

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 05 Dec..... 1Kings 1-4..... What Money Can't Buy
- 2) **12 Dec..... 1Kings 5-9a..... Why Prayer Deserves Priority**
- 3) 19 Dec..... Mat 1-2..... Worship the King of Kings
- 4) 26 Dec..... 1Kings 9b-11..... Where Compromise Takes You
- 5) 02 Jan..... 1Kings 12-16a..... Anatomy of a Grave Decision
- 6) 09 Jan..... 1Kings 16b-22..... A Hill on Which to Stand
- 7) 16 Jan..... 2Kings 21-23..... Building a Culture for Life
- 8) 23 Jan..... 2Kings 1-5..... Sick of Greed?
- 9) 30 Jan..... 2Kings 6-8..... Right Not to Remain Silent
- 10) 06 Feb..... 2Kings 9-10..... Danger! Unbridled Passion
- 11) 13 Feb..... 2Kings 11-17..... U-Turn Here--and Now!
- 12) 20 Feb..... 2Kings 18-20..... Got to Have Hope
- 13) 27 Feb..... 2Kings 23-25..... Keep Hope Alive

**INTRODUCTION**

- God’s purpose for having Solomon build a grandiose Temple complex overlaid with gold was to WOW the nations and to mold Israel into a cohesive nation through a common place of worship – and to be a place for all peoples to call on God and to enjoy His presence

Passage	Comments
	temple before dedicating it – possibly to coincide with the Feast of Tabernacles (Sept/Oct) [Christ was possibly born at this time – more next week] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv10-11. “The cloud filled the House of God” - in other words, God expressed His pleasure</li> <li>• Solomon stands (v22) and kneels (v54) in prayer with his hands pointed heavenward to dedicated the <b>House of Prayer</b></li> <li>• Basically, if people pray honestly, whether Jew or Gentile, God will answer</li> <li>• The ultimate goal(v43) – “all the peoples of the earth may know God’s name and to fear Him”</li> <li>• v61. The secret to get our prayers answered – “Let your heart be wholly devoted to the Lord”</li> </ul>
9:1-9	<b>God Speaks to Solomon Again</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God reiterates His promise – if Solomon remains faithful, he will be blessed for generations, and if not, Israel will be wiped off the map</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
Kings 5:1-18	<b>Hiram, the King of Tyre comes to the Rescue</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is the only time in scripture Tyre is presented in a positive light as they help build Solomon’s Temple                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Tyre eventually becomes an enemy of Israel by robbing the Temple and selling Israelites into slavery. .... Amos 1; Joel 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>What turns one-time friends into enemies?</b></li> <li>• <u>Temple Building Logistics</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 30,000 Forced laborers</li> <li>♦ 70,000 Porters/Transporters</li> <li>♦ 80,000 Stonecutters</li> <li>♦ 3,300 Managers (2% or 1:50 ratio). Very efficient. Most companies today are &gt;10%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6:1-38	<b>Solomon’s Temple Complex</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very elaborate furnishings; 45,000 lbs of Gold used to cover almost everything; 7 years to build</li> <li>• Currently the only evidence the Temple ever existed is the Bible</li> <li>• Jewish traditions believe Solomon’s Temple lasted 410 years and was built where the Dome of the Rock is today</li> <li>• vv11-13. God speaks to Solomon for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time emphasizing great blessings if he stays faithful</li> <li>• <b>What’s the significance of having a fancy place to worship?..... Haggai 1:2-9</b></li> <li>• How much emphasis should we give to our place of worship? Is God more pleased with metal chairs or cushioned pews?</li> </ul>
7:1-51	<b>Solomon’s House</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It took 13 years, and it was 6x larger than Temple</li> <li>• Was Solomon too focused on his house or did he have God-given liberty to build a big mansion?</li> <li>• <b>Can we be too focused establishing our own house and career and neglecting God’s House? - How would we fix that problem?</b></li> </ul>
8:1-66	<b>Worship Established at the Temple</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solomon was still very focused on God</li> <li>• Grandiose ceremony with incalculable sacrifices</li> <li>• Solomon waited 11 months after completing the</li> </ul>

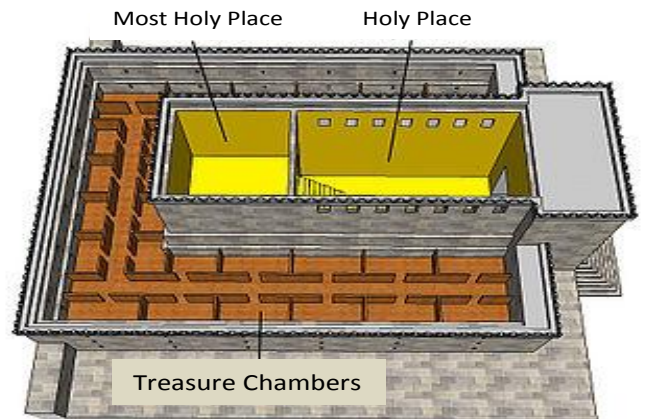
**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:**

- God will one day restore a central place for His people to Worship Him during the millennial reign of Christ
- Now, God is pleased when His children live in unity whether it be in a small house church or a mega-church

**SUPPORTING PASSAGES:**

**Hag 1:2-9.** “Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.” Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes. “Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD. You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the LORD of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house.

**NEXT WEEK:** Matthew 1-2. The birth of Christ with a twist



**Solomon’s Temple Complex**

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon%27s\\_Temple](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon%27s_Temple)