

33 - History of the Temple

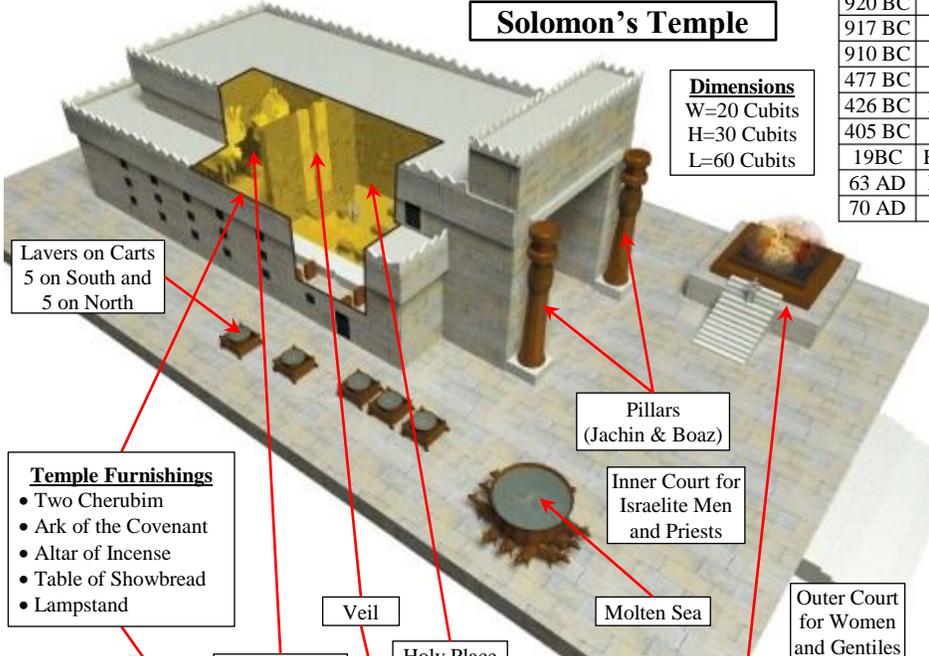


There were three versions of the temple that were built over a period of almost 1,000 years. David desired to build the first temple but was forbidden by God because he had shed too much blood (**1st Chronicles 22:7-10**). Instead, David gathered materials that would be used by his son Solomon to build the temple. David was also given the temple plans by the Holy Spirit (**1st Chronicles 28:11-12**). Solomon began building the 1st temple in 917 BC and it was completed and dedicated seven years later in 910 BC. In 477 BC the temple was pillaged and destroyed by the Babylonians. In 426 BC, Cyrus issued a decree to rebuild the temple and gave Zerubbabel authority to oversee this undertaking. The 2nd temple was completed and dedicated in 405 BC. In 19 BC, Herod desired to enlarge and enhance the temple for various reasons. The "3rd" temple was completed in 63 AD only to be destroyed seven years later by the Romans in 70 AD.

