

1 Kings 6:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.

Analysis

And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.

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

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

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

וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	בֵּן יֵת	שְׁלֵמָה ה	אֶבֶן	מִסָּע	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ
was built	And the house	made ready	of stone	before it was brought	was built
H1129	H1004	H8003	H68	H4551	H1129
וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ
thither so that there was neither hammer	nor axe	nor any tool	of iron		
H4717	H1631	H3627	H1270		
וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ	וְהִבְנוֹתָּהּ
was built	And the house	heard			
H1129	H1004	H8085			

Additional Cross-References

1 Peter 2:5 (Parallel theme): Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 24:27 (Parallel theme): Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.

Exodus 20:25 (Parallel theme): And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.

Isaiah 42:2 (Parallel theme): He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.

Acts 9:31 (Parallel theme): Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Colossians 1:12 (Creation): Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Romans 9:23 (Parallel theme): And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

2 Corinthians 5:5 (Parallel theme): Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

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