2 Samuel; 1 Kings 1-11

Come Follow Me
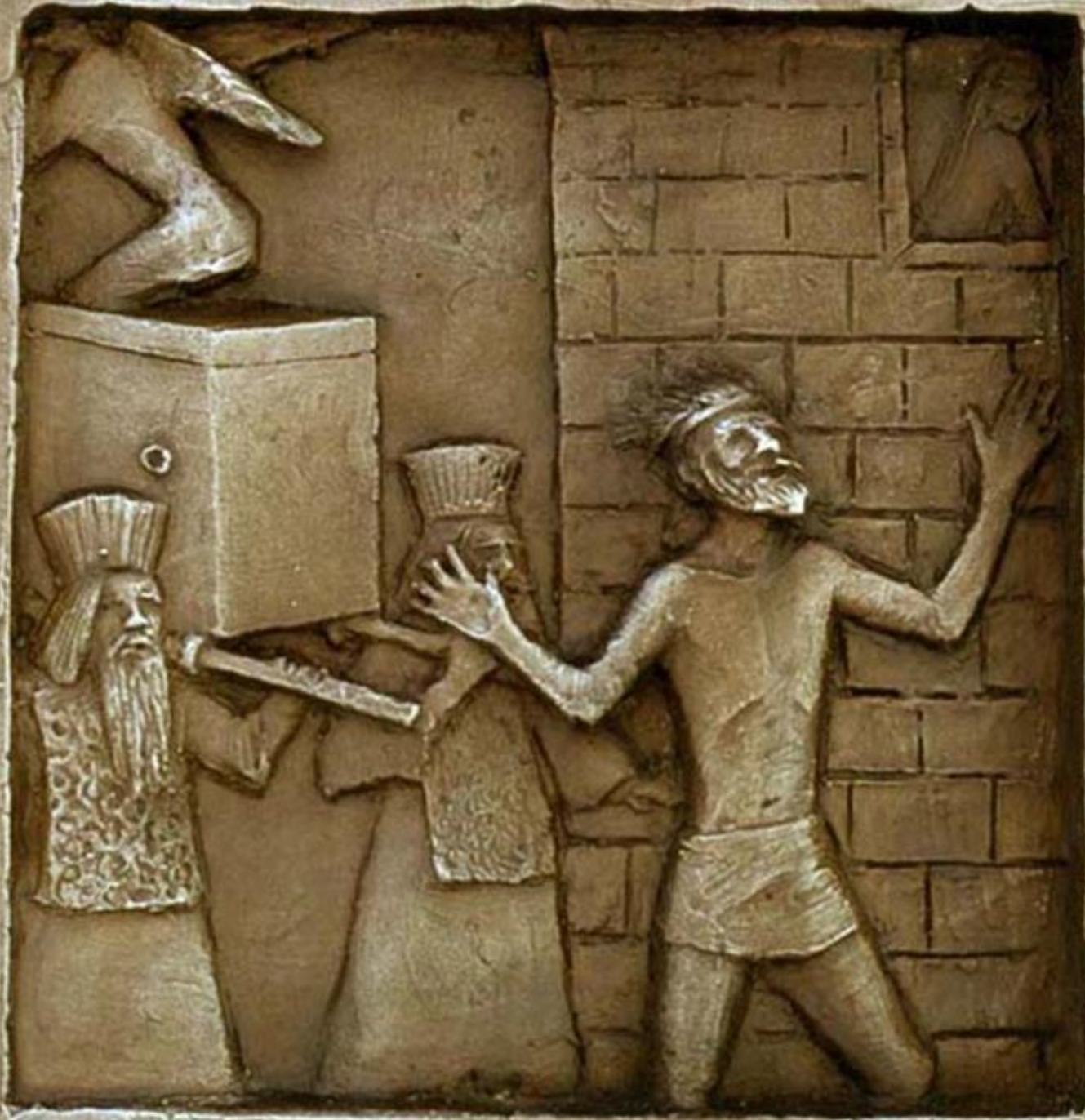
DAVID DEFEATS THE PHILISTINES

2 Samuel 5:17-25

The Philistines camped in the valley of Rephaim. David defeated them at Baal-perazim, but they remained in the valley. He attacked again and chased them from Gibeon to Gezer.

