶ Shimei, the descendant of Saul who cursed and threw dirt at David as he fled from Absalom, is executed



For Discussion

- ▶ Why would David counsel Solomon to eliminate those who opposed David, even though he had shown kindness and mercy to them himself?
 - ▶ Joab and Shimei, specifically
- ▶ How did/could this “clear me and my father’s house of the guilt and blood shed ...”?



A Glimpse

- ▶ I Kings 3:2-3

- ▶ ²The people, however, were still sacrificing at the high places, because a temple had not yet been built for the Name of the LORD. ³Solomon showed his love for the LORD by walking according to the statutes of his father David, except that he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places.

- ▶ Remember the prior discussion about Ba'al?

- ▶ The Phoenician God of hilltops, mountains, and “high places”
- ▶ Sometimes referred to as the “Lord of Heaven”



Solomon Builds the Temple

- ▶ The Temple was built on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, which David had purchased
 - ▶ Where the angel of the Lord stopped the destruction after David numbered the people
 - ▶ Sat atop Mount Moriah
 - ▶ The Lord instructed David to build an altar there
- ▶ David began to accumulate materials before his death, so that Solomon would have everything he needed to build it



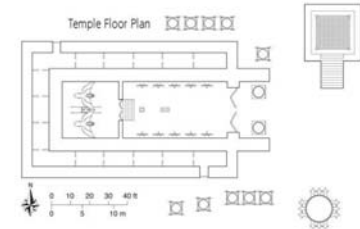
Solomon's Temple

A structure was built around the walls of the temple containing three levels. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (9 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5-6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31-32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).

The vestibule was 30 feet (9.1 m) wide and 15 feet (4.6 m) deep (1 Kings 6:3; cf. 2 Chron. 3:4).



The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "Jachin" (1 Kings 7:21; cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (cf. 2 Chron. 4:1).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:33-35).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1-m) cube (1 Kings 6:15-29; 2 Chron. 3:8-14). Such rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim were on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15-foot (4.6-m) wingspans (1 Kings 6:23-28). The ark of the covenant was between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1-11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2-14).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18.3 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17-18; cf. 2 Chron. 3:5-7). It contained the golden altar for incense; the golden table for the bread of the Presence; and ten golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48-49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).

Ten bronze wheeled stands and basins held water for rinsing off what was used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27-38; cf. 2 Chron. 4:6).

The "Sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) tall and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (44,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by twelve bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23-26; cf. 2 Chron. 4:2-5).

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the LORD" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1-2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 B.C. (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27.4 m) long, 30 feet (9.1 m) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 m) high. It resided in the middle of a court with boundary walls.



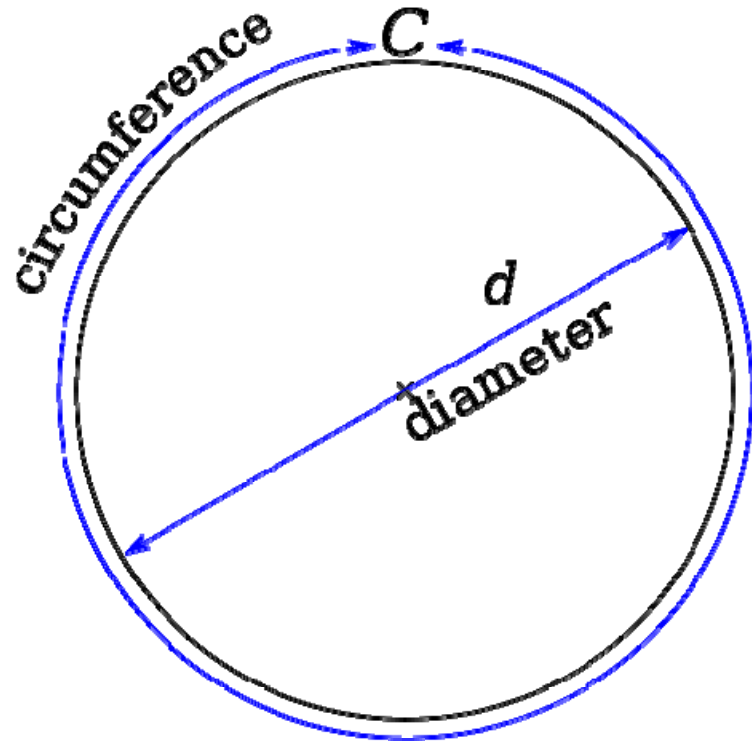
For Discussion

- ▶ Does the temple say anything about the character of God?
 - ▶ If so, what?
 - ▶ What lessons can be drawn from it?



