

1 Kings 6:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.

Analysis

So he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

וַיִּבְנֶה	אֶת	הַבַּיִת	וַיִּכְלֶה הוּא	וַיְסָפֵהוּ	אֶת	הַבַּיִת
So he built	H853	the house	and finished	it and covered	H853	the house
H1129		H1004	H3615	H5603		H1004

בְּאַבְנֵי יָסַד	וּשְׂדֵרֹת	יָסַד
with beams	and boards	of cedar
H1356	H7713	H730

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 6:14 (Parallel theme): So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

1 Kings 6:38 (Parallel theme): And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.

