

# 1 Kings 3:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

## Analysis

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**And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of Solomon's wisdom and the famous judgment, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy. God's covenant faithfulness remains steadfast despite human unfaithfulness, ultimately fulfilled in the new covenant through Christ.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

## Historical Context

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First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the

kingdoms fell. Solomon's reign (c. 970-930 BCE) represented Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

## **Related Passages**

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does the temple as God's dwelling place help us understand Christ's incarnation and the church as God's temple today?
2. What does Solomon's prayer and dedication teach about approaching God in worship and prayer?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיָּבֹא	וְהִנֵּה	שְׁלֹמֹה	וַיָּקֶץ		
And he came	and behold	Solomon	awoke		
H935	H2472	H8010	H3364		
אָדֹנָי	בְּרִית	אֶרֶץ	לִפְנֵי	וַיַּעֲמֵד	יְרוּשָׁלַם
of the covenant	the ark	before	and stood	to Jerusalem	
H136	H1285	H727	H6440	H5975	H3389
וַיַּעַשׂ	שְׁלָמֵי	וַיַּעַשׂ	עֹלֹת	וַיַּעַל	
and made	peace offerings	and made	burnt offerings	and offered up	
H6213	H8002	H6213	H5930	H5927	
מִשְׁתֶּה					
a feast					
H4960					
עַבְדָּיו:	לְכָל				
to all his servants					
H5650	H3605				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 41:7** (Parallel theme): And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

**1 Kings 8:65** (References Lord): 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.

**Mark 6:21** (Creation): And when a convenient day was come, that Herod on his birthday made a supper to his lords, high captains, and chief estates of Galilee;

**Daniel 5:1** (Creation): Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

**Esther 1:3** (Creation): In the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

