

1 Kings 8

King James Version (KJV)

(Time to bring the Ark of the Covenant into the temple)

8 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto king Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. (They will move the Ark from a tent on Mt. Zion, where David brought it up from Kirjathjirim, to Mt. Mariah, where the temple is located)

² And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

³ And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.

⁴ And they brought up the ark of the LORD, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, even those did the priests and the Levites bring up. (the tabernacle- is the tent of the Mosaic temple)

⁵ And king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel, that were assembled unto him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

⁶ And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, into the oracle of the house, to the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims. (oracle = *dabar*<Hebrew> = to speak – this was the place that God chose to speak with the priests. This room was also called the Holy of Holies. Only the high priest was able to enter, once a year to make repentance for the people)

⁷ For the cherubims spread forth their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above. (The staves were the poles used to carry the Ark)

⁸ And they drew out the staves, that the ends of the staves were seen out in the holy place before the oracle, and they were not seen without: and there they are unto this day. Exodus-25:15 (the staves were to stay on the Ark at all times) (unto this day = at the time of this writing. Today the Ark is in Heaven with God) Revelation- 11:19

⁹ There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the

children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. (Horeb & Sinai are at the same place) (The tablets of stone = the 10 commandments that God gave to Moses)

Hebrews-9:4 (The Ark also held a golden pot of manna, and the budded rod of Aaron)

¹⁰ And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, Like Exodus-40:34-35 (When Moses dedicated the original tabernacle)

In Ezekiel-48:35 (when God will reside among men again, the cloud will be called - Yahoveh-Shama – the LORD dwells there)

¹¹ So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD. (God manifested physical signs to show the people that He was there)

¹² Then spake Solomon, The LORD said that he would dwell in the thick darkness. (Meaning - HE manifested Himself as a thick cloud by day or a pillar of fire by night, when the Israelites were crossing the wilderness – this is a bad translation)

(God does not live in darkness. He is the light of the world. The cloud over the Israelites in the wilderness was to protect them from the hot sun. The Pillar of light by night was to protect them from any enemies)

¹³ I have surely built thee an house to dwell in, a settled place for thee to abide in for ever. 2Samuel-7:13

¹⁴ And the king turned his face about, and blessed all the congregation of Israel: (and all the congregation of Israel stood;) (Solomon wished a blessing from God upon the people; he didn't bless them, himself)

¹⁵ And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which spake with his mouth unto David my father, and hath with his hand fulfilled it, saying, (Today, we bless God through an act of adoration and love)

Hosea-6:6 (For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. Mercy = love)

¹⁶ Since the day that I brought forth my people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel to build an house, that my name might be therein; but I chose David to be over my people Israel.

2Samuel-7:16 (God owns the universe. HE doesn't need men to build Him a house)

¹⁷ And it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel. 1Chronicles-17 (David was grateful to God for all of His blessings and wanted to offer Him something in return. He wanted to build a temple for God)

¹⁸ And the LORD said unto David my father, Whereas it was in thine heart to build an house unto my name, thou didst well that it was in thine heart. (It was nice of you to think of me) (So many people receive blessings from God and never bother to thank Him)

¹⁹ Nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy son that shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house unto my name. 1Chronicles-22:8 (David had shed much blood to free Israel. God wanted His house to be built by a man of peace) (When God came to us in the flesh as Jesus, He was called the Prince of Peace)

²⁰ And the LORD hath performed his word that he spake, and I am risen up in the room of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel. (Good always keeps His promises. It is man who always falls short)

²¹ And I have set there a place for the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt.

²² And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven: (This was the altar of burnt offerings, in the courtyard of the temple)

(Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple; 23-53)

²³ And he said, LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart: (unfortunately, that won't last long. They eventually all the people, including Solomon, fell into idolatry and worshipping heathen gods)

²⁴ Who hast kept with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day.

²⁵ Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me. (so that = only if – in the Manuscripts ; THIS is the condition for God's promise. Solomon's descendants didn't meet this condition, and they eventually lost their country)

(Even though men failed, God still kept the promise. He came as Jesus Christ <God with us> through Nathan, David's son. HE is the permanent King of kings, Lord of lords)

²⁶ And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father. (be verified = be made permanent – better translation)

²⁷ But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded? (Humility on Solomon's part)

²⁸ Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day: (supplication – asking for favor)

²⁹ That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place. (Daniel, even when in captivity in Babylon, would pray, facing towards Jerusalem 3 times a day. Today, we can pray facing in any direction, because Jesus became our salvation in the flesh)

³⁰ And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive. (Forgive the peoples' trespasses when they repent)

³¹ If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house: Leviticus-5 (The penalty of a trespass offering)

³² Then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying

the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness. **Leviticus-5**
(If an oath that is made before God is not fulfilled, God will judge)

Also in Psalms-37 (The wicked will not get ahead in the end, and the just people will see them judged by God for their evil deeds – acrostic verses 7, 20, 34)

Also Galatians-6:7 (God will not be mocked. We reap what we sow)

³³ When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house: **Leviticus-26 (If they turn against God, the sound of a rustling leaf will cause them to flee)**

