

# Ezekiel 41:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I saw also the height of the house round about: the foundations of the side chambers were a full reed of six great cubits.

## Analysis

The observation—"I saw also the height of the house round about: the foundations of the side chambers were a full reed of six great cubits"—notes substantial foundations. The Hebrew יְתִידּוֹת (yesodot, 'foundations') provide structural stability. The 'full reed of six great cubits' (approximately 10.5 feet using the royal cubit) indicates massive, permanent construction. Foundation depth determines building height—substantial foundations support tall structures. Spiritually, foundation quality determines spiritual stability (Matthew 7:24-27). Reformed theology emphasizes Christ as foundation (1 Corinthians 3:11), apostolic doctrine as foundation (Ephesians 2:20), and Scripture as foundation (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Shallow foundations produce unstable structures collapsing under pressure.

## Historical Context

Ancient construction required substantial foundations for large buildings. Solomon's temple used 'great stones, costly stones, and hewed stones' for foundations (1 Kings 5:17, 7:10-11). Archaeological excavations of Herodian temple mount reveal massive foundation stones, some weighing hundreds of tons. The 'full reed' measurement emphasizes completeness—no skimping on foundations even though hidden underground. This reflects wisdom—invest in unseen fundamentals supporting visible structures. Jesus condemned Pharisees who maintained impressive externals while neglecting foundational righteousness (Matthew 23:25-28). Paul warned against building on improper foundations (1

Corinthians 3:10-15). The temple's substantial foundations modeled prioritizing unseen necessities over visible luxuries.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

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

## Study Questions

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1. How substantial are your spiritual foundations—Scripture knowledge, prayer habits, fellowship—supporting your visible ministry?
2. Do you invest in foundational disciplines (often unseen) or focus primarily on visible performance?
3. What 'full reed' of depth characterizes your doctrinal foundations versus superficial understanding?

## Interlinear Text

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|                             |                     |                        |                    |                    |                        |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| מִסְדָּה וֹתֶר              | סְבִיבָה            | סְבִיבָה               | בְּבָה             | לְבָבָה            | וְבָאֵתִי              |
| <b>I saw</b>                | <b>of the house</b> | <b>also the height</b> | <b>round about</b> | <b>round about</b> | <b>the foundations</b> |
| H7200                       | H1004               | H1363                  | H5439              | H5439              | H4328                  |
| בְּאֶלְעָוֹת                | מַלְאָה             | הַקְרֵבָה              | שֶׁשׁ              | אֶת                | אֲצִילָה:              |
| <b>of the side chambers</b> | <b>were a full</b>  | <b>reed</b>            | <b>of six</b>      | <b>cubits</b>      | <b>great</b>           |
| H6763                       | H4393               | H7070                  | H8337              | H520               | H679                   |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 40:5** (Parallel theme): And behold a wall on the outside of the house round about, and in the man's hand a measuring reed of six cubits long by the cubit and an hand breadth: so he measured the breadth of the building, one reed; and the height, one reed.

