

Introduction

1. Last week I taught in part the Doctrine of the Temple and when the clock tolled 11:30 we were in the process of studying Solomon's Temple.

2. I want to review some of that learned last week and then begin new material on page three.

3. The Tabernacle was not a Temple though it served the purpose of what would later be known as The Temple. The Tabernacle was a large tent constructed to strict specifications given by God to Moses.

3.1 It served as a mobile structure which was carried during the travels of the Exodus.

4. Following the Tabernacle would be five Temples.

The Temple of Solomon

The Temple of Zerubbabel

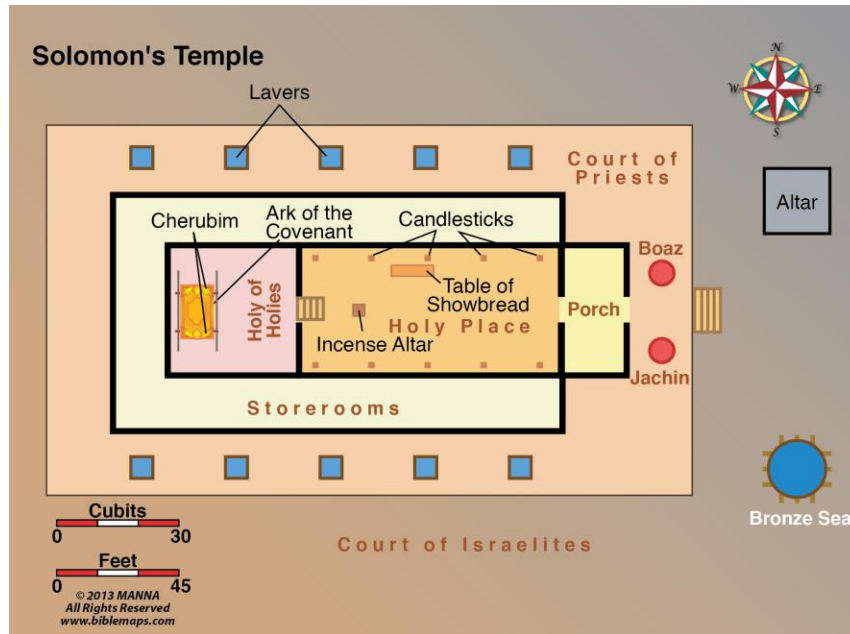
The Temple of Herod the Great

The Temple for Christ during His reign in the Millennium

The Temple of God in the Church Age as the home of the believer's soul.
2Co 6:16

Historical Summary

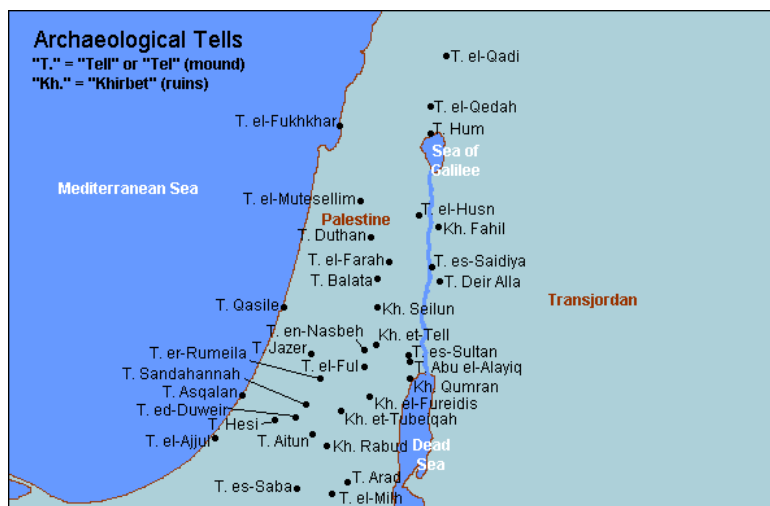
1. Let's look at the ultimate Hekal, the Hebrew word generally translated temple.



2. The word Hekal was sometimes used in error of heathen temples. Joel 3:5

As contrasted to the open-air "high place," the pagan temples were considered as "houses" or dwelling places of various "deities," and only secondarily, as places of worship.

