

The Book of 1 Kings

Summary of 1 Kings:

History of David's son Solomon ruling as king, and then the kingdom dividing into 2 nations after Solomon's death where we are introduced to the prophet Elijah, who is raised up to confront Israel's idolatry

Outline:

1 Kings easily divides into two sections: *United Kingdom* and *Divided Kingdom*

I. The United Kingdom: The 40 Year Reign of Solomon (1:1-11)

II. The Divided Kingdom: The First 80 Years of the Two Kingdoms (12-22)

Major Passages influencing 1 Kings:

Genesis 3:15

Genesis 12,15,17,22

Exodus 3

Joshua 1

2 Samuel 7

Major Developments in 1 Kings:

Solomon and the Temple (8:1-9:9)

The Fame of Solomon (10:1-29)

The Failure of Solomon (11:1-13)

The Prophetic Ministry of Elijah (17:1-19:18)

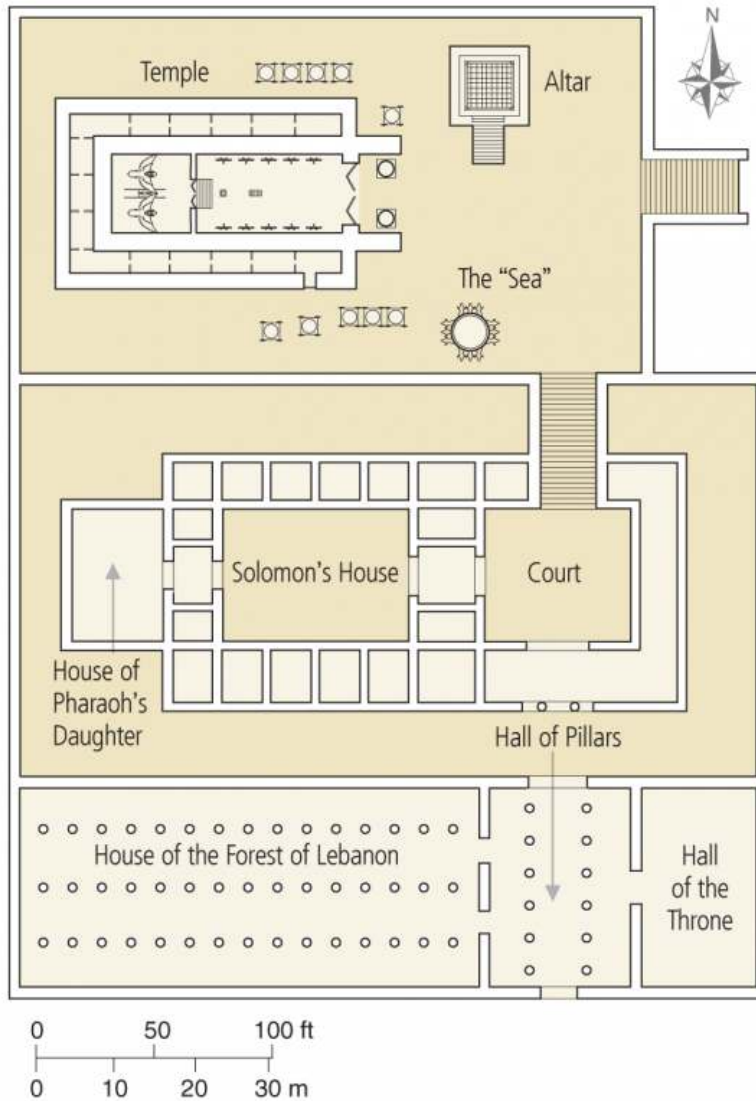
Christ as Seen in 1 Kings:

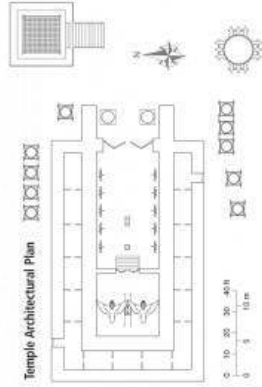
Like David, Solomon is one of the greatest types in the Old Testament of Christ, portraying Messiah in His future reign on earth. Solomon especially does this as his fame, glory, wealth, and honor all speak of Christ in His earthly kingdom. Solomon also portrays Christ in the great wisdom he demonstrated:

Matthew 12:42 "The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, *something greater than Solomon* is here."

We could say that on the kingly side of things in 1 Kings that Solomon is a pattern of Jesus. We could also say that on the prophetic side that Elijah is a pattern of Jesus. Elijah is much like Moses in the scope of his prophetic ministry. He multiplied food, he raised a child from the dead, he confronted the king, he confronted false prophets, his prayer altered the weather, he trained disciples, and he gloriously ascended to heaven. People identified Jesus as Elijah consistently through his ministry. And Elijah even appeared with Moses and Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt.17:1-13; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36).

