

BOOK OF 1 KINGS
WORSHIP REMINDERS
1 KINGS 7:1-21

Introduction

After Solomon completed the Temple, Scripture tells us that he began construction on his own house. The **last verse** of *Chapter 6* tells us it took him **seven years to build the Temple**. **Verse one** of *Chapter 7* indicates it took **thirteen years to build his own house**. So we see, **Solomon was involved in construction for a total of twenty years**.

1 Kings 9:10—“And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the Lord, and the king's house,”

Attached to his home were other buildings.

- 1. He Built The House Of The Forest Of Lebanon. (Vs 2-5)**
There were four rows of cedar pillars with cedar beams upon the pillars. It was a huge place, the length being half a football field.... 150 feet. The width was 75 feet and the height was 45 feet.
- 2. The Porch of Pillars. (Vs 6)**
- 3. The Porch of Judgment. (Vs 7)**
It was made for the throne where he could judge and handle other affairs of state.
- 4. The House for Pharaoh's daughter. (Vs 8)**

These buildings were made of costly stones. *Verse 9* indicates these stones were cut with saws. How was this possible? Palestine limestone is soft when it is quarried and mined. It hardens when it is exposed to the elements.

The foundation stones were 12-15 feet in length according to *verse 10*. Other stones are mentioned in *verses 11-12*.

Verse 13-14 tell us that Solomon hired Hiram of Tyre (not the king, but another man) who was very creative, cunning, and wise in working with brass. When one is yielded to the Lord, He can use them for His glory no matter what they do. Hiram was a worker in brass, yet, he is honored by having his name recorded in the Bible.

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Verses 15-21 tell us how that this Hiram of Tyre **cast two pillars of brass in the porch of the Temple**. These two pillars are what I want to focus upon tonight!

The pillar on the right was named *Jachin* (which means **“He shall establish”**) The pillar on the left was named *Boaz* (which means **“In Him is strength.”**)

These pillars stand out as a reminder of what their worship of the LORD was based on! They were to bring to mind the LORD and His faithfulness!

I. THE LORD IS THE ONE WHO “ESTABLISHED” ISRAEL TO BEGIN WITH! (*Jachin = He shall establish*)

Genesis 12:2-3 “2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”

Genesis 12:7 “And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.”

Genesis 13:15-17 “15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. 16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. 17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.”

Genesis 17:7-8 7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. 8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

So, the nation of *Israel* was created and chosen by the LORD to preserve His Truth in the world and to prepare the way for the Messiah.

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The pillar named *Jachin* was a reminder every time they walked by that pillar to enter the Temple that **the nation of Israel was first established by the LORD Himself!**

II. **THE LORD IS THE ONE WHO WAS ISRAEL'S STRENGTH!**
(*Boaz* = "in Him is strength")

The LORD revealed Himself to a 99 year old Abram in *Genesis 17:1* as "*The Almighty God.*" This was important because the LORD had not given him the promised son yet and the LORD changed his name there from *Abram* to *Abraham*. (*Abraham* means "father of a great multitude")

Genesis 17:19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

Abraham and Sarah's **strength** to have Isaac in their old age **was of the LORD! Israel's strength time and time again was the LORD!**

This is the LORD that sent word by Moses in:

Exodus 6:6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, **I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments:**

Exodus 15:1-2 1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for **he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.** 2 **The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.**

Joshua 3:5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow **the LORD will do wonders among you.**

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Every time Israel got away from the LORD or tried to do things in the power of their own flesh, they failed miserably!

But every time they repented of their waywardness and then looked to the LORD and relied upon the LORD, the LORD came through for them!

Israel's strength was in the LORD! Our strength is in the LORD!

These pillars are object lessons of this truth. These pillars were not made of wood or stone, but of metal (brass). They were huge pillars. The shaft was 27 feet and the capitals at the top were seven feet making the total height 34 feet. The circumference of them was 18 ft., making the diameter about 6 feet across. The pillar was hollow. The metal was three inches thick.

These pillars are a reminder that the strength from the Lord is like a pillar in our life!

Psalms 46:1— "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Philippians 4:13— "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

1 Peter 5:10— "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, **stablish, strengthen, settle you.**"

We need strength because we are weak! Without the LORD's help, life is tough! Aren't you glad that you have the LORD in your life? People that don't have the LORD have to make it on their own! I'm not strong enough to do that!

Not only our STRENGTH comes from the LORD, but our STABILITY comes from the Lord too! He is the one who helps us not to quit when all we feel like doing is throwing our hands up and quitting!

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When life gets shaky, uncertain, doubtful, confusing, dangerous, or unstable, we need to remember that the LORD has ESTABLISHED us in Himself and He is the One Who can give us the STABILITY to keep moving forward for Him!

Psalm 27:5— “For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.”

Psalm 40:2— “He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.”

But listen, we become both shaky and weak when we don't make up our mind to trust and serve the LORD!

James 1:8— “A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”

The LORD has established His Church of which we are a part of!
Matthew 16:18— “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

The Church is compared to pillars by the Apostle Paul!

1 Timothy 3:15— “But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

The Church, the body of Christ, is the pillar and ground of truth.

This word "ground" is the foundation on which a structure rests. The Church holds up the truth of the Gospel. If we don't do this, no one else will.

III. THE PILLARS WERE ALSO A REMINDER OF PURITY!

The columns and chapters bore a rough resemblance to a lily. (*Vs 19*)

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The column was the stalk of the flower and the chapter was the flower itself. **The lily was the emblem of purity to the Jewish people.** The lily on the columns and chapters was a reminder that they were to adorn their lives in the beauty of holiness.

Psalm 29:2— “Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.”

Psalm 96:6— “Honor and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.”

The LORD wants purity in our lives as Believers and as His Church also!

Ephesians 1:4— “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”

Ephesians 5:27— “That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

Titus 2:12— “Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;”

IV. THE PILLARS WERE A REMINDER THAT A FRUITFUL LIFE COMES THROUGH OBEDIENCE! (*Vs 20*)

The chapters were engraved with 400 pomegranates. When engraving pomegranates, Israel used six petals which formed the emblem known as the Star of David because at its crown, the Pomegranate has a six part star and is the only place the Star of David appears in nature.

Pomegranates were a symbol of fruitfulness and a reminder that obedience to the LORD was the key to their fruitfulness as a nation!

The reason it is a symbol of fruitfulness is because of the hundreds of seeds inside that are floating in its red, sweet syrup.

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This is not factual, but the Jews traditionally said it contained 613 seeds. They related the seeds to the Torah which had 613 commandments.

The seeds were seen as God's commands that were to be obeyed and would thus make one fruitful in the service of God.

Conclusion

4 Worship Reminders

He Shall Establish

In Him Is Strength

Worship Him In Purity

Fruitfulness Comes Through Obedience