

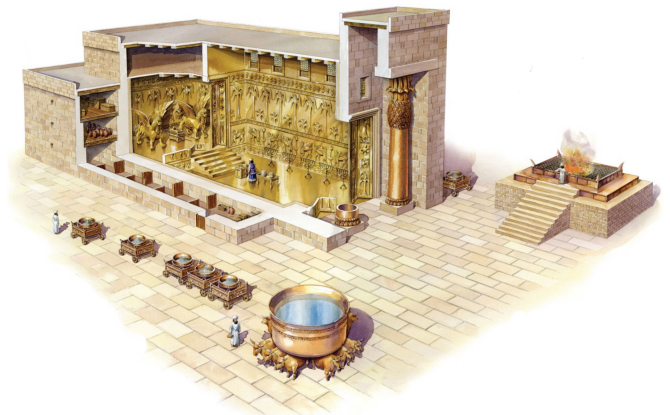
THE UNITED KINGDOM

Lesson 9
December 11

Saul, David & Solomon

Solomon Builds
the Temple
1 Kings 4-9

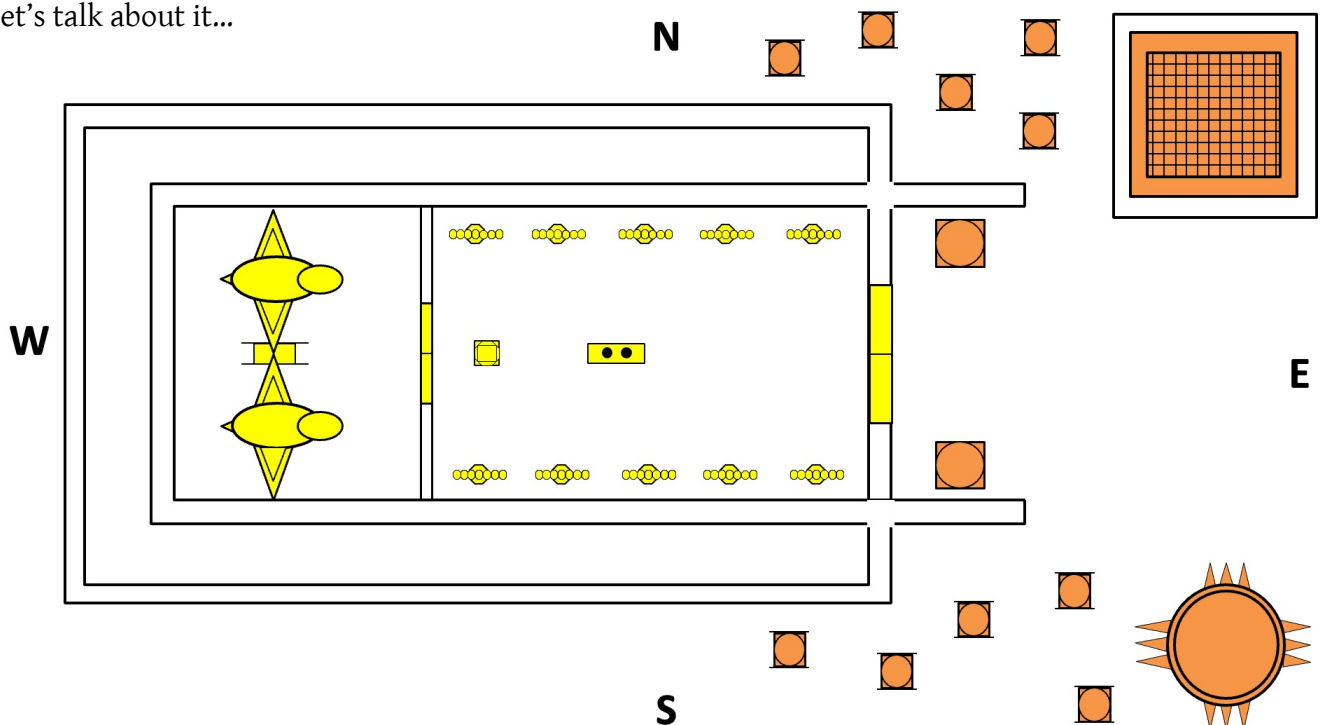
It was a “golden age” in Israel. The people were numerous. They ate and drank and were happy (1 Kings 4:20). Solomon ruled more territory than Saul or David ever had (4:21). On top of the incredible physical resources (4:22-28), God had given Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure (4:29-34).



In 1 Kings 5, Solomon turned his attention to building “the house of the LORD” his father David never got to build. The details can be studied throughout 1 Kings 6-7. Let’s use the diagram below after our video to label many of the significant aspects of the temple.

In connection with the temple, the LORD made a promise to Solomon in 6:12-13: “If you will walk in my statutes and obey my rules and keep all my commandments and walk in them, then I will establish my word with you, which I spoke to David your father. And I will dwell among the children of Israel and will not forsake my people Israel.”

Let’s talk about it...



For Class & Family Discussion:

- Who had God promised to multiply their offspring “as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore” (1 Kings 4:20; Gen 22:15-17)?
- Judah and Israel “ate and drank and were happy” in the days of Solomon (1 Kings 4:20). Does that language remind you of any parable of Jesus? What was the point of that parable in Luke 12:13-21? Does it in some way relate to the “golden age” of Israel in this section of 1 Kings?
- We heard in 1 Kings 5:13-18 that Solomon “drafted forced labor out of all Israel.” What would the people of Israel eventually say to Solomon’s son Rehoboam in 1 Kings 12:4?
- In 1 Kings 8:10-11, what happened when the ark of the covenant was brought into the temple?
- 1 Kings 8:12-61 describes (1) Solomon’s blessing of the LORD, (2) Solomon’s prayer of dedication, and (3) Solomon’s blessing of the people. What can we learn from his words spoken on this monumental occasion?
- Let’s take one more look at the word of the LORD to Solomon in 1 Kings 6:11-13. How would you summarize what God is saying in your own words?
- The LORD appeared to Solomon again in 1 Kings 9 after the building was finished. Notice what he said in 9:3-9. What did Solomon need to understand and remember?
- Despite all of the grandeur of this incredible building, the apostle Paul would eventually teach an important truth in Acts 17:24-25. What should we understand from his message preached in Athens? Should we worry about not having that sort of an incredible complex for our own worship? If not, why not?