

# Ezekiel 41:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the breadth of the door was ten cubits; and the sides of the door were five cubits on the one side, and five cubits on the other side: and he measured the length thereof, forty cubits: and the breadth, twenty cubits.

## Analysis

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The door's dimensions—ten cubits wide with five-cubit sides—create a grand entrance to the Holy Place. The temple proper measures forty cubits long and twenty cubits broad, exactly double the tabernacle's dimensions (Exodus 26:15-25), signifying expansion and fulfillment. This doubling suggests amplification of God's presence and purposes. The ten-cubit door symbolizes completeness (ten = fullness in biblical numerology) while providing generous access. Yet this access remains controlled—the door's specific measurements indicate that approach to God follows divine prescription, not human whim. The forty-cubit length may echo Israel's forty years in wilderness—period of testing and divine provision. Reformed theology emphasizes that Christ is the 'door' (John 10:7, 9) through whom alone we enter God's presence, and His sufficiency is complete (ten) and expansive.

## Historical Context

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Solomon's temple had similar but smaller proportions: thirty cubits long (1 Kings 6:17) versus Ezekiel's forty. This expansion suggests either ideal dimensions or eschatological fulfillment. Ancient Near Eastern temples typically featured progressively restricted spaces—large outer courts, smaller inner sanctums. The measurements' precision reflects ancient Near Eastern building texts (e.g., Gudea

Cylinders from Lagash) where temple dimensions carried theological significance. The door's generous width contrasted with narrow passages in fortifications, indicating that God's house welcomes worshipers while maintaining holiness. For the exiles, the expanded dimensions promised greater glory than Solomon's temple—perhaps fulfilled in the second temple's spiritual significance (Haggai 2:9) or ultimately in Christ's body and the church (John 2:19-21, Ephesians 2:19-22).

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does the door's generous width (ten cubits) challenge perceptions of God as unapproachable or unwelcoming?
2. What does the temple's expanded dimensions teach about progressive revelation and God's unfolding redemptive plan?
3. In what ways is Christ the 'complete door' (ten = fullness) through whom we access the Father?

## Interlinear Text

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וְרֵחַב	הַפֹּתַח	עָשָׂר	אַמָּה:	וְכִתְּפֹתָיו	הַפֹּתַח
And the breadth	of the door	was ten	cubits	and the sides	of the door
H7341	H6607	H6235	H520	H3802	H6607
וְחֲמִישָׁה	מִפִּי אַמָּה:	וְחֲמִישָׁה	מִפִּי אַמָּה:		
on the one side and five	cubits	on the one side and five	cubits		
H2568	H520	H2568	H520		
וַיִּמָּד	אָרְכוֹ	אַרְבָּעִים	אַמָּה:	וְרֵחַב	
on the other side and he measured	the length	thereof forty	cubits	And the breadth	
H4058	H753	H705	H520	H7341	
אַמָּה:	עֶשְׂרִים				
twenty	cubits				
H6242	H520				

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 6:2** (Parallel theme): And the house which king Solomon built for the LORD, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits.

**1 Kings 6:17** (Parallel theme): And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long.

**2 Chronicles 3:3** (Parallel theme): Now these are the things wherein Solomon was instructed for the building of the house of God. The length by cubits after the first measure was threescore cubits, and the breadth twenty cubits.