Audio Transcript of Sermon November 21, 2020 Solomon-Solomon's Temple

Hello. Thank you for joining us today. My name is Tom Laign with Sabbath Bible Study. The reign of Solomon was a time of prosperity for the nation of Israel. At peace with adversaries and receiving tribute from many of these nations, it was a time of national pride and expansion of public works. Solomon's attention turned to the building of a house for God, what today is thought of as Solomon's temple. It had been four hundred eighty years since Israel had departed Egypt. Today if we were to go back in time four hundred eighty years, we would find ourselves in the year 1540. Back in 1540, the new world, the western hemisphere, would be a land for the indigenous people, explorers, and conquerors. Henry VIII would be king of England. The first British colony in North America had not yet been established. A person born in 1540 would be an old person by the time of colonization. The time it took for the nation of Israel from the exodus from Egypt until construction started on Solomon's temple was a longer period of time than from the time of the first British settlement in North America to this day. First Kings chapter six verse one.

1 Kings 6:1-38

1. And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.

The height of the temple was half the length, meaning it appeared very tall. It's width was one-third of its length. Before the temple was a porch, that measured one-third the length of the temple deep by half the width of the temple. Narrow windows let light into the temple. Verse two.

- 2. And the house which king Solomon built for the LORD, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits.
- 3. And the porch before the temple of the house, twenty cubits was the length thereof, according to the breadth of the house; and ten cubits was the breadth thereof before the house.

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4. And for the house he made windows of narrow lights.

On the exterior walls of the temple were various rooms of different sizes, and the roof of the temple was supported by niches built into the temple. These chambers were one-sixth the height of the temple. Made partly of stone and partly of wood, the temple was a prefabricated design for its day with most design and construction taking place off site. We know there was a door for the middle chamber on the right side of the house, and that by walking a winding staircase, curved in some manner, maybe even circular in design, there was access to the third chamber. The temple itself was covered in cedar. God relayed to Solomon that if he would walk in the statutes and commandments and execute God's judgments, God would live among the children of Israel and not forsake them. Verse five.

- 5. And against the wall of the house he built chambers round about, against the walls of the house round about, both of the temple and of the oracle: and he made chambers round about:
- 6. The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad: for without in the wall of the house he made narrowed rests round about, that the beams should not be fastened in the walls of the house.
- 7. And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.
- 8. The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house: and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.
- 9. So he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.
- 10. And then he built chambers against all the house, five cubits high: and they rested on the house with timber of cedar.
- 11. And the word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying,
- 12. Concerning this house which thou art in building, if thou wilt walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with thee, which I spake unto David thy father:

13. And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.

Solomon went on to finish the building of the temple, and it was ornately decorated in wood with carved flowers and it was overlaid in gold. Verse fourteen.

- 14. So Solomon built the house, and finished it.
- 15. And he built the walls of the house within with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house, and the walls of the ceiling: and he covered them on the inside with wood, and covered the floor of the house with planks of fir.
- 16. And he built twenty cubits on the sides of the house, both the floor and the walls with boards of cedar: he even built them for it within, even for the oracle, even for the most holy place.
- 17. And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long.
- 18. And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.
- 19. And the oracle he prepared in the house within, to set there the ark of the covenant of the LORD.
- 20. And the oracle in the forepart was twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in breadth, and twenty cubits in the height thereof: and he overlaid it with pure gold; and so covered the altar which was of cedar.
- 21. So Solomon overlaid the house within with pure gold: and he made a partition by the chains of gold before the oracle; and he overlaid it with gold.
- 22. And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house: also the whole altar that was by the oracle he overlaid with gold.

Within the alter were carved two cherubims of olive trees, both half as high as this space, and each with wings outstretched covering half the width of the room. Both were overlaid with gold and the palm trees and flowers were carved into the wooden walls and doors for decoration, these also being overlaid with gold. Verse twenty-three.

