

Hiram's Home Depot

I. Slide1 Intro:

- A. We now move from Solomon's *wisdom* to his *building projects*.
 1. Slide2 Ch's 5-8 record the fulfillment of God's promise that **Solomon** would build a **temple to the glory of God**.
 2. Its **Preparation** (5). **Execution** (ch's. 6,7). & **Dedication** (ch. 8).
- B. Solomon obtains the *basic materials* for the construction of the temple. We'll also hear about the **trade agreement** between Solomon and Hiram, king of Tyre, who supplied **wood in exchange for wheat** and **oil**.

II. Slide3 HIRAM'S HOME DEPOT (ch.5)

- A. **Hiram** - the Gentile king of Tyre, agreed to supply the **wood** and the **skillful men** to do the work. **Solomon in turn** paid him 130,000 bushels of wheat **and** 120 gallons of pure olive oil each year.
- B. While God does not dwell in *material temples* today (Acts 17:24), **this is no reason why the work we do for Him should be cheap or shoddy**.
- C. (5) Solomon sees himself as the fulfillment of God's covenant with David who will bring about a new era. (1 Chron.28:9,10 & 29:1)
 1. **Newly established kings in the ancient Near East often began their reign by constructing a temple & palace**. This marked a period of change and ensured that both the god(s) and the king were properly enthroned.
 2. **David's great preparations** 1 Chron.29:1-9.
 - a) Slide4 *Time is not wasted which is spent in preparation*. F.B.Meyer
- D. **Connecting with the world?** - Do you only hire Christians to do work at your house/business? - When is it right or wrong for believers to work with **nonbelievers**?
 1. When we do **evangelism** we can only use the support and understanding of other believers. **But** when believers seek to do **justice** in the world, we may find it both necessary and desirable to work with others who do not share our faith. **eg. BACA (Bikers against child abuse). Law enforcement**.

a) We should have both **humble cooperation** and **respectful provocation**.

- E. **Slide5** (8) **Cedars** - *erez* refers to the *Cedrus libani*, a tree which can reach a height of 100'.
- F. **Cypress** - *berosh* Hb., refers to the *Juniperus excels*, a species of fir.
- G. (6) **Cedar wood from Lebanon** was **famed** from as early as the **3rd millennium bc until 300bc**.
1. The wood from the cypress tree is lightweight, durable and has no sap. Its wood is known for not being prone to common problems such as splintering, cracking, warping or splitting.
 2. Cedar wood is known for its **strength, durability, and fragrance**.
 3. It was highly prized by kings and thus **exported** throughout the ancient near E.
 4. The Psalmist likened a righteous man to **a cedar from Lebanon**.
 - a) **Slide6** Ps.92:12,13 *But the godly will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon. For they are transplanted to the Lord's own house. They flourish in the courts of our God.*
 5. **Slide7** The bible calls these forests **the glory of Lebanon**, Is.60:13 *The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, The cypress, the pine, and the box tree together, To beautify the place of My sanctuary; And I will make the place of My feet glorious.*
- H. **For you know** - yep Hiram *does know* this when he counters Solomon's offer in v.9.
1. Solomon may have hoped to gain knowledge about how the Sidonians cut their timber by sending his own laborers to help Hiram's crew.
 2. Hiram suspects this and takes advantage of the situation (v.9).
- I. **Sidonians** - another name for the *Phoenicians*. The port of Sidon was used to transport lumber throughout the Mediterranean.
- J. (11) **Pressed oil** - describes the process by which *fine olive oil* was obtained.
- K. **Slide8** (12) **The Fulcrum** - Solomon's preparations for building God's house were centered on *God's peace, God's promise, and God's purpose*. Without them, his project was doomed to failure.
1. There's a lesson here for all Christian ministries trying to **build** programs and visions.

