

The Kings and I

Lesson 5: The Kingdom's Centerpiece I Kings 5-9

TEACHING NOTES

Introduction to Kings

- ❖ **Christotelic Reading of Bible – Reading with Christ as the Goal**
 -
 - **NT Use of OT - Some (rough) statistics** (according to UBS NT)
 - There are 265 separate OT passages cited in the NT
 - The OT is cited 355x in the NT
 - Non-annotated NIV is about 150pp, or over 2 citations/page
 - We're not even talking about allusions (e.g., Hebrews, Revelation)

 - **OT about Christ**
 - Road to Emmaus / Appear to Disciples– Luke 24:25-27; 44-46
 - Beginning with Moses and all the prophets he interpreted to them in all scriptures the things concerning himself
 - Everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled ... then opened their mind to understand the Scriptures
 - Jesus uses tons of OT references and inferences
 - All of NT reflects OT in ways related to Christ

 - **Seeing Christ in the OT**
 - It is not “how do I get Jesus in there” – but “how do I let Him out”
 - Not “where's Waldo” on every page
 - Is read novel – now know the end, so go back and reread it
 - Need first and second read – first as written, second knowing Christ is ending

 - **Inter-relation Between Christ and OT**
 - OT sets us up for Christ / Christ Fulfills OT
 - OT Helps us understand Christ
 - Christ helps us understand OT

 - **Some Ways to See Christ in OT**
 - Redemptive-Historical Progression
 - Promise-Fulfillment
 - Typology
 - Analogy
 - Longitudinal Themes
 - NT References
 - Contrast

- **Comments**
 - **“If the Old Testament indeed witnesses to Christ, then we are faithful preachers only when we do justice to this dimension in our interpretation and preaching of the Old Testament”** - Sidney Greidanus
 - **“How can Christian pastors hope to feed their flock on a well-balanced spiritual diet if they completely neglect the 39 books of Holy Scripture on which Christ and all the New Testament authors received their own spiritual nourishment?”** - Sidney Greidanus
 - **“unable to preach Christ and him crucified, we preach humanity and it improved”** – William Willamon

- *Today we will look extensively at the Temple – working hard to read Christotelicly*

❖ **Quick Review / Today:**

- I Kings 1 – David crowns Solomon king
- I Kings 2 – David passes Kingdom, Promises, Blessings and Instructions onto Solomon
- I Kings 3 – Solomon asks for Wisdom
- I Kings 4-5 – Solomon’s Administration
- I Kings 6-8 – the Temple
- I Kings 9 – God’s Confirmation
- I Kings 10a – the Coming of the Queen of Sheba

❖ **Solomon’s Administration (I Kings 4-5) {should have covered in lesson 3}**

- **Solomon Organizes the Kingdom**
 - *Sets up officials*
 - *Sets up yearly rotations for food, etc*
 - *Ch 5 – sets up system of slavery and forced labor to provide for building projects, organizes great buildings and infrastructure*
 - *Negotiates with foreign kings to get supplies for great buildings*

- **God Grants Wealth**
 - *4:20 – Judah and Israel were as many as the sand by the sea, they ate, drank and were happy*
 - *Fulfill parts of Abrahamic and Mosaic promises!*
 - *4:21 – Solomon rules over all kingdoms from Euphrates to Philistines to border of Egypt – they brought tribute and served Solomon all his life*
 - *notice tribute, later forced labor – as Samuel had predicted*

- **God Grants Wisdom**
 - *4:29 – God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so Solomon’s wisdom surpassed all the peoples of the East and with wisdom of Egypt!*
 - *4:30 – For he was wiser than all other men – (then it names a bunch!)*

❖ **Solomon Builds the Lord's Temple** (I Kings 5-7)

- **Preparations for Building Temple**
 - Hiram, King of Tyre send Cedar of Lebanon
 - Solomon institutes a draft of God's people – 30,000 men, 1 of 3 months
 - Solomon also had 70,000 burden-bearers, 80,000 stonecutters...
- **Building of the Temple**
 - Solomon expanded Jerusalem to include Mt Moriah, where Temple and Palace built – renamed entire area Zion (not just where David had Ark)
 - Built on Threshing Floor of Araunah, bought by David (2 Sam. 24:24)
 - Temple Mount is now where Islam's "Dome of the Rock" mosque resides
 - Same layout as Tabernacle, but twice the size
 - Built over 7 years
 - Finest materials on earth
 - Remarkable craftsmanship, artistry (Tyler story)
- **Building of the Palace**
 - Built over 13 years
 - Even bigger than the Temple
- **Furnishing the Temple**
 - Got best craftsmen in world in bronze and other costly materials
 - Engineering feats – giant sea of bronze
 - 5 meters in diameter, 2 meters in depth
 - could hold over 10,000 gallons of water
 - To supply 10 other basins used by priests