π (Pi) in Chronicles

- ▶ 2 Chronicles 4:2
 - ▶ ²He made the Sea of cast metal, circular in shape, measuring ten cubits from rim to rim and five cubits high. It took a line of thirty cubits to measure around it.
- ▶ $C = \pi d$
- ▶ $\pi = C / d$
- ▶ In this case, π would have a value of 3



π (Pi) in Chronicles (cont.)

- ▶ So, we have a mathematical approximation of π to one digit in this passage
 - ▶ A diameter of 10 cubits would result in an outer circumference of 31.4159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510 cubits
 - ▶ However, if a rim of .225 cubits (4" - a handbreadth) circled the sea, then the inner diameter would be 9.55 cubits and the inner circumference would be 30 cubits



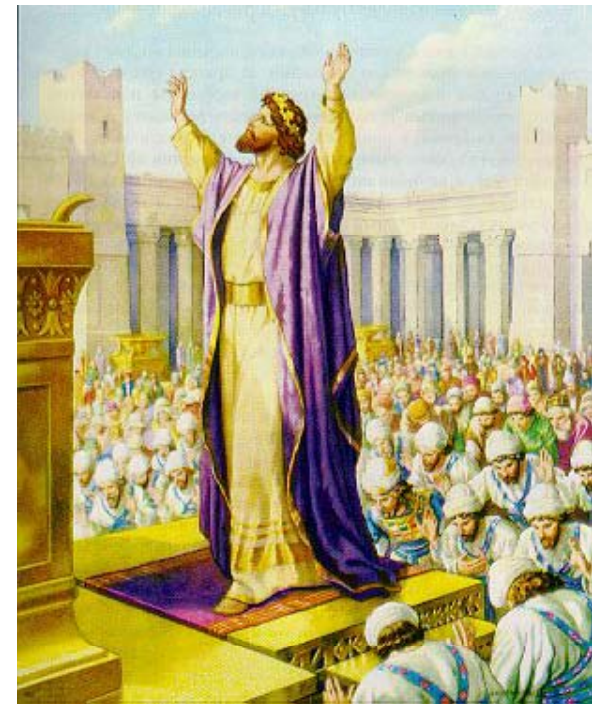
Solomon Dedicates the Temple

- ▶ Solomon celebrates the dedication of the temple by:
 - ▶ Bringing the Tabernacle up from Gibeon
 - ▶ It contained the sacred furnishings – which were holy
 - ▶ Bringing up the Ark from the Tent that David had pitched for it in Jerusalem
 - ▶ Note that the Ark now only contains the tablets of the Law - no mention of the jar of manna, or Aaron's rod that budded
 - ▶ Sacrificing 22,000 head of cattle and 120,000 sheep and goats!



Solomon's Prayer

- ▶ Beginning on Page 603
- ▶ What strikes you about this prayer?
- ▶ What does his prayer reveal about where God dwells?



God Answers

▶ 2 Chronicles 7:1-3

- ▶ ¹When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. ²The priests could not enter the temple of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled it. ³When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, “He is good; his love endures forever.”

▶ Continuing on Page 607



God's Name on the Temple

- ▶ Solomon built the Temple of the Name of the Lord
 - ▶ Hebrew word translated as name is *shema*
 - ▶ Its meaning goes far beyond the name assigned to an object
 - ▶ *Shema* implies the attributes or characteristics of the person or object described
 - ▶ Therefore, the Temple was a monument to the characteristics of Yahweh, not simply His name
- ▶ The twin pillars at the entrance, Jakin and Boaz, probably mean “He establishes” and “in Him is strength”, respectively



Your Turn ...

- ▶ What insights have you gained from this week's study?
- ▶ What did you find in these passages that you have never seen before?
- ▶ How did the Lord speak to your heart through the Word this week?
- ▶ How will your walk with Him be different as a result?



Next Week

- ▶ Readings for May 16-May 22
 - ▶ The Way of Wisdom

Questions?