Matthew 16:13-14 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” 14 And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, *others say Elijah*, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”





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).

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

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

A structure with three levels was built around the walls of the temple. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (2.7 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5-6, 8, 10).

The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "seac" and the one on the south was called "yachin" (1 Kings 7:23, cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:32-35).

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).

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

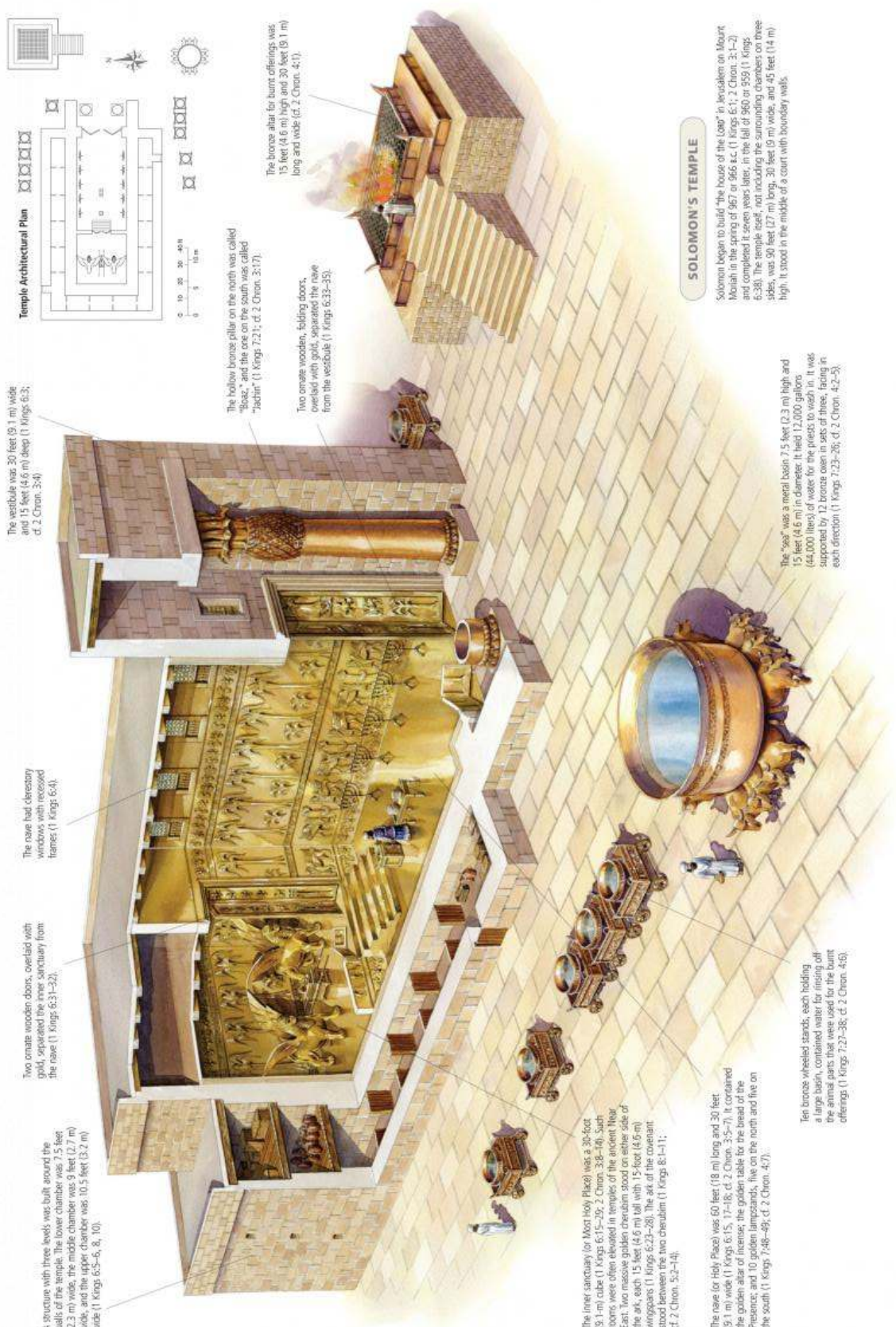
Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1-2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27 m) long, 30 feet (9 m) wide, and 45 feet (14 m) high. It stood in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

