

**“A Flourishing Connection:  
Israel’s Temple, National’s Flower Ministry and the Garden of Eden”**

David Renwick February 21, 2015

**Genesis 2:8,9, 15**

2:8-9And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. . . .

*BUT then . . .*

**Genesis 3: 8, 17-19, 26**

<sup>8</sup> [Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

<sup>17</sup>And to the man [God] said, “Because you have . . . eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

3:26 He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the **cherubim**, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

**Revelation 22:1-5**

22Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the

leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; 4they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

**KING SOLOMON – approx. 950 BC**

**1 Kings 6**

2The house that King Solomon built for the Lord was **sixty cubits long (100 ft), twenty cubits wide (30 ft), and thirty cubits high (50 ft)**. 3The vestibule in front of the nave of the house was twenty cubits wide, across the width of the house. Its depth was ten cubits in front of the house. 4For the house he made **windows** with recessed frames. 5He also built a structure against the wall of the house, running around the walls of the house, both the nave and the inner sanctuary; and **he made side chambers all around**.

7The house was built with stone finished at the quarry, so that neither hammer nor ax nor any tool of iron was heard in the temple while it was being built.

11Now the word of the Lord came to Solomon,

***12“Concerning this house that you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, obey my ordinances, and keep all my commandments by walking in them, then I will establish my promise with you, which I made to your father David. 13I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.”***

14So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

18The cedar within the house had carvings of gourds and open flowers; all was cedar, no stone was seen. 19The inner sanctuary he prepared in the innermost part of the house, to set there the ark of the covenant of the Lord. 20The interior of the inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high; he overlaid it with pure gold.

He also overlaid the altar with cedar.

23In the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olivewood, each ten cubits high. 24Five cubits was the length of one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the length of the other wing of **the cherub**; it was ten cubits (16 ft) from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. 25The other **cherub** also measured ten cubits; **both cherubim** had the same measure and the same form. 26The height of one **cherub** was ten cubits, and so was that of the other **cherub**. 27He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; **the wings of the cherubim** were spread out so that a wing of one was touching the one wall, and a wing of the other **cherub** was touching the other wall; their other wings toward the center of the house were touching wing to wing. 28He also overlaid the **cherubim** with gold.

29He carved the walls of the house all around about with carved engravings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, in the inner and outer rooms. 30The floor of the house he overlaid with gold, in the inner and outer rooms. 31For the entrance to the inner sanctuary he made doors of olivewood; the lintel and the doorposts were five-sided. 32He covered the two doors of olivewood with carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers; he overlaid them with gold, and spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees.

35He carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, overlaying them with gold evenly applied upon the carved work.

36He built the inner court with three courses of dressed stone to one course of cedar beams.

37In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid, in the month of Ziv.

**38In the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished** in all its parts, and according to all its specifications. He was seven years in building it.

### 1 Kings 7:13-22 – THE ARTS

13Now King Solomon invited and received Hiram from Tyre. 14He was the son of a widow of the tribe of Naphtali, whose father, a man of Tyre, had been **an artisan in bronze; he was full of skill, intelligence, and knowledge in working bronze. He came to King Solomon, and did all his work.**

15He cast two pillars of bronze.

18He made the columns with two rows around each latticework to cover the *capitals that were above the pomegranates*; he did the same with the other capital.

19Now the capitals that were on the tops of the pillars in the vestibule were of lily-work, four cubits high. 20The capitals were on the two pillars and also above the rounded projection that was beside the latticework; there were two hundred pomegranates in rows all around; and so with the other capital.

21He set up the pillars at the vestibule of the temple; he set up the pillar on the south and called it Jachin; and he set up the pillar on the north and called it Boaz. 22On the tops of the pillars was lily-work. Thus the work of the pillars was finished.

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### 1 Corinthians 3.16

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

### 1 Corinthians 6.19

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?

### Galatians 5:22-23

<sup>22</sup>By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

## THE TEMPLE OF SOLOMON

