

## ***The Church of the Servant King***

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### **Prophecy Series**

#### **The Temple – A Brief Chronology**

##### *The Temple of Solomon*

- ✓ David was probably the first Jewish leader to articulate a desire to replace the Tabernacle with a more permanent edifice (1 Chron 28.12, 19).
- ✓ David's desire, in part at least, was driven by the fact that he had secured peace via the conquest of his enemies (2 Sam 7.1-13; 1 Chron 17.1-14; 28.1-19).
- ✓ He was forbidden to build the Temple because he had shed so much blood in the process of securing that peace (1 Chron 22.8)
- ✓ However, this did not prevent David from securing much of the material that would be needed to build the Temple.
- ✓ Solomon's reign was a reign of peace and prosperity in Israel (2 Sam 7.9-13; 1 Kin 5.3-4; 1 Chron 22.7-10)
- ✓ Solomon secured a treaty with Hiram, king of Tyre that allowed Solomon to obtain cedar and cypress wood and blocks of stone from Lebanon.
- ✓ In return, Solomon sent supplies of wheat, oil, and wine to Hiram.
- ✓ The site selected was Mt. Moriah and the area needed to house the Temple edifice was about 300 by 600 feet. This required the summit of the hill to be leveled and slightly enlarged by means of fill and retaining walls built on the sides.
- ✓ Solomon's Temple was completed in about 7 and ½ years (ca. 953 B.C.)
- ✓ Solomon's Temple was completely destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar's forces in 586 B.C.

##### *The Temple of Zerubbabel*

- ✓ There are few particulars regarding the nature of this Temple
- ✓ It was completed in 517 B.C. after several delays in construction
- ✓ According to Josephus and the Book of Ezra, this Temple was approximately a third larger than Solomon's Temple
- ✓ Nevertheless, the priests and Levites among the returning exiles complained about how much more grand Solomon's Temple was in comparison (Ezra 3.12)
- ✓ This must have been in reference to the fact that Zerubbabel's Temple lacked five things according to the Talmud that were found in Solomon's Temple: 1) the Ark; 2) the sacred fire; 3) the Shekinah glory of God evidencing His presence; 4) the Holy Spirit; and 5) the Urim and the Thummim.
- ✓ Zerubbabel's Temple was plundered by Antiochus Epiphanes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century B.C. who also defiled it with blasphemous and idolatrous symbols and worship.
- ✓ It was restored by Judas Maccabeus during the Maccabean revolt
- ✓ Later, it was captured by Pompey during a three month siege
- ✓ Finally, it was destroyed by Herod the Great (ca 37 B.C.) who later re-built a Temple in an act of appeasement to the Jews.

##### *Herod's Temple*

- ✓ Herod began construction of this Temple in about 20 or 21 B.C.
- ✓ The Temple proper in which the priests and the Levites were employed was finished in a year and a half
- ✓ The courts were completed in the course of eight years
- ✓ Adjacent buildings were gradually built over the course of the reigns of several of Herod the Great's successors so that the entire undertaking was not completed until about A.D. 64
- ✓ Six years later in A.D. 70, it was destroyed by the Romans

### *The Temple During the Future Tribulation*

- ✓ The book of Daniel hints that there will be a Temple (at least the Sanctuary or Holy of Holies) that will be in place during a portion of the Tribulation
- ✓ Daniel indicates that both Jerusalem and the “sanctuary” will be destroyed by “the prince who is to come” (Dan 9.26) – a reference many believe to the Anti-Christ
- ✓ The context of Daniel 9 .26 seems to indicate that this is associated with the middle of the Tribulation period.

### *Ezekiel's Temple – the Millennial Temple*

- ✓ Ezekiel was a prophet to the Jews during the Babylonian exile
- ✓ Ezekiel's vision was of the Temple to be constructed during the Kingdom era
- ✓ His prophecy in Ezekiel 40-43 influenced Herod in planning his Temple project