

SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE IN THE NEW KINGDOM

SOLOMON'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND FAILINGS

Quarter Seven, Lesson Six

Focus Text: 1 Kings 5 – 11

CONTENT

1. According to 1 Kings 5. 1 – 12, what had the Lord given Solomon when he began work on the temple?
2. Assuming that Solomon's reign began in about 970 BC, when was the temple completed? What approximate date might we assign to the Exodus?
3. In 1 Kings 6. 11 – 13 God repeats to Solomon a promise he had made to David. Considering the specific language of the repeated promise, why does the timing seem appropriate?
4. 1 Kings 6 describes the temple, and 1 Kings 7 begins with a description of Solomon's palace. How do the two compare in size and splendor?
5. How is the temple described—or in what ways is its purpose identified—in 1 Kings 8. 12 – 21?
6. In the prayer with which Solomon dedicated the temple, what does he mention, repeatedly, as God's dwelling place?
7. What pattern is repeated in Solomon's various appeals (in 1 Kings 8. 31 – 53) asking God to hear the people?
8. What promise and what warning did Solomon receive from God, according to 1 Kings 9. 1 – 9?
9. For what purpose did the queen of Sheba come to Jerusalem, and with what result?
10. What caused the Lord to be angry with Solomon? What did he tell Solomon would be the result?

Lesson continues. . . .

11. What message did the prophet Ahijah bring to Jeroboam?

CONNECTIONS

1. An architectural challenge: Comparing Exodus 26 and 1 Kings 6, try to determine how the dimensions of Solomon's temple compared with those of the tabernacle.
2. What were the contents of the ark when it was moved into Solomon's temple? What else had it contained earlier?
3. Read Deuteronomy 17. 14 – 20. How does Solomon measure up to the standard God had set for a king?
4. What wisdom can we learn by studying the life of Solomon?

PLACES

According to 1 Kings 8.65, "all Israel" assembled for the feast with which Solomon dedicated the temple—"from **Lebo-hamath** to the **Brook of Egypt**." Locate these extremes of Solomon's control on the map provided in this booklet.