

The Lord Appeared...the 2nd Time

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2 Ladies Retreat - sponsor any ladies who can't go to retreat due to finances, such as single moms, etc. (\$170)

II. Slide3 Intro: The Lord Appeared...the 2nd Time

- A. Halley's Bible Handbook, This era of David and Solomon's was the Golden Age of Hebrew history. David was a warrior. Solomon was a builder. David made the kingdom. Solomon built the Temple. In the outside world, this was the age of Homer, the beginning of Greek history. Egypt, and Assyria and Babylon, at the time, we're weak. **Israel** was the most powerful kingdom in all the world; **Jerusalem** the most significant city, in the **Temple** the most splendid building, on earth. They came from the ends of the earth to hear Solomon's wisdom and see his glory. The famous Queen of Sheba exclaimed, *the half was not told me.*

III. Slide4 GOD'S APPEARANCE & WARNING (1-9)

- A. (1-3) This **second** vision was intended to assure Solomon that *his prayer was heard and the temple was hollowed and declare the conditions* on which both king & people might be assured of permanent prosperity.
- B. Usually, **humans** serve as the subject of the Hebrew verb used here - meaning **they** are **consecrated** by God.
1. **Here**, God **graces the temple with holiness, and receives** Solomon's gifts, **and resides** in the temple.
- C. Slide5a The Lord appeared...the 2nd time - Do you desire a renewed appearance from God? A fresh manifestations, a new visitations from on high?
1. We *walk with God* constantly, **yet** there are **seasons** when He opens to us **the very secret** of His heart, **and** he shows **Himself** to us. [which is better than "what to do"]
 2. All days in **a palace** are not days of **banqueting**, **and** all days **with God** are not so clear and glorious.
 3. Slide5b I think that we should be seeking those 2nd appearances. **But** not to "see" God, **but** for sure to **experience** His presence/Him.

- D. Slide5c Do you know your prayers are **heard**? Ask How? [Prov.15:29 *The Lord is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous*] + He answers.
- E. Slide5d Do you know your building/your temple/your body was **accepted**? How? (He indwells you)
1. It's not **where** you pray (it's **how**...Lk.18:9-14, 2 men went up to the temple to pray, Pharisee/Tax col). [**trust in God. be humble**]
 2. *If Grace is like rain, then one is a statue & one is a sponge.*
 - a) Can you picture that? (Both being rained on yet: 1 repelling water, other absorbing it)
 3. **Two men** – each was a man; only a man.
 - a) Whenever a man/woman crosses the threshold of the temple/church, that is how they are listed by high heaven. [the Pharisee was prob proud of his humility]
 - b) **Employer** can sit next to **employee**, & **cop** next to **ex-convict**.
 - c) **Both** went up to pray, & right their *in their prayers* the difference was revealed.
 - d) **Private prayer** can be offered in the temple at any time of the day.
- F. Compare vs.3 to 8:29, in what 2 respects did God *exceed* Solomon's request?
- G. Slide6a Note: *My Name. My Eyes. My Heart. Ask...*[what do you think He means by these 3?]
1. **My Name** - this continues the tension between the concept of **an earthly abode** and the insistence that **God does not live on earth, but** in the **heavens**.
 2. **My Eyes** - In his prayer (8:27-30), Solomon asked God to *keep His eyes open* toward the temple and *to hear the prayers of the people*.
 3. **My Heart** - *God saying, I'm engaged*. This isn't just a shrine.
- H. Slide6b (4,5) *If you walk before Me* - the Hebrew phrase used here, means *to serve* and always appears in reference to **kings** serving God.
- I. This section reiterates *the Davidic covenant* and its conditions.
1. **As your father David walked** - David's obedience to Yahweh serves as the *standard* that all Israelite kings should emulate.
 - a) **Walk as David walked**. w/**integrity of heart & in uprightness**.
Not like an Egyptian (Bangels 1986)
- J. (4-9) **Warns** Israel of the risk of **disobedience**, using vocabulary reminiscent of the book of Deuteronomy.

