

Jan 05, 2020



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Solomon Summons the Ark 1 Kings 8:1-13

Lesson Background and Introduction

After King David's death, the Lord established Solomon on the throne in Israel (1 Kings 2:12). The new king attended to the mission his father, David, had given him: building a temple. David had streamlined the process by stockpiling materials Solomon's builders used for the awe-inspiring structure (1 Chronicles 22:2-6). In addition, David had purchased the land for the temple, which had been Ornan's (Araunah's) threshing floor (2 Samuel 24:18-25; 1 Chronicles 21:22-22:1). This was the place where Abraham, in obedience to God's command, would have sacrificed Isaac as a burnt offering had the Lord not intervened (Genesis 22:2, 10-14). The magnificent temple was completed in the eighth month of the eleventh year of King Solomon's reign. Skilled builders and artisans had labored on it for seven years (1 Kings 6:38). What David had proposed to do many years earlier had been accomplished by his son Solomon just as God instructed. Today's lesson text picks up after the completion of the temple. The procession of the ark into the temple of Solomon marked a central truth in Israel: the God of the universe was also the faithful God who had called the Israelites into covenant. He dwelled among them as king. The God whose presence was with Israel dwelled among us in the person of Jesus Christ (John 1:14). He now indwells us through His Spirit (Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; etc.). May we also celebrate that our God keeps His promises and stays close to His people.

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

When our greatest desire is to bring glory to God and walk in obedience, we become driven people who seek to love and serve Jesus in the power of the Spirit

COMMENT FOR THE WEEK:

When King Solomon dedicated the Ark of the Covenant and the newly constructed temple, he said, "I have built the temple for the Name of the Lord" (1 Kings 8:20). Then he prayed, "May he turn our hearts to him, to walk in obedience to him and keep the commands"

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

That He may incline our hearts to Himself, to walk in all His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, which He commanded our fathers

(1 Kings 8:58 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", June 19, 2017)

Transferring the Sacred Ark - King Solomon assembled in Jerusalem the elders of Israel, judges, and princes over the various tribes, along with the head man in each family. Having completed the temple building project handed over to him by his father David, Solomon assigned these appointed leaders to accompany the Ark of the Covenant to the newly constructed temple. As this happened, a cloud, symbolizing God's holiness and presence, filled the temple. Temporarily, everything and everybody stopped. Those present stood overwhelmed by His glorious presence in their midst.

The Shekinah Glory - The consecrated priest had slowly positioned the ark in the Most Holy Place. As they backed away, a cloud descended making it impossible for the leaders to continue their duties. This thick vapor served as a symbol of God's presence for the children of Israel throughout their history. The cloud is first recorded as being seen when the Israelites traveled from Egypt, as the Lord appeared in a pillar of cloud during the day and a fiery pillar at night. This was the Shekinah glory of God being seen. Jewish rabbis used the expression to mean, He caused to dwell. It symbolized God's presence with His people on the earth.

Jesus, God's Glory - Jesus was God's Shekinah presence on earth. As the apostle John said, "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). And now the Holy Spirit dwells in each believer. Believers today live in the presence of God through the Holy Spirit. The third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, always resides with His children. This truth should daily make a person stop and take time to give God praise.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

Series: Honoring God

UNIT: David Honors God

NEXT WEEK

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

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

The Assembling for the Ark (1 Kings 8:1-5)

Assembling of the people (1-2)

- Assembling in the presence of God (Matt 18:20)
- Assembling for fellowship (Acts 2:42-47)
- Assembling for prayer (Acts 1:14)
- Assembling to simulate love and good deeds (Heb 10:23-25)
- Assembling because of the fellowship (Acts 20:7-8)
- Assembling because it is a custom (Luke 4:16-17)
- Assembling to reason about the Scriptures (Acts 17:1-4)

Assembling of the articles for worship (3-4)

- Assembling of the instruments (Ps 150:3-6)
- Assembling of the tables and lamps (Exodus 40:4)
- Assembling of the anointing oils and their furnishings (Exodus 40:9)
- Assembling of the breads (Exodus 40:22-24)
- Assembling of the lampstands (Heb 9:2)
- Assembling of the plates, bowls, and pitchers (Exodus 37:1)

Assembling of the leaders for worship (5)

- Leaders that should seek the deep truths of the faith (1 Tim 3:8-10)
- Leaders that should teach only sound doctrine through the Holy Spirit (2 Tim 1:13-14)
- Leaders that follow the example of Christ (1 Cor 11:1)
- Leaders that are entrusted with God's flock (1 Peter 5:1-3)
- Leaders that will have to give an account for those under their care (Heb 13:17)

The Abiding with the Ark (1 Kings 8:6-13)

Abiding in the sanctuary (6-9)

- A sanctuary not made and served by human hands (Acts 17:24-25)
- A sanctuary that is an eternal house in heaven (2 Cor 5:1)
- A sanctuary that has many rooms and is being prepared for believers (John 14:1-4)
- A sanctuary whose architect and builder is God (Heb 11:10)
- A sanctuary that is greater and more perfect (Heb 9:11)
- A sanctuary that is the real sanctuary versus the copy on earth (Heb 9:24)

Abiding with the Holy Spirit (10-11)

- Abiding that means that we are not our own (1 Cor 6:19)
- Abiding that means that He is the power to obey God (Ezek 36:27)
- Abiding that means that He provides spiritual life (Rom 8:11)
- Abiding that means that He guides us in truth (John 16:13)
- Abiding that means that He teaches us how to live (Gal 5:16)
- Abiding that means that He is the conduit of the fruits of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23)
- Abiding that means that He is the guarantee of our Divine ownership (Rom 8:9)

Abiding permanently through indwelling (12-13)

- God's Spirit indwells to make known His words (Prov 1:23)
- God's Spirit indwells as part of God's adoption (Rom 8:15)
- God's Spirit indwells to make us His temple (1 Cor 3:16)
- God's Spirit indwells to give spiritual life (Rom 8:11)
- God's Spirit indwells as a treasure (2 Tim 1:14)
- God's Spirit indwells because He is the gift received at salvation (Acts 2:38)
- God's Spirit indwells to not leave His people as orphans (John 14:18)
- God's Spirit indwells so that He can comfort and provide peace (John 14:26-27)