

1 KINGS WEEK THREE – “Temple Worship Under Solomon”

September 16, 2021

Questions for 1 Kings 7-9

1. What can be said about Solomon’s palace based on it’s description? What is the significance of it’s location?
2. What was the purpose of some of the other buildings that were constructed?
3. Why do you suppose the author went into detail about the building materials?
4. Why does Pharaoh’s daughter get her own palace?
5. Solomon contracted a half-Israelite named Hiram to help in his building projects. What was his specialty and what can be said about the things he crafted?
6. As much as it seems that Solomon’s building projects were a reflection of his need to be seen as a “legitimate player on the field of kings” what can be said about his faithfulness to God, especially in his speech and prayer of dedication?
7. What is the purpose of God being “contained” in the temple?
8. What are the nine petitions that Solomon makes in his prayer of dedication?
9. By being faithful to God, what can the people of Israel expect as a blessing?
10. In what ways can you say that Solomon is a better or more faithful king than David?
11. Chapter nine represents a section that narrates the later years of Solomon’s reign. Does God seem to approve of Solomon’s reign up to this point? What does God emphasize in God’s response to Solomon’s prayers?
12. How does Solomon pay for Hiram’s work? What does Hiram think of this?
13. How does the narrative deal with Solomon’s use of forced labor? Is there any indication that Solomon is receiving a “thumbs up” for this?
14. If military conquest was the theme of David’s reign, what was the theme of Solomon’s reign?