- K. *The covenant faithfulness* of the king and his people determines the **fate** of **both** the **throne** and the **nation**.
- L. Obedience leads to blessing, disobedience leads to chastening.
 1. As soon as we **yield** ourselves to God...to be **only His**, He enters upon a possession, *hallowing, infilling, guaranteeing* are security.
- M. (7) **I will cast out of My sight** - or, I will send from My presence/face.
- N. (9) **Because they forsook the Lord their God** - This describes *religious apostasy*, which is the reason for the ultimate fall of **both** the **northern** and **southern** kingdoms.
- O. *Slide7 You & I must be wholehearted, not in the miles but in the steps of our daily walk.*
F.B.Meyer
 1. **It's obedience to the inner voice.** It's discerning *our Father's voice* from every other sound & call.

IV. *Slide8* **WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT (10-14)**

- A. What was your best/worse white elephant gift?
- B. (14) **120 talents of gold** - May describe *a tribute payment*. The Queen of Sheba brings the same amount (10:10).

V. *Slide9* **ACHIEVEMENTS (15-28)**

- A. *Slide10* (15) **Millo** (to be full **or** to fill) - The consensus among *archaeologists* is that it refers to a **terraced earthwork** that was part of a **large retaining wall** in Jerusalem. [*Hezekiah's tunnel, Gihon spring to Pool of Siloam*]
- B. Solomon built a network of fortifications, garrisons, and economic centers at strategic points throughout his kingdom...
 1. *Slide11* These included **Hazor, Megiddo, & Gezer** - they were on the **international highway** connecting Egypt and Mesopotamia.
 - a) (17,18) **Lower Beth Horan & Baalath** were on the **routes** leaving from that highway up to Jerusalem. And **Tadmor** was guarding **the spice route** from Eden
 2. *Slide12* **Hazor** was the largest fortified city in the country.
 3. In the mid-1950s **Hazor** was the most important dig undertaken by Israel in its early years of statehood. Tel Hazor is the **largest archaeological site** in

northern Israel, featuring an upper tell of **30 acres** and a lower city of more than **175 acres**.

4. **Slide13-15** Of course **Megiddo** - the most popular from the **Armageddon** (*aka Har/mount-Megiddo*)
 - a) **#14** Archeologists have uncovered similar architectural features at *Hazor, Megiddo & Gezer*. A **6-chambered city gate** built by Solomon.
- C. **Slide16-18** (19) **The large stables** at **Megiddo** suggest that it may have served as one of Solomon's cavalry cities. [Sheri Hansen] ***Slide19** *what happens when u fall asleep on our tour bus*.
- D. (20-22) Solomon conscripts labor forces from the survivors of the nations he conquers.
- E. (25) **3 times a year** - probably a reference to **3 pilgrimage festivals**, when the Israelites went to Jerusalem. [Feast of Unleavened Bread/Passover. Feast of Weeks/1st Fruits/Pentecost. Feast of Tabernacles/Booths/Sukkoth]
- F. **Slide20** (26-28) **Show Map** of Elat & Ophir.
 1. These **merchant ships** were for **trade** with *Arabia, India, and the east coast of Africa*.
- G. **Solomon's Gold**...annual income & supply was absolutely enormous.
 1. **Slide21** Within 5 years after Solomon's death, **Shishak**, King of Egypt, came and took away all this **gold** (1 Kings 14:25).
 - a) Back in 1939 the mummy of **Shishak** was found in **Tanis**, in Egypt, in a gold-covered sarcophagus perhaps some of this very same **gold** he had taken from Solomon.
 2. **Ezion-Geber** - also in 1939 these ruins have been identified. They found Solomons **smelters, furnaces, crucibles and refineries**; also, **copper and iron ore deposits**, in the vicinity; of which, **dishes, nails, spear heads and fishhooks**, were **manufactured, and exported** in exchange for ivory and gold.