

1 KINGS 8:22-53 -- SOLOMON'S GREAT PRAYER OF DEDICATION!

The Biblical Setting:

- The temple and its furnishings have been completed. The Ark has been brought in. Solomon has made a speech regarding the promises of God to father, David, have been completed, and now Solomon stands before the people, spread out his hands toward heaven and gives his great Prayer of Dedication.

The Prayer of Dedication

- There are **four main parts** to Solomon dedication prayer.
- **Verses 22-26** pray for God to continue to fulfill the promise of 2 Samuel 7:5-16, when God made His Covenant with David—David would build a house for God; God would a house for David that would last forever!
- **Verses 27-30** are a prayer of consecration of the temple as a place of prayer.
- **Verses 31-51** contain seven circumstances that represent typical prayers that would be prayed in the temple.
- **Verses 52-53** conclude the prayer with the petition for God's continued attention to the temple and to Israel.
- The **person that prayed this prayer was great**. Solomon did not appoint one of the priests to do it, nor one of the prophets, **but did it himself, in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, 1Ki 8:22.**
- The **posture in which he prayed was very reverent, and expressive of humility, seriousness, and fervency** in prayer. **He stood before the altar of the Lord and spread out his hands toward heaven,** But when he addressed himself to prayer, **He kneeled down**, as appears, 1Ki 8:54.
- The **prayer itself was very long**. At the throne of grace we have liberty of speech, and should use our liberty. It is not making long prayers, **but making them for a pretense, that Christ condemns**. In this excellent prayer Solomon does as we should do in every prayer,

SUMMARY - 1 KINGS 8:22-53 -- SOLOMON'S GREAT PRAYER OF DEDICATION!

- A great and awesome prayer by Solomon, King of Israel on the occasion of the dedication of the temple.
- We should note the address of the prayer; the humility of Solomon in praying; the emphasis on praising God for His faithfulness in keeping His promises in the past and having faith of His keeping them in the future!
- Seven occasions or circumstances of Israel and the people in their future needs of calling on God; asking Him to hear their prayers; and to respond with forgiveness and mercy!
- The personal application for each of us as we are referred to Scripturally as having a body, which is the temple of God; the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in us! - cf. Co 3:16-17 *Do you not know that **you are the temple** of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? [17] If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, **which temple you are.** 1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?***

TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love. At the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing, always, only for my King. Always, only for my King.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages for me.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold. Not a mite would I withhold.

Take my love, my God, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee. Ever, only, all for Thee.

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee. Ever, only, all for Thee.

Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for Thee. Ever, only, all for Thee.