

# 1 Kings 6:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he carved thereon cherubims and palm trees and open flowers: and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.

## Analysis

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**And he carved thereon cherubims and palm trees and open flowers: and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.**

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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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## 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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וְקָלַע	כְּרוּבִים	וְתַמְרֵי	וּפְטִיחֵי	צִיָּחִים	וְצִפָּה
And he carved	thereon cherubims	and palm trees	H6358	flowers	and covered
H7049	H3742	H8561		H6731	H6823
בְּזָהָב	מִיָּשָׁר	עַל	הַמְחֻקָּה:		
them with gold	fitted	H5921	upon the carved work		
H2091	H3474		H2707		

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