³⁴ Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers. **(If they come to the temple and repent, hear them)**

Deuteronomy-30:1-8 (God will treat us according to how we treat Him)

³⁵ When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them: **(afflictest them = to humble them; to try to wake them up to the evil that they are doing; so they can change their ways)**

³⁶ Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance. **(If they mature in spirituality and bless God, bless them spiritually and also physically with prosperity) Leviticus-26:4**

³⁷ If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpillar; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be; **Leviticus-26:27 (7 cursings or plagues)**

³⁸ What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house: **(This means to repent honestly; to realize that they brought this upon themselves)**

(Most of us live in a nation that isn't going by God's Word. If you stay true to God and live by His Word, then He will bless you, regardless of what the nation does. The nation may suffer His wrath, but He will bless you and keep you)

³⁹ Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;) (Only God knows what we are thinking. Jesus demonstrated that many times) 1Chronicles-28:9

⁴⁰ That they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers. (fear= fear & revere – same word in the Hebrew; revere for those who love God; fear for those who don't)

⁴¹ Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (stranger- foreigners who live in Israel, and worship Yahoveh) (Salvation was and is open to everyone; not just Israel)

(This does not apply to the muslims; who come to Christian countries to get welfare, in order to force the people into joining islam. Join us or die - is their motto and their mission. They should be treated as invaders because that is exactly what they are. They live to destroy Christianity)

⁴² (For they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house; (God's power is awesome. There is no one no nation that can overcome Him)

⁴³ Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name. Hebrews-8:11 (this will happen in the Millennium)

⁴⁴ If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name: (Winston Churchill – Let us not pray that God is on our side, but rather, that we are on His)

(God appointed war when it was necessary to protect the people. He does not approve of man starting wars for conquest and riches. This is what the US does today. We have lost our way as a Christian nation)

⁴⁵ Then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. (cause = mish-pat <Hebrew> – to execute judgment)

⁴⁶ If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near; (This happened later, with the Assyrians taking the 10 northern tribes, and the Babylonians taking Judah and Benjamin captive) see 2Kings

1John-1:8 (If a man claims the he doesn't sin, he is deceiving himself)

⁴⁷ Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness; (If they wake up, repent and return to God)

⁴⁸ And so return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, which led them away captive, and pray unto thee toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name: Deuteronomy-30:1-8

⁴⁹ Then hear thou their prayer and their supplication in heaven thy dwelling place, and maintain their cause, (cause = Mish-Pat <Hebrew> – to execute judgment on the enemy)

⁵⁰ And forgive thy people that have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them: (God named Cyrus, of Persia, to allow Israel to return to Jerusalem after 70 years. They were never again a free country, however. That's because they had proven that they can't handle self rule. They continually returned to idolatry and perversion)

⁵¹ For they be thy people, and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron: (The furnaces in Egypt that were used to fire the bricks for building)

⁵² That thine eyes may be open unto the supplication of thy servant, and unto the supplication of thy people Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto thee.

⁵³ For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be thine inheritance, as thou spakest by the hand of Moses thy servant, when thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O LORD God.
Exodus-19:5, Leviticus-20:24 & 26

⁵⁴ And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven. **(He kneeled before the altar to show humility before God to the people)**

⁵⁵ And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

⁵⁶ Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant. **(rest = peace; God keeps all of His promises) Joshua-23:14**

⁵⁷ The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us: **Deuteronomy-31:6**

⁵⁸ That he may incline our hearts unto him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers. **(God's ways are the right way to live to be happy. Mature Christians see that and want to walk in God's ways) 1Chronicles-28:29, Leviticus-3:13-26**

⁵⁹ And let these my words, wherewith I have made supplication before the LORD, be nigh unto the LORD our God day and night, that he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel at all times, as the matter shall require: **(Seek God's blessings every day)**

⁶⁰ That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD is God, and that there is none else. **(Teach others by your example so that they might save themselves as well by seeking God)**

⁶¹ Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day. **(perfect = mature)**

⁶² And the king, and all Israel with him, offered sacrifice before the LORD.

⁶³ And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered unto the LORD, two and twenty thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD. **2Chronicles-7:1 (God accepted their offerings) (They built many additional altars to sacrifice so many offerings, because the people partook of the sacrificial meal with God. Solomon used his own herds to make these sacrifices for himself and for the people)**

(Peace offerings are prepared by the offerer <Solomon's servants>, and eaten by the people. Only the fat is burnt on the sacrificial altar; not the whole animal. That's why so many animals were offered. It fed the nation for the entire 7 day festival)

⁶⁴ The same day did the king hallow the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD: for there he offered burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings: because the brasen altar that was before the LORD was too little to receive the burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings. **(They set up temporary altars because of the many people offering to God) (hallow= to sanctify)**

⁶⁵ And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days. **(From the north of Israel to the south; the dedication of the temple- 7 days; the feast of tabernacles <Succoth> - 7 additional days)**

⁶⁶ On the eighth day he sent the people away: and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD had done for David his servant, and for Israel his people. **(David's house and his descendants) 2Chronicles-7:10 (He sent them home after the Sabbath of the 8th day)**