THE EMPIRE OF DAVID
AND SOLOMON
c. 1000-925 B. C.

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2 Samuel 6 – David dances before the Lord

Uzzah steadies the Ark – 2 Sam. 6.1-7

2 Samuel 7 - Nathan's Prophecy

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The inviolability of Jerusalem

How should we read this text?

How did Israel read this?

Lehi's contemporaries?

2 Samuel 11-12

Amnon and Tamar –
2 Samuel 13

Lust v. Love

Satan is the great counterfeiter. He tries to palm off lust as love. There is a simple test to detect the difference. Love is motivated by self-control, obedience to God's moral laws, respect for others, and unselfishness. On the other hand, lust is motivated by disobedience, self-gratification, and lack of discipline.

(Elder Tad Callister, The Lord's Standard of Morality, *Ensign*, Mar. 2014, p. 48)

Amnon's Demise
2 Samuel 13.28-34

Civil War between Absalom & David

2 Samuel 15-18

Absalom slain in 2 Samuel 18 by Joab

Judaic Hyperbole

2 Samuel 14.25-26

Absalom was the best looking guy in all of Israel -- with some serious hair. He'd let it grow all year and then cut it, which he had to do each year because it got so darned heavy. One year's growth weighed 200 skekels. And how heavy is 200 shekels? Well, one shekel weighed about 11 grams. So Absalom's haircut trimmings weighed in at 2.2 kilograms, or about 4.8 pounds. A year.

How does this compare with normal human hair?

Judaic Hyperbole

An average head hair has a diameter of about 0.007 cm (70 micrometers) and grows 15 cm per year. And an average head has about 100,000 hair follicles on it. Since human hair has a density of 1.32 g/cm3, we can estimate the weight of an average person's yearly hair production. Weight = pi * (.0035 cm)2 * 15 cm * 100,000 hairs * 1.32 g/cm3 = 76 g

So an average person produces about 0.076 kilogram of hair annually -- about than 1/30th that of Absalom.

Of course Absalom wasn't an average person. He was, after all, the best looking guy in Israel. So maybe his hair was 30 times as thick or 20 times as dense as normal human hair.

Is Absalom safe?

O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

(2 Samuel 18.33, 19.4)

Sheba's rebellion – 2 Samuel 20

Also: Joab doesn't like Amasa replacing him!

The Threshing Floor of Araunah – 2 Sam. 24

When David began his reign as the new king in Jerusalem, this royal property would have devolved directly to him. He would have had no need to purchase it- it was already his. From the perspective of the biblical authors, however, it was important that David purchase the land- indeed, they depict Araunah as trying to give it to David as a gift, and David refusing. The depth of Israel's connection to the site of the temple was such that no possibility could be allowed for anyone else to make a rightful claim on the property. (Joel Baden, *The Historical David*, p. 174)

The Roman-Era midrash Tanhuma sums up the centrality of and holiness of this site in Judaism:

As the navel is set in the centre of the human body,
so is the land of Israel the navel of the world…
situated in the centre of the world,
and Jerusalem in the centre of the land of Israel,
and the sanctuary in the centre of Jerusalem,
and the holy place in the centre of the sanctuary,
and the ark in the centre of the holy place,
and the Foundation Stone before the holy place,
because from it the world was founded.