❖ *A Look Inside the Temple*

Excerpts from video tours of the Tabernacle and Temple

❖ **Solomon Dedicates the Temple** (I Kings 8)

- **Note on Timing:**
 - Temple completed in 8th month, Dedication in 7th, almost year later
 - Waited for the most holy month:
 - Rosh Hashanah – New Year
 - Yom Kippur – the Day of Atonement
 - Sukkoth – the Festival of Tabernacles
 - Extended festival to God – dedication and feast 1 week beyond normal Tabernacles

- **The Ark Brought In**
 - Assembles Elders, Heads of each Tribe, Leaders of the fathers houses, all men of Israel
 - Priests brought Ark from Jerusalem – to Holy of Holies, beneath Cherubim
 - Nothing in Ark except the Tablets of Moses
 - **Read I Kings 8:10-11**
 - Cloud fills the house of God – priests could not stand
 - Glory of Lord fill house (just like Tabernacle)

- **Blessing the Lord**
 - **Read I Kings 8:12-13**
 - Lord dwell in thick darkness
 - I built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell forever!
 - **Read I Kings 8:15 ; summary 16-19 ; Read 20-21**
 - Blessed be God – fulfilled promise to David
 - Rescued people from Egypt, but no place for name
 - Chose David, who wanted to build house for God's name
 - God said David would not build, son would
 - Lord fulfilled promise
 - I built place for Ark with covenant of the Lord

- **Prayer of Dedication**
 - Approach to God
 - Stood before altar, hand outstretched toward heaven
 - Ended up on knees – hands still outstretched to heaven
 - Recites faithfulness of God, covenant to David
 - Listen to petitions prayed to this house night and day
 - Forgive - ***Temple place for sinners to find forgiveness***

 - Sevenfold Petition:
 - Conflict, requiring divine resolution
 - Military defeat, caused by national sin
 - Drought, caused by national sin
 - Natural disaster (famine, blight, pestilence, siege, sickness) due to sin
 - Foreign pilgrims, drawn to the great name of the Lord
 - Military campaigns on foreign soil
 - Exile and captivity, under divine judgment
 - V.46... - if they sin against you – for there is no one who does not sin - ...
 - Note on writing of Kings:
 - Kings written during exile
 - Spend more time here because people need this
 - They are being called on to pray to God in exile
 - Even though Temple gone, God is not!

- **Benediction**
 - **READ I Kings 8:54-61**
 - Blessed all assembly
 - Blessed be God – has kept all promises
 - He has given rest to his people
 - Pray he keep each whole-heartedly devoted to God
 - May God maintain his people, and bless all peoples of the earth
- **Sacrifice / Celebration**
 - Offer peace offering – 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep!
 - Also other offerings – so much that the altar too small for it all!
 - Read I Kings 8:66
 - On 8th day Solomon send away
 - Blessed King and left joyful and glad of heart!
- *Application ... see next few pages*

❖ **God Appears to Solomon (I Kings 9)**

- **God's Promise**
 - God comes and speaks a second time
 - **READ I Kings 9:3**
 - God hear prayer
 - Consecrated house – put name there forever
 - God's eyes and heart in Temple for all time
 - **READ I Kings 9:4-5**
 - If walk before God – as David – establish throne forever
- **God's Challenge**
 - **READ I Kings 9:6-9**
 - If not walk before God – you or people
 - Cast out Israel from the land
 - Cut off name from house
 - All people will see it and wonder
 - Know God has cut off people for not worship him
- **Other Acts of Solomon**
 - Chapter ends with Solomon giving away cities to get wood for building projects – and the King of Tyre not happy as cities are bad
 - Tells of Solomon's forced labor among Israelites
 - Also of ships and other things Solomon built

❖ Christotelic Reading of the Temple

○ 1st Reading

▪ Immediate Context

- House of God central to Israel – God central to Israel
- House of God for sacrifice, worship and prayer
- Glory of God's House
- God's House needs Him for true Glory...