23. And within the oracle he made two cherubims of olive tree, each ten cubits high.

- 24. And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the other wing of the cherub: from the uttermost part of the one wing unto the uttermost part of the other were ten cubits.
- 25. And the other cherub was ten cubits: both the cherubims were of one measure and one size.
- 26. The height of the one cherub was ten cubits, and so was it of the other cherub.
- 27. And he set the cherubims within the inner house: and they stretched forth the wings of the cherubims, so that the wing of the one touched the one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house.
- 28. And he overlaid the cherubims with gold.
- 29. And he carved all the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, within and without.
- 30. And the floor of the house he overlaid with gold, within and without.
- 31. And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.
- 32. The two doors also were of olive tree; and he carved upon them carvings of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold, and spread gold upon the cherubims, and upon the palm trees.
- 33. So also made he for the door of the temple posts of olive tree, a fourth part of the wall.
- 34. And the two doors were of fir tree: the two leaves of the one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding.
- 35. And he carved thereon cherubims and palm trees and open flowers: and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.
- 36. And he built the inner court with three rows of hewed stone, and a row of cedar beams.

It took seven years and four months to complete construction, and construction was completed in the eighth month, meaning it was completed shortly after the Feast of Tabernacles which occurs during the seventh month. Verse thirty-seven.

37. In the fourth year was the foundation of the house of the LORD laid, in the month Zif:

38. And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.

It took Solomon a longer period of time, thirteen years, to complete construction of his palace, and it was built with expensive stones and cedar with plenty of windows to let light in. It was from his palace that Solomon ruled building a porch for his throne. First Kings chapter seven verse one.

1 Kings 7:1-51

- 1. But Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.
- 2. He built also the house of the forest of Lebanon; the length thereof was an hundred cubits, and the breadth thereof fifty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits, upon four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams upon the pillars.
- 3. And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.
- 4. And there were windows in three rows, and light was against light in three ranks.
- 5. And all the doors and posts were square, with the windows: and light was against light in three ranks.
- 6. And he made a porch of pillars; the length thereof was fifty cubits, and the breadth thereof thirty cubits: and the porch was before them: and the other pillars and the thick beam were before them.
- 7. Then he made a porch for the throne where he might judge, even the porch of judgment: and it was covered with cedar from one side of the floor to the other.
- 8. And his house where he dwelt had another court within the porch, which was of the like work. Solomon made also an house for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken to wife, like unto this porch.
- 9. All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of hewed stones, sawed with saws, within and without, even from the foundation unto the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.
- 10. And the foundation was of costly stones, even great stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits.
- 11. And above were costly stones, after the measures of hewed stones, and cedars.

12. And the great court round about was with three rows of hewed stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the LORD, and for the porch of the house.

In Solomon's house was ornate brass sculpting and columns decorated with pomegranates and lilies. Verse thirteen.

- 13. And king Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre.
- 14. He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to king Solomon, and wrought all his work.
- 15. For he cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high apiece: and a line of twelve cubits did compass either of them about.
- 16. And he made two chapiters of molten brass, to set upon the tops of the pillars: the height of the one chapiter was five cubits, and the height of the other chapiter was five cubits:
- 17. And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the chapiters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapiter, and seven for the other chapiter.
- 18. And he made the pillars, and two rows round about upon the one network, to cover the chapiters that were upon the top, with pomegranates: and so did he for the other chapiter.
- 19. And the chapiters that were upon the top of the pillars were of lily work in the porch, four cubits.
- 20. And the chapiters upon the two pillars had pomegranates also above, over against the belly which was by the network: and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows round about upon the other chapiter.
- 21. And he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple: and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof Jachin: and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz.
- 22. And upon the top of the pillars was lily work: so was the work of the pillars finished.

A scene of a raging sea was created in a large bowl supported by oxen looking to the north, east, south, and west, with different flowers, trees, cherubims, and animals built into the decorations, decorated in brass. Verse twenty-three.