Cross reference 1 Kgs 3.4-5 with 1 Kgs. 9.2

Solomon's request – 1 Kgs. 3.5-13

Other references:

Ether 1.34-43

Joseph Smith History 1.20

1 Nephi 14.28

The vision
1 Kings 3 , 1 Kings 9

Solomon's Wisdom

1 Kings 3.16-28

Solomon's Temple vs. Palace

1 Kings 6–7

Differences and similarities between Solomon's great building projects

Temple	Palace
7 years to build *6:38*	13 years to build *7:1*
Built according to God's specifications *6:38; see 1 Chron. 28:11–12*	No specifications from God
Dimensions: 90 feet long, 30 wide, 45 high *6:2*	Dimensions: 150 feet long, 75 wide, 45 high *7:2*

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Dimensions: 90 feet long, 30 wide, 45 high *6:2*	Dimensions: 150 feet long, 75 wide, 45 high *7:2*
Constructed with blocks dressed at quarry *6:7*	Constructed with blocks of high-grade stone *7:9*
No iron tools used at temple building site *6:7*	Stone cut and trimmed to size *7:9*
Narrow windows placed high *6:4*	Windows placed high, in sets of three *7:4*
Inner courtyard surrounded by wall of dressed stone and trimmed cedar beams *6:36; 7:12*	Great courtyard surrounded by wall of dressed stone and trimmed cedar beams *7:12*
Floors made of juniper, covered in gold; whole interior covered with cedar and overlaid with gold *6:15,18,22,30*	Throne hall covered from floor to ceiling with cedar *7:7*

Over 40 all-new illustrations were developed exclusively for the ESV Study Bible. Created by the world's leading biblical archaeologists in partnership with a renowned architectural illustration firm, these drawings set a new standard for accuracy and beauty.
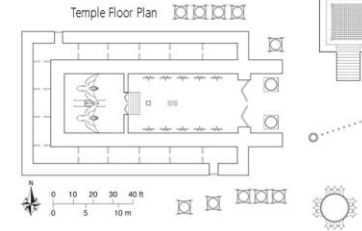
A structure was built around the walls of the temple containing three levels. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (.9 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5–6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31–32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).

The vestibule was 30 feet (9.1 m) wide and 15 feet (4.6 m) deep (1 Kings 6:3; cf. 2 Chron. 3:4).

Temple Floor Plan

A precisely rendered top-down view is included for most illustrations, showing exact measurements and the direction that the structure faced.

The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "Jachin" (1 Kings 7:21; cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (cf. 2 Chron. 4:1).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:33–35).

Concise captions describe each aspect of the illustration, including biblical references, measurements, and function.

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1-m) cube (1 Kings 6:15–29; 2 Chron. 3:8–14). Such rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim were on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15-foot (4.6-m) wingspans (1 Kings 6:23–28). The ark of the covenant was between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1–11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2–14).

A summary caption provides an overview of the illustration, along with a concise description of where the places and events shown in the illustration are located in the Bible.

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18.3 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17–18; cf. 2 Chron. 3:5–7). It contained the golden altar for incense; the golden table for the bread of the Presence; and ten golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48–49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).
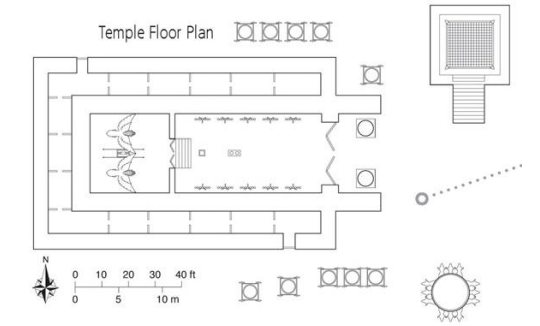
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1–2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 B.C. (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27.4 m) long, 30 feet (9.1 m) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 m) high. It resided in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

Ten bronze wheeled stands and basins held water for rinsing off what was used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27–38; cf. 2 Chron. 4:6).

The "Sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) tall and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (44,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by twelve bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23–26; cf. 2 Chron. 4:2–5).

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N   0 10 20 30 40 ft
     0   5   10 m

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Solomon's Temple

Store Rooms

Most Holy Place

Holy Place

Altar

Sea of Bronze

20cu (30 ft)

10cu (15 ft)

Approx 90 cubits (135 ft)

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