▪ OT Redemptive-Historical Context

- Move from Tabernacle to Temple – mobile to permanent
- Move from Ark centered to Temple centered
 - Ark not mentioned again!
 - Will move from Temple centered to Jerusalem centered
- From Sacrifice centered to Prayer centered
- Presence of God
 - God walk with man in Eden, then God distant after fall
 - Then meet God on Mountains – key leaders
 - Then come among in Tabernacle – Priest, High Priest
 - Now set Name in Temple – All can pray, God see and hear, stretch out hand to you to answer
 - Will remove name from Temple, but will go with people into Exile, hear and deliver them
- Note on 1 & 2 Kings
 - See each of 7 scenarios Solomon said to pray to Temple
 - Kings do not pray to temple
 - Instead, some actually take precious metals to pay foreign kings for protection
 - Others set up idols in temple to pray to

○ **2nd Reading**

▪ **Christ Fulfill Temple Images / Practices**

- Sacrifice once for all
- Great High Priest
- Water, Light, Bread...
- Curtain Torn – entrance to God

▪ **Christ is the Temple**

- God indwell Him
- God's Name on Him – He speaks for God, He interceded, What done to him done to God
- Wright – “What Jews normally expect from the Temple – an encounter with the presence of God, festivity and food, forgiveness and cleansing, instruction in Torah – the disciples come to expect from Jesus himself”
- Leithart goes on to see the Body of Christ represented in the Temple, and to look at how so many of the Kings refuse to come to God
- Leithart concludes “Yahweh establishes a house at the center of Israel and stretches his arms out in invitation to a stubborn people, who refuse to turn to him and be healed. This too is Christologically significant, for when the human temple appears. The Jews refuse to turn toward him as well. The story of 1-2 Kings is the story of a rejected temple, a rejected and suffering Messiah and mediator, a temple destroyed but destined to be raised again on the third day. A temple Christology thus works out in a narrative of cross and empty tomb”

▪ **NT Redemptive-Historical Context**

- God's Presence move from Eden to Mountains to Ark to Temple to Jerusalem to Christ to Us!
- God walk with man, then send high priest to ark, then all priests to temple, then assembly of the people, then court of gentiles, then all who will come to Jesus, now who hear gospel, then some from every nation and tribe before the father

- **Application to Us (prayer and worship in Christ)**
 - From OT reading
 - Need of God at center
 - Need for Holy Space
 - Pray to God in Need
 - Also, promises of a greater temple
 - From fuller reading
 - God has placed Son at Center
 - John 4:23 – No longer worship on mountain or temple, worship him!
 - What is the purpose of the original temple, and of Christ as temple?
 - Place of Sacrifice for the Forgiveness of Sin
 - Place of Worship of God
 - Place for God’s Name – to pray to in blessing and curse, to look to when in sin
 - God’s Holy space is in me (and all his people)
 - Three uses of Temple in NT
 - Individual Believers – I Cor. 6:19-20
 - Local Congregations – I Cor. 3:16
 - Universal Church – Eph. 2:19-20
 - Do you value these three temples, see them as holy, as people here did?
 - I Can enter God’s presence in Son to seek in need, with full assurance...
 - Temple / Church not for perfect, but sinners!
 - Do you come confessing sin, looking to Christ for forgiveness, and worshiping the faithful and true God?
 - And so much more...

Look for Christ's Fulfillment of the Story of Solomon

- ❖ **Solomon A (Wise King) – Type of Christ**

- ❖ **Solomon B (Corrupted) – Type of Us**

- ❖ **Wisdom**

- ❖ **Temple**

- ❖ **Intercessor for Those Who Turn Away**

- ❖ **Queen of Sheba**

- ❖ **Jesus' Own Application!**
 - **Solomon's Temple / Colonnade: John 10:23 (also Acts 3:11; 5:12; 7:47)**
 - **Jesus' own Genealogy – Matt. 1:6-7**
 - **Do not Worry – Matt. 6:29; Luke 12:27**
 - **Queen of Sheba judge you – Matt. 12:42; Luke 11:31**

Next Class:

- ❖ **I Kings 10 - 16 – Solomon's mid-life crisis and the dividing of the kingdom**