The Ra Shamra Tablets found at Ugarit documented their horrific practices. Ugarit was an ancient city which has been discovered and thoroughly analyzed by archeologists. Ugarit was located under the Tel Fukhkhar.



The Bible describes their heinous practices and prohibits them.

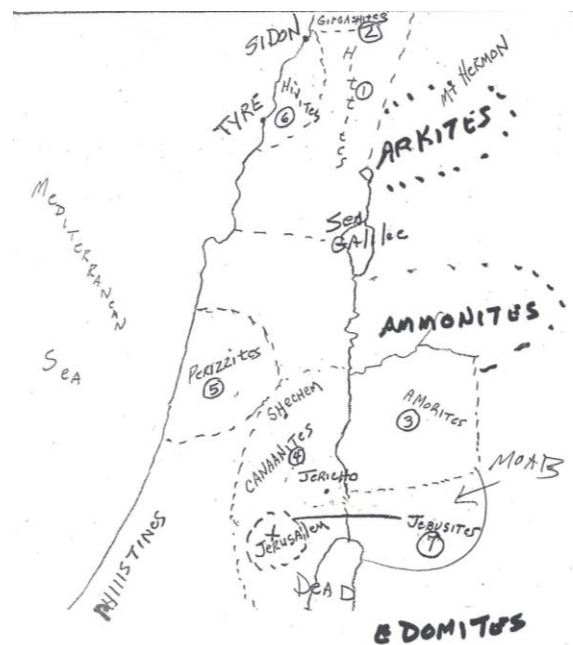
Lev 18:3 "After the doings of the land of Egypt, wherein ye dwelt, shall ye not do: and after the doings of the land of Canaan, whither I bring you, shall ye not do: ..."

Lev 18:21 "Do not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molech, for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.

Lev 18:22 "Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable."

God instructed Moses to alert the children of Israel to evil practices of the inhabitants of the land of Canaan and resist their worship rituals.

Given Israel would soon enter the land of Canaan, God inspired Moses to warn of the temptations they would encounter. In fact, the Bible ordered Israel to annihilate those in Canaan as a means of avoiding their religious contamination. The Ra Shamra Tablets and the Bible mention child sacrifice as a common practice in the groves where sexual perversion pervaded.



4. At several Israelite sites beginning with the divided monarchy several enclosed sanctuaries have been found. These sites were in the main facades located in the northern kingdom i.e., Israel.

4.1 Amos denounced the worship at Beer-sheba and Gilgal and compared it with the temples which Jeroboam I built at Dan and Bethel on the north and south borders of his kingdom. Amo 5:5

4.1.1 The walls forming an Israelite high place at Dan have been discovered but no temple building has yet been located at this distant site.

5. In the Greek there are two terms that mean "Temple."

5.1 The more general HIEROS, the place of the priest, which applies to the entire temple complex with all its courts and auxiliary buildings. The more specific is NAOS, "sanctuary, shrine," the chief Temple building itself.

6. Solomon's Temple

6.1 The building was completed in 960 B.C., requiring a total of seven and a half years. 1Ki 6:1; 37-38

6.2 The origin of this house of worship is credited to David. In 1Chronicles chapter 28 God ordered David to replace the Tabernacle with a permanent building.

6.2.2 Although David was forbidden to build this house because he was a warrior and had shed blood, he purchased much of the material to be used in its construction. 1Ch 28:3-4; 2Sa 24:21

6.2.3 David committed the task to his son Solomon. 1Ch 22:6

6.3 The plan of this edifice was similar to that of the Tabernacle; but the dimensions were doubled, with the height tripled that of the former sanctuary.

6.4 The stone walls were lined with carved cedar which was overlaid with gold.

1Ki 6:22 And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house: also the whole altar that was by the oracle he overlaid with gold.

6.4.1 The ceilings and even the floor were covered with gold. The partition separating the holy of holies from the holy place apparently was also gold covered.

1Ki 6:16 He partitioned off twenty cubits at the rear of the temple with cedar boards from floor to ceiling to form within the temple an inner sanctuary, the Most Holy Place.

1Ki 6:20 The inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty wide and twenty high. He overlaid the inside with pure gold, and he also overlaid the altar of cedar.

