
Building God's House

King Solomon said to the king of Tyre, "The LORD God promised my father David that when his son became king, he would build a temple for worshiping the LORD. So I've decided to do that. I'd like you to have your workers cut down cedar trees for me. We both know your workers are more experienced than anyone else at cutting lumber."

Solomon also had workers cut stone in the hill country of Israel. He ordered other workers to cut and shape the blocks of stone for the foundation of the temple.

Solomon's workers started building the temple four years after Solomon became king of Israel. Seven years later they finished it, exactly as it had been planned.

Solomon then decided to have the sacred chest moved to the temple from Mount Zion. He called together the leaders of Israel. The priests and the Levites carried the sacred chest to the temple. Solomon and a crowd of people walked in front of the chest. The priests carried the chest into the most holy place and put it under the winged creatures.

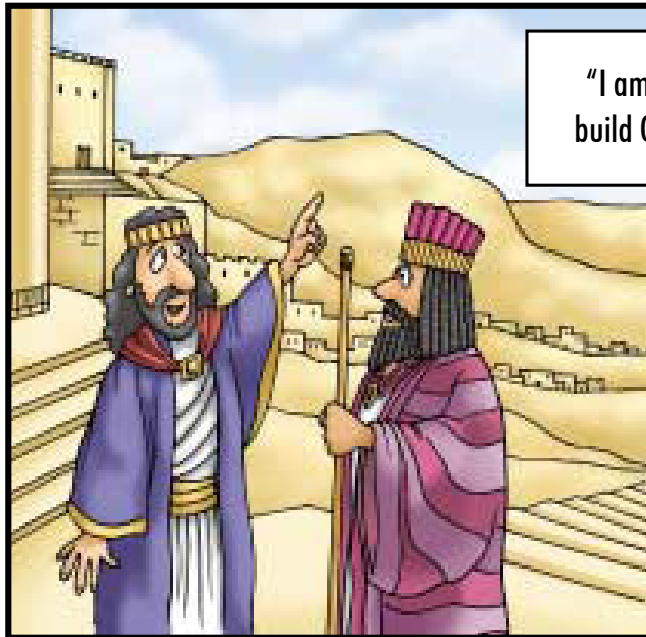
Suddenly a cloud filled the temple as the priests were leaving the most holy place. The LORD's glory was in the cloud, and the light from it was so bright that the priests could not stay inside to do their work. Then Solomon prayed:

"Our LORD, you said that you would live in a dark cloud. Now I have built a glorious temple where you can live forever."