2. The psalmist says, *Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.* (Ps127:1)
3. Spend time *praying for your church* & other ministries you support, that they would be grounded in *God's peace & promise, & guided by God's purpose.*

- L. So, why the change now from a **tent** to a **building**? (wandering/in the land) Ex.25-31 Tab/details
 1. The Tabernacle, is where God *dwelt*, or *Tabernacled*, with His people. Rev.21:3

III. Slide9 **TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION (ch.6)**

- A. Floor Plan (1-10)
- B. This number is based on the calculation of 12 generations of 40 years.
- C. Slide10 Solomon built the temple 1st (7 yrs). Then he built the king's house and the other structures and courts that made up the temple area. The entire project took 20 years.
 1. You will note that the temple area included buildings in addition to the temple proper (see next week in 7:1-12).
- D. The dimensions of the temple proper were **double** that of the tabernacle, so the temple itself was not a huge structure. [see football field]
 1. Slide11 The temple was made of cut stone, overlaid with **wood**, overlaid with **gold**, and embellished with **precious stones**.
- E. Slide12 (7) The building stones were *precut at the quarry and silently* fitted into place. The stone cutters were following God's plans, so everything *fit together*.
- F. *Nothing was heard.* Silence was very significant.
 1. The stone was made ready at the quarry. Thus all true work in the world is being done still. *Thats why the church has taken so many centuries to build, & is not complete yet.*
 2. But how reassuring the promise, which broke in on the heart of Solomon, that God would dwell there and not for sake His people.
 3. Zech.6:12-15 Jesus, whom Solomon was a type, also invites those *from afar* to be apart of the temple building. *Every believer is a living stone Temple.*

G. **Slide13** The temple was **not** a **temporary** tent with skins for a covering; rather, it was a magnificent stone building that could not be moved.

1. There were **windows** and **a floor** in the temple (4,15), both of which were lacking in the tabernacle.

H. **Promise** (11-13)

I. **Walk**, actually **live** this way. **Execute & keep**, actually **do** them not just believe them.

J. **Then** - 3 promises will follow.

K. **Interior Design** (14-36)

L. (23-30) Solomon added 2 cherubim to the holy of holies and placed the ark under them.

M. **Slide14a Zech.6:12-15** Jesus, whom Solomon was a type, also invites those **from afar** to be apart of the temple building.

1. Every believer is a living Stone Temple.

N. **The Temple** is a type of **the believers body & of the whole church of God**.

1. **How?** Each being God's dwelling place.

- a) **The believers body** - 1 Cor.3:16,17 *Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.*
- b) **The whole church of God** - Eph.2:21,22 *in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.*

O. **Slide14b 1 Cor.3:16** This has to do with **all believers, anytime & anywhere**.

P. **Key: the temple** does not refer to the structure in which believers **meet** to worship. **Rather**, Christians themselves **are** the temple.

1. **We are God's temple why?** - Because the Spirit of God dwells in us (1 Cor.6:19)

2. know there are 2 words in Greek for Temple: **naos & hieron**.

- a) One means the Temple building itself, **hieron**. **Naos** means the Sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, where the glory of God dwells (that is the word used here).

3. We are God's sanctuary, the place of His holy awesome presence.
4. You are not simply **the structure** in which He lives. **You are the dwelling place of the Shekinah glory of God! :)**

Q. Note: **The Spirit of God dwells in you** - not an *influence* of the Spirit; **but the 3rd person of the Trinity Himself.**

1. Christian, no matter how *weak, feeble, poor, helpless, or frustrated* you feel; or how *inadequate, incapable, incompetent, or ineffective* you feel, ... **The Spirit of God dwells in you.**
2. **Why does He dwell in us?** That we might develop **character**, the **fruit** of the Spirit, **good works**, & the **reproduction** of the character of Jesus Christ.
3. The O.T. tabernacle had an **outer court** (where the public walked), **the inner court** (which was the place of service), & **the Holy of Holies** (the sanctuary of the presence of God).
 - a) **We are not to live in the outer court** (the world); **we are not to live only in the inner court** (of the busy rush of Christian service); **but in the Holiest of all** (walking as holy men & women w/dignity, reverence, & worship)

R. **Slide14c 1 Cor.6:19** **Your body is the temple...** *You are not your own, It is a great pleasure not to be one's own. Does any man think it would be a pleasure to be his own? Let me assure him that there is no ruler so tyrannical as self. He that is his own master has a **fool** & a **tyrant** to be his lord.* (Spurg)

1. Remember whatever **controls you**, whatever **drives you** to keep living each day, **masters you**. - **It is not too late to change Masters.**
2. **Under New Management** – sign we see all the time over businesses that have been taken over by another company, or a new owner, **should be a sign we can hang over our lives.**

S. Ps.27:4,5 :)