

# 1 Kings 6:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.

## Analysis

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**And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of construction of the temple, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy. The temple represents God's dwelling among His people and foreshadows Christ as Immanuel ('God with us').

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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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## 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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וּפִטוּרֵי	פָּקַע־יָם	מִקְלָ עֵת	פֶּנִּי יָמָה	הַבַּיִת	אֶל	אֶרֶז
H6358	H6497	H4734	H6441	H1004	H413	H730
	with knops	was carved	within	of the house	And the cedar	
נִרְאָה:	אֶבֶן	אֵין	אֶרֶז	הַכֹּל	צִצִּים	יָם
H7200	H68	H369	H730	H3605	H6731	
seen	there was no stone	And the cedar	flowers			

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 7:24** (Parallel theme): And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.