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- 23. And he made a molten sea, ten cubits from the one brim to the other: it was round all about, and his height was five cubits: and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.
- 24. And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.
- 25. It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward.
- 26. And it was an hand breadth thick, and the brim thereof was wrought like the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies: it contained two thousand baths.
- 27. And he made ten bases of brass; four cubits was the length of one base, and four cubits the breadth thereof, and three cubits the height of it.
- 28. And the work of the bases was on this manner: they had borders, and the borders were between the ledges:
- 29. And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubims: and upon the ledges there was a base above: and beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of thin work.
- 30. And every base had four brasen wheels, and plates of brass: and the four corners thereof had undersetters: under the laver were undersetters molten, at the side of every addition.
- 31. And the mouth of it within the chapiter and above was a cubit: but the mouth thereof was round after the work of the base, a cubit and an half: and also upon the mouth of it were gravings with their borders, foursquare, not round.
- 32. And under the borders were four wheels; and the axletrees of the wheels were joined to the base: and the height of a wheel was a cubit and half a cubit.
- 33. And the work of the wheels was like the work of a chariot wheel: their axletrees, and their naves, and their felloes, and their spokes, were all molten.
- 34. And there were four undersetters to the four corners of one base: and the undersetters were of the very base itself.
- 35. And in the top of the base was there a round compass of half a cubit high: and on the top of the base the ledges thereof and the borders thereof were of the same.

- 36. For on the plates of the ledges thereof, and on the borders thereof, he graved cherubims, lions, and palm trees, according to the proportion of every one, and additions round about.
- 37. After this manner he made the ten bases: all of them had one casting, one measure, and one size.

There were wash bowls made of brass, designed so they could be heated to warm the water by using coal or wood as a source of heat. What Solomon had made for the palace was so heavy, it was not weighed. Verse thirty-eight.

- 38. Then made he ten lavers of brass: one laver contained forty baths: and every laver was four cubits: and upon every one of the ten bases one laver.
- 39. And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house: and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward over against the south.
- 40. And Hiram made the lavers, and the shovels, and the basons. So Hiram made an end of doing all the work that he made king Solomon for the house of the LORD:
- 41. The two pillars, and the two bowls of the chapiters that were on the top of the two pillars; and the two networks, to cover the two bowls of the chapiters which were upon the top of the pillars;
- 42. And four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, even two rows of pomegranates for one network, to cover the two bowls of the chapiters that were upon the pillars;
- 43. And the ten bases, and ten lavers on the bases;
- 44. And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;
- 45. And the pots, and the shovels, and the basons: and all these vessels, which Hiram made to king Solomon for the house of the LORD, were of bright brass.
- 46. In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarthan.
- 47. And Solomon left all the vessels unweighed, because they were exceeding many: neither was the weight of the brass found out.

In addition to having items made for the palace out of brass, Solomon had items made for the temple out of gold, the table for the shewbread, the ten candlesticks, the flowers, tongs, bowls, spoons, all made of gold. Having a heavy weight, a large amount of gold was used in the construction of the temple.

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Solomon brought these items into the temple along with different items collected by David made out of silver and gold. Verse forty-eight.

- 48. And Solomon made all the vessels that pertained unto the house of the LORD: the altar of gold, and the table of gold, whereupon the shewbread was, 49. And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold, 50. And the bowls, and the snuffers, and the basons, and the spoons, and the censers of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the house, to wit, of the temple.
- 51. So was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the LORD. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the LORD.

It would be almost a year after construction of the temple was completed before it was dedicated the following year during the Feast of Tabernacles. The elders of Israel and priests came to Jerusalem for the dedication which included moving the ark of the covenant into the temple. Along the way so many sheep and oxen were sacrificed that it was impossible to keep track of the number of animals that were sacrificed. The ark of the covenant, containing the two tablets with the words of the ten commandments written by God, was brought by priests into the oracle of the house and placed under the outstretched wings of the cherubim. First kings eight verse one.

1 Kings 8:1-66

- 1. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto king Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.
- 2. And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.
- 3. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.
- 4. And they brought up the ark of the LORD, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, even those did the priests and the Levites bring up.

- 5. And king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel, that were assembled unto him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.
- 6. And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, into the oracle of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims.
- 7. For the cherubims spread forth their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above.
- 8. And they drew out the staves, that the ends of the staves were seen out in the holy place before the oracle, and they were not seen without: and there they are unto this day.
- 9. There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

When the priests left the oracle of the temple, the Holy of Holies, the presence of God filled the temple in what looked like a cloud, and the cloud was so overpowering that the priests could not bear to remain because the glory of God had filled the temple. Solomon acknowledged what had just happened to the people assembled before him and offered a blessing on their behalf, acknowledging that blessings come from God, and that it was God who had decided that Solomon and not David would build this house for God. Verse ten.

