

Jan 12, 2020



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Solomon Speaks to the People 1 Kings 8:14-21

Lesson Background and Introduction

The faithful God of Israel had established David's son Solomon on the throne of Israel (1 Kings 2:12). God then enabled Solomon to complete the project his father had given him to build a house of worship for the Lord (1 Chronicles 22:6-13). First Kings 8:1-13 recounted the opening scenes of the dedication ceremony for the grand temple Solomon had built in Jerusalem for the God of Israel. Today's account continues to examine that ceremony. A parallel account can be found in 2 Chronicles 6:3-11.

Solomon's declarations highlight the power of God's promises. What God had promised to David, God fulfilled through Solomon. Just as the Lord God of Israel had kept His promises to the patriarchs, to Moses, and to Israel in general, so also He kept His promises to David. God's covenant to establish an everlasting dynasty for David finds its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus, the son of David (Matthew 1:1). In response to God's promises, we are to be a covenant-keeping people. How we use our "temples" reflects our commitment to the Lord. Will others see God fulfilling His promises in us?

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

A Prayer of Dedication - The congregation of Israel celebrated the dedication of God's temple in Jerusalem. King Solomon, standing on a high scaffold with upraised hands, spoke to the nation. Initially he turned toward the temple, but then he turned back around to face the people. He called on them to bless God with him, thanking and praising the Lord for all He'd done for His people.

The Hand of God - Solomon acknowledged God's execution of His plan to erect this edifice. Yes, David desired to build the temple, and Solomon brought his father's dream to fruition. But such a huge undertaking succeeded only by God's leading, design, and ability. The heavenly Father gave everything needed to complete this grand undertaking. God provided them a magnificent city and now a temple for the God who had protected and preserved them all these years.

Remember - Solomon challenged the people to remember the great exodus of God's people from bondage. God then allowed David to become king and conquer all the surrounding enemy nations and bring peace to the nation. Like his father years before, Solomon reinforced and reiterated the Lord's past declarations: God said what He planned to do, and He faithfully carried it out.

Acknowledging God's Work Today - In the light of the situation in our present world, some people are asking, where is God? Why isn't He doing anything? It's up to His ambassadors to constantly remind people that God is always at work. A good parent would never leave a toddler alone for one second—he or she needs constant supervision. As God's children and the sheep of His pasture, we too need constant care. If not for the Shepherd, we would go hungry, have no water, and wander into all kinds of dangers. Whether we give Him the credit or not, God is constantly watching, protecting, leading, guiding.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

What God has promised, He will do. But we must be sure we stand on God's actual word

PRAY FOR THE WEEK:

Dear Lord, thank You for Your many promises to us in Your Word. And thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit who gives discernment

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you
(John 15:7 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", May 6, 2018)

NEXT WEEK

GUEST SPEAKER

Lois Werth Mimbs
Award winning author
from Tennessee

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Speaking of Blessings (1 Kings 8:14-15)

Blessings for the people (14)

Bless those you persecute you (Rom 12:14)

Bless others by seeking their good health (3 John 2)

Bless others by seeking their good welfare (Phil 2:4)

Bless others by seeking that they live a life worthy of the Lord (Col 1:10)

Bless others by thanking God for their salvation (2 Thess 2:13)

Bless others seeking God's help in their sharing of the faith (Philem 6)

Blessings for God (15)

Bless God for His Name (Matt 6:9)

Bless God for His deeds (Ps 72:18)

Bless God for His redemption (Ps 111:9)

Bless God for His holiness (Isa 6:3)

Bless God because He is worthy (Rev 4:11)

Speaking of Promises (1 Kings 8:16-21)

Promises of a temple (16-18)

A temple built for the Name of the Lord (1 Kings 5:5)

A temple built that was the forerunner of God's spiritual temple (1 Peter 2:4-5)

A temple of the living God (2 Cor 6:16)

A temple that is eternal (2 Cor 5:1)

Promises for future temple (19)

A temple built by Solomon (1 Chron 22:9-10)

A temple built by the chosen of God (1 Chron 28:10-14)

A temple built by God (Heb 3:3-4)

A temple built that was the forerunner of God's spiritual temple (1 Peter 2:4-5)

A temple built for and by the ultimate King (Zech 6:12-13)

Promises of God's fulfillment (20-21)

God fulfills all man's true needs (Luke 1:53)

God fulfills the desires of those who fear Him (Ps 145:19)

God fulfills all of His promises (Jer 33:14-15)

God fulfills through His goodness (Ps 107:8-9)

God fulfills and refreshes the soul (Jer 31:25)

God fulfills because He is faithful in fulfilling (Heb 10:22-23)