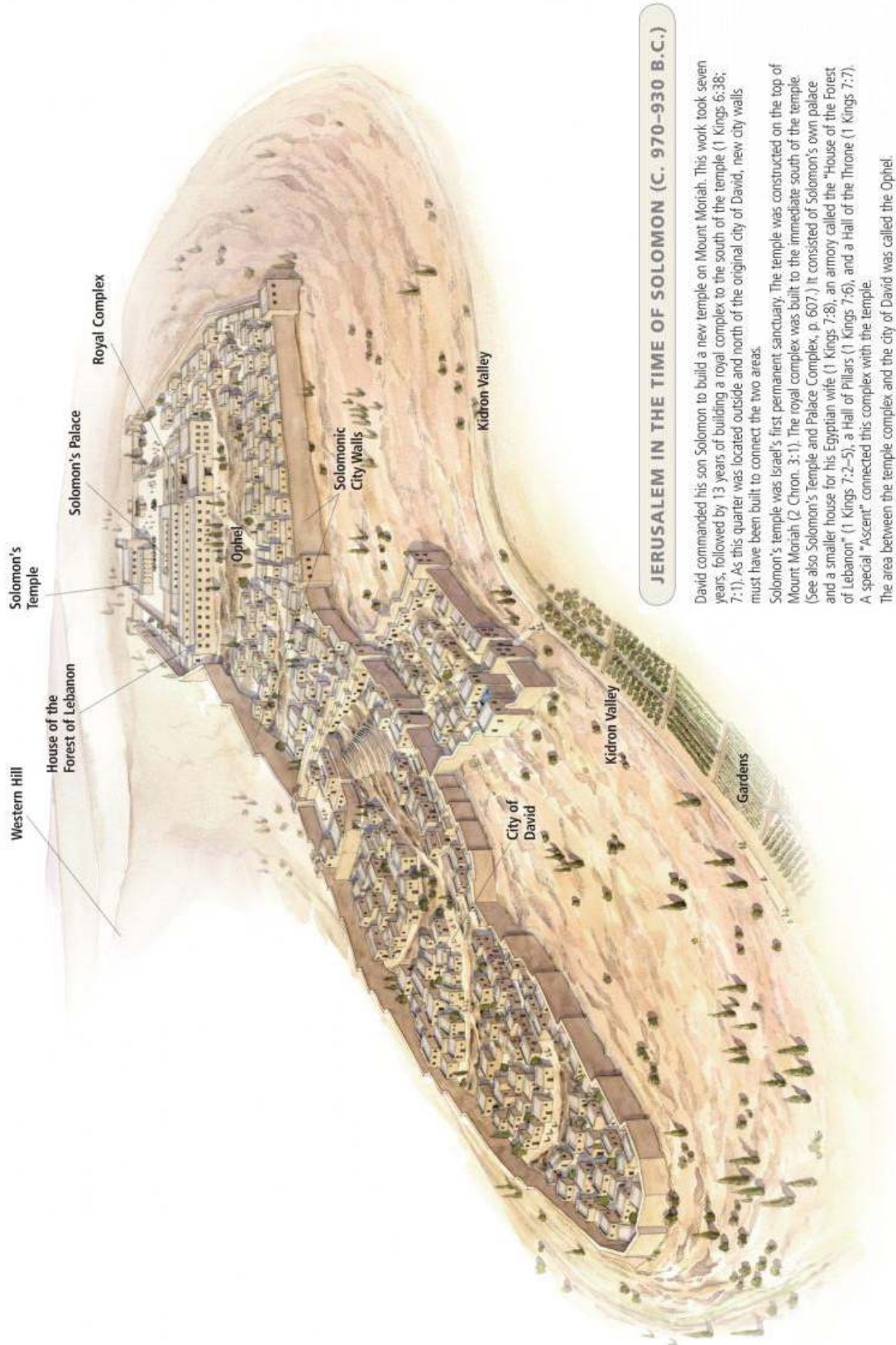
The "sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) high and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (44,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by 12 bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23-26; cf. 2 Chron. 4:2-5).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1 m) cube (1 Kings 6:15-20; 2 Chron. 3:8-10). Such rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim stood on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15 feet (4.6 m) wingspans (1 Kings 6:23-28). The ark of the covenant stood between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1-11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2-4).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18 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 of incense, the golden table for the bread of the Presence, and 10 golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48-49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).

Ten bronze-wheeled stands, each holding a large basin, contained water for rinsing off the animal parts that were used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27-38; cf. 2 Chron. 4:6).





JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF SOLOMON (C. 970-930 B.C.)

David commanded his son Solomon to build a new temple on Mount Moriah. This work took seven years, followed by 13 years of building a royal complex to the south of the temple (1 Kings 6:38; 7:1). As this quarter was located outside and north of the original city of David, new city walls must have been built to connect the two areas.

Solomon's temple was Israel's first permanent sanctuary. The temple was constructed on the top of Mount Moriah (2 Chron. 3:1). The royal complex was built to the immediate south of the temple. (See also Solomon's Temple and Palace Complex, p. 607.) It consisted of Solomon's own palace and a smaller house for his Egyptian wife (1 Kings 7:8), an armory called the "House of the Forest of Lebanon" (1 Kings 7:2-5), a Hall of Pillars (1 Kings 7:6), and a Hall of the Throne (1 Kings 7:7). A special "Ascent" connected this complex with the temple.

The area between the temple complex and the city of David was called the Ophel.