- 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,
- 11. So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.
- 12. Then spake Solomon, The LORD said that he would dwell in the thick darkness.
- 13. I have surely built thee an house to dwell in, a settled place for thee to abide in for ever.
- 14. And the king turned his face about, and blessed all the congregation of Israel: (and all the congregation of Israel stood;)
- 15. And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which spake with his mouth unto David my father, and hath with his hand fulfilled it, saying,

- 16. Since the day that I brought forth my people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel to build an house, that my name might be therein; but I chose David to be over my people Israel.
- 17. And it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.
- 18. And the LORD said unto David my father, Whereas it was in thine heart to build an house unto my name, thou didst well that it was in thine heart.
- 19. Nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy son that shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house unto my name.
- 20. And the LORD hath performed his word that he spake, and I am risen up in the room of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.
- 21. And I have set there a place for the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt.

Solomon then kneeled and offered a prayer to God that is recorded for us. He acknowledged his father David and how just like David would go to God seeking forgiveness that now with this temple, the people of Israel would go to God seeking forgiveness for their sins and that God would hear them. He asked that should Israel suffer military defeat because of future sin, that when the people would come to this temple, that God would hear them. He asked in time of drought, famine, or pandemic, that when the people would come to the temple seeking forgiveness, God would hear them, so that people would revere God. Verse twenty-two.

- 22. And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven:
- 23. And he said, LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart:
- 24. Who hast kept with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day.
- 25. Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to

sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me.

- 26. And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.
- 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.
- 30. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive.
- 31. If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house:
- 32. Then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.
- 33. When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house:
- 34. Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.
- 35. When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them:
- 36. Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.
- 37. If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpiller; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be;

- 38. What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house:
- 39. Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)
- 40. That they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

Solomon asked God to hear the prayers of a foreigner who might come to the temple to pray, so that other nations would also know the power and majesty of God. He asked God to hear the prayers of Israel as they went to war knowing that God would determine the fate of the battle based on the sins of the people, and that if the people of Israel should be taken by enemies into exile, that God hear their prayers from afar when they ask for forgiveness, to have compassion on His people. Verse forty-one.

- 41. Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake;
- 42. (For they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house;
- 43. Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name.
- 44. If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name:
- 45. Then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.
- 46. If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near;
- 47. Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness;

- 48. And so return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, which led them away captive, and pray unto thee toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name:
- 49. Then hear thou their prayer and their supplication in heaven thy dwelling place, and maintain their cause,
- 50. And forgive thy people that have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them:
- 51. For they be thy people, and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron:
- 52. That thine eyes may be open unto the supplication of thy servant, and unto the supplication of thy people Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto thee.
- 53. For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be thine inheritance, as thou spakest by the hand of Moses thy servant, when thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord GOD.

After finishing his prayer, Solomon stood and offered a blessing once again acknowledging that blessings come from God asking God to turn the hearts of the people to follow the ways of God, to keep His commandments, statutes, and judgments. He asked the people using words similar to what Jesus would speak thousands of years later, to let their heart be perfect with God. Verse fifty-four.

- 54. And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.
- 55. And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,
- 56. Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.
- 57. The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us:

- 58. That he may incline our hearts unto him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers.
- 59. And let these my words, wherewith I have made supplication before the LORD, be nigh unto the LORD our God day and night, that he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel at all times, as the matter shall require:
- 60. That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, and that there is none else.
- 61. Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.

It was then in conclusion additional sacrifices were offered, a peace offering of twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred twenty thousand sheep. Burnt offerings were provided by Solomon, and because of the sheer number of animals that were sacrificed, the burnt offerings were provided on the grounds before the temple. A special feast was held that year for fourteen days. The people were sent away and as they left, they blessed Solomon and were happy because of the goodness God had done for David and for Israel. Verse sixty-two.

- 62. And the king, and all Israel with him, offered sacrifice before the LORD.
- 63. And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered unto the LORD, two and twenty thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD.
- 64. The same day did the king hallow the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD: for there he offered burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings: because the brasen altar that was before the LORD was too little to receive the burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings.
- 65. And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.
- 66. On the eighth day he sent the people away: and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had done for David his servant, and for Israel his people.

