

# 1 Kings 6:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree:  
the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

## Analysis

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**And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.**

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 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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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## 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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וַיַּתְּחַבְּרָה עֲשֵׂה הַדְּבָרִים הַזֵּה וְעֵץ זַיִת

H853

**And for the entering**

H6607

**of the oracle**

H1687

**he made**

H6213

**doors**

H1817

**tree**

H6086

**of olive**

H8081

וְהָאֵלֶּה הָיוּ חֲמִשָּׁה חֲזוּזֵי הַמִּשְׁכָּה

**the lintel**

H352

**and side posts**

H4201

**were a fifth part**

H2549