6.4.2 The entrance to the holy of holies consisted of a double door of olive wood with carvings and overlaid with gold.

1Ki 6:30 And the floor of the house he overlaid with gold, within and without.

1 Ki 6:31 For the entrance of the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood with five-sided jambs.

6.4.3 This doorway stood open, but was veiled with material similar to that in the Tabernacle, evidently held in place by gold chains in front of the partition.

6.5 In the Holy of Holies or inner sanctuary was placed the ark of the covenant, its top or lid being called the mercy seat.

6.5.1 It stood between two cherubim which were ten cubits high, being made of olive wood covered with gold.

6.5.2 It is believed that these appeared as winged sphinxes, with a lion's body and human face. The wings of the cherubim were outstretched and touched each other over the ark. 1Ki 6:23-26; 2Ch 3:10-13

6.5.3 In the Holy of Holies God especially manifested His presence by His Shekinah Glory.

6.6 In the Holy Place were the altar of incense, ten golden lamp stands with seven lamps to each stand and ten tables for the show bread.

6.7 When Jerusalem was destroyed by Babylon in 586 B.C., Solomon's Temple was plundered of its wealth, and the building was burned to the ground.

2Ki 25:9 And he burnt the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

6.8 Periodic plundering had occurred earlier, however, e.g., in the days of Shishak's invasion, c. 925.

1Ki 14:25 And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem:

1Ki 14:26 And he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he even took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

7. Herod's Temple

7.1 Herod the Great “built” the Temple in Jerusalem to appease the Jews. The building took 46 years.

Joh 2:20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?

7.2 The Temple was smaller than the Temple of Solomon but enlarged over the Temple constructed by Zerubbabel.

7.2.1 Zerubbabel's Temple has little Scripture describing it however we do know it was small and did disappoint the people. Hag 2:1-7.

Hag 2:1 On the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai:

Hag 2:2 "Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them,

Hag 2:3 'Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?

Hag 2:4 But now be strong, O Zerubbabel,' declares the LORD. 'Be strong, O Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the LORD, 'and work. For I am with you,' declares the LORD Almighty.

Hag 2:5 This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.'

Hag 2:6 "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land.

Hag 2:7 I will shake all nations, and the desired of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD Almighty.

7.3 The Temple of Herod in contrast was said to have been a magnificent structure built of beautiful stones.

Mat 24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

Mar 13:1 And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!

7.3.1 There was a Beautiful Gate located on the east side leading onto Solomon's Porch.

Acts 3:10 And they knew that it was he (*lame man*) which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

7.4 The Temple had on the east side near the city gate leading to the Mount of Olives a porch designated Solomon's Porch.

Joh 10:23 And Jesus walked in the Temple in Solomon's porch.

Acts 3:11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

Acts 5:12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch).

7.5 This Temple was the place where great wealth was accumulated.

Mar 12:41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.

7.6 It is here that Zacharias, the officiating priest received a promise of a son.

Luk 1:11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

Luk 1:13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

Luk 1:57 Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son.

7.7 Jesus was brought to Herod's Temple according to the law and Simeon blessed the infant.

Luk 2:21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

Luk 2:22 When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

Luk 2:23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"),

Luk 2:24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

Luk 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

Luk 2:26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Luk 2:27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,

Luk 2:28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

Luk 2:29 "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace.

Luk 2:30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,

7.8 Anna, the prophetess, dwelled in this Temple.

Luk 2:37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

7.9 Jesus as a youth was found in this Temple learning the Word.

Luk 2:46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

7.10 Jesus was taken to the pinnacle of this Temple during his temptation.

Mat 4:5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

7.11 Jesus often taught in the Temple.

Mar 14:49 I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled.

7.12 Jesus performed miracles in this Temple and it was here that He cast out the money exchangers.

Mat 21:14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

Mat 21:12 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

7.13 The Temple of Herod had its own police force.

Acts 4:1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

7.14 Judas casts down the pieces of silver in Herod's Temple.

Mat 27:3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

7.15 The curtain of this Temple was torn at the time of the crucifixion.

Mat 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

7.16 The disciples worshipped in the Temple of Herod after the resurrection.

Luk 24:52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

Luk 24:53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

7.17 Peter heals the lame man at the gate of the Temple.

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour ...

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