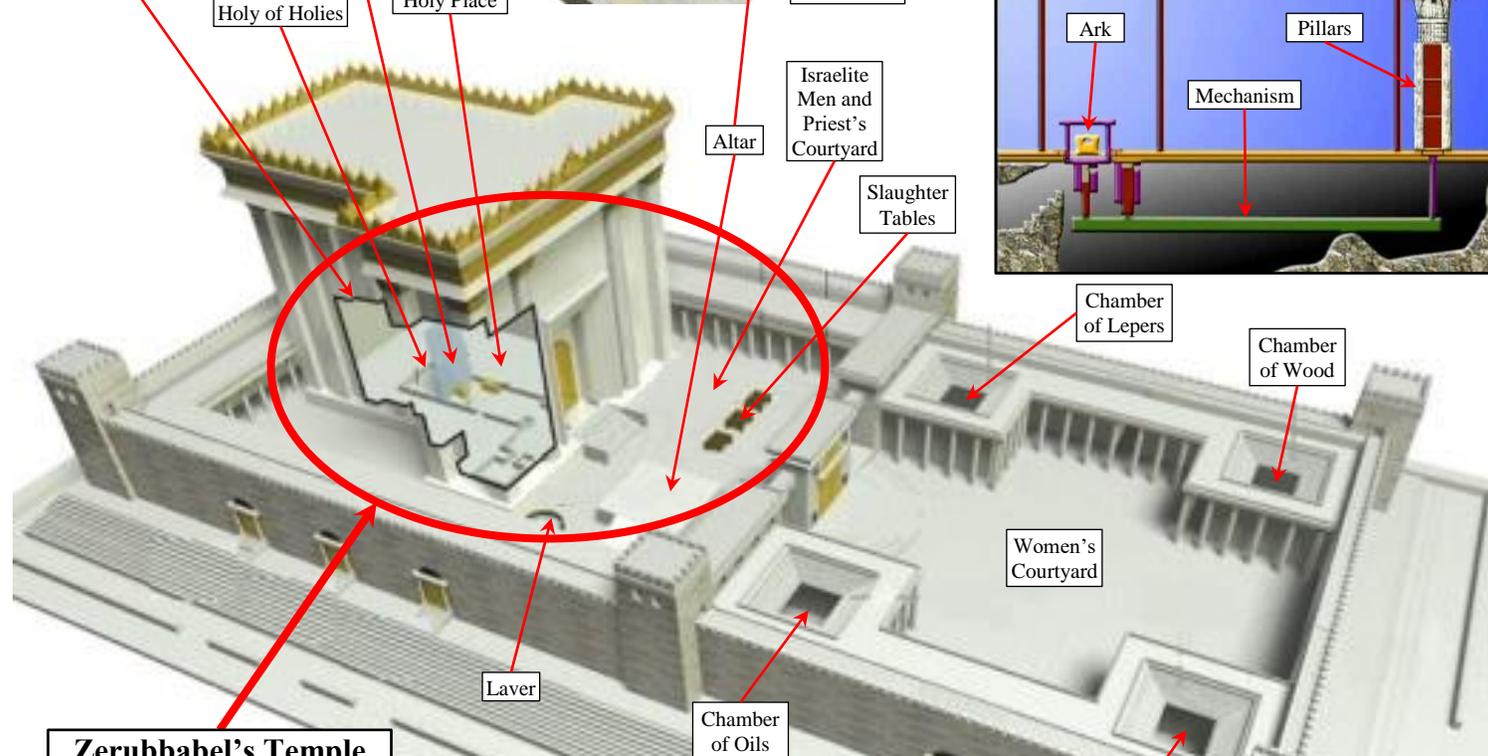
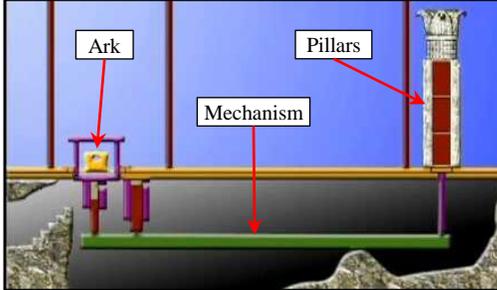
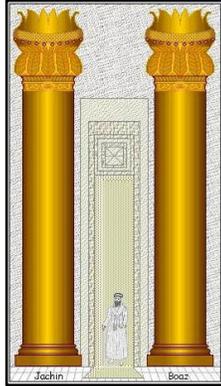
Solomon's Temple

920 BC	David gathered materials	1 st Chronicles (17,18,22,28,29)
917 BC	1 st Temple (Solomon's) Built	2 nd Chronicles (2,3,4)
910 BC	1 st Temple Dedicated	2 nd Chronicles (5)
477 BC	1 st Temple Destroyed	2 nd Chronicles (36:6-21)
426 BC	Zerubbabel Started 2 nd Temple	Ezra (1,3,4,5,6)
405 BC	2 nd Temple Dedicated	Ezra (6:15-22)
19BC	Herod Began Enlarging Temple	Extra-Biblical Sources
63 AD	Herod's "3 rd " Temple Finished	Extra-Biblical Sources
70 AD	Romans Destroyed 3 rd Temple	Extra-Biblical Sources

Dimensions
W=20 Cubits
H=30 Cubits
L=60 Cubits



Jachin & Boaz
Pillars were cast by Hiram of Tyre in bronze and were hollow. They were 18 cubits high, had a 12 cubit circumference, and were capped by 5 cubit high capitals (**1st Kings 7:13-22**). When the Babylonians pillaged the temple, the capitals were only 3 cubits high (**2nd Kings 25:17**). It is believed by many that this was a mechanism used to hide the Ark so it couldn't be stolen. Also see **2nd Chronicles 3:15-17, 4:12-13** and **Jeremiah 52:20-23**.



Zerubbabel's Temple

Cyrus issued a decree to rebuild the temple and put Zerubbabel in charge. Zerubbabel rebuilt the temple in a form that was very close to the 1st temple built by Solomon. It included the temple building with its furnishings, the molten sea, the altar, the ten lavers and the courtyard. After rebuilding the foundation, the temple work was stopped for many years due to opposition. A second decree from Darius allowed the temple work to continue resulting in its completion.

Herod's Temple

Herod was not satisfied with the temple that was rebuilt by Zerubbabel so he took it upon himself to enlarge and enhance it greatly. Herod enlarged the temple building, added the walls and courtyards as well as many storage areas, meeting areas, and priest dwellings.