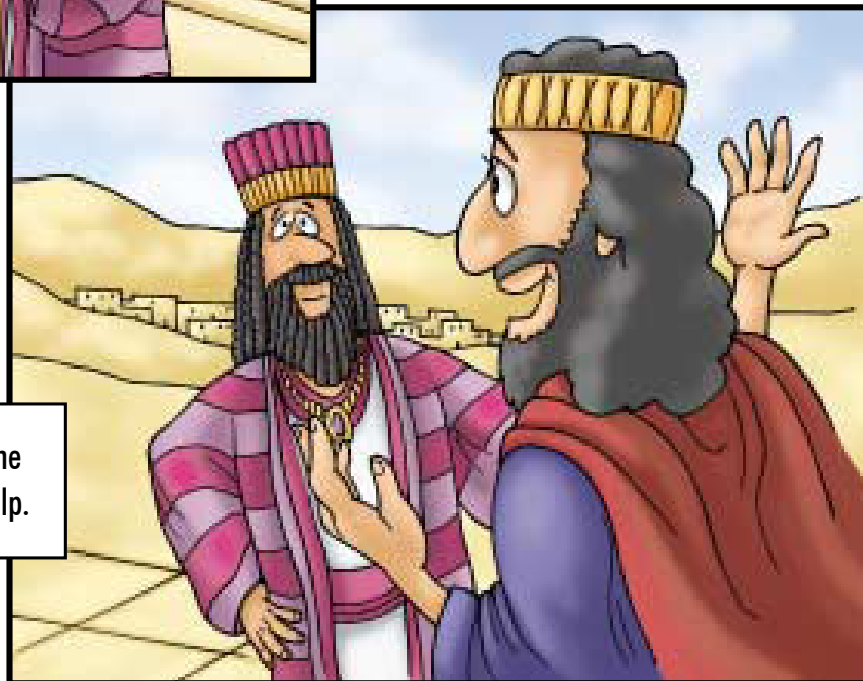
Based on 1 Kings 5.5–8.13

KEY VERSE 1 Kings 8.13

Solomon prayed, "I have built a glorious temple where you can live forever."

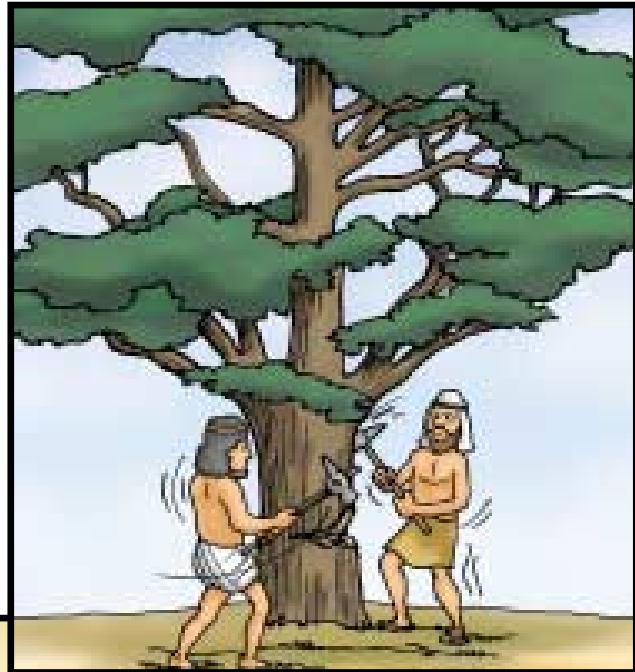


"I am planning to build God's temple."



Solomon asked the king of Tyre for help.

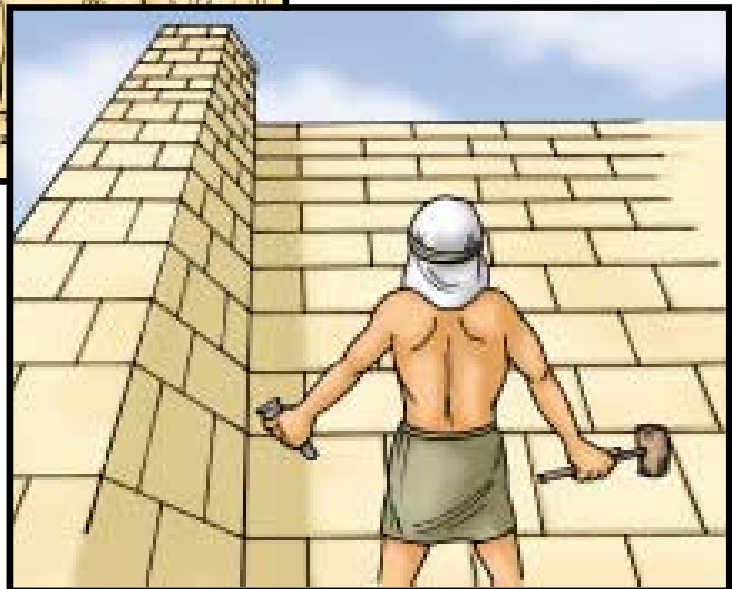
So the king had his
workers cut down trees...



and shape stones.



They worked seven years
to complete the temple.



Solomon moved the sacred chest to the temple.



God was now in the temple.



Solomon gave thanks.

