

# 1 Kings 8:55

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

## Analysis

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**And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of dedication 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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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## 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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וַיַּעַמְד	וַיְבָרֵךְ	אֶת	כָּל	קֹהֵל	יִשְׂרָאֵל	קוֹל
And he stood	and blessed			all the congregation	of Israel	voice
H5975	H1288	H853	H3605	H6951	H3478	H6963
וּלְ	לְאמֹר:					
with a loud	saying					
H1419	H559					

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 8:14** (Blessing): And the king turned his face about, and blessed all the congregation of Israel: (and all the congregation of Israel stood;)

**2 Samuel 6:18** (Blessing): And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.

