



Sermon Study Guide

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Desiring the Kingdom: A Temple for the Living God

1 Kings 5-7

Key verse: *..if you will walk in my statutes and obey my rules and keep all my commandments and walk in them, then I will establish my word with you... 1 Kings 6:12 (ESV).* Key idea: The Temple was a place for people to get a glimpse of Heaven and a picture of who we become in Christ.

Read through 1 Kings 5-7. We also recommend watching Sunday's sermon again on the White Fields website, YouTube channel, or Facebook page. Pause the video, reflect on, and discuss areas that challenge you or speak to you in a significant way.

There are three key elements in these passages: The Temple is: 1) A Place for People, 2) A Glimpse of Heaven, 3) A Picture of Who We Become in Christ.

1. Pastor Nick stated that we sometimes get so busy doing things that we forget the purpose of what we were doing in the first place. His story of the Church of God Grill illustrated this problem. How is this problem reflected in today's church? How is this problem reflected in our lives?

2. There are many beautiful cathedrals in the world today (think Notre Dame or the Sagrada Familia) that were built as a monument to God. Do you believe these buildings are pleasing to God? If so, in what way?

3. Read Hebrews 9:11-14 aloud. What does this passage tell us about how Jesus compares to the tabernacle/temple which was built to bring people into the presence of God and to allow atonement for sin?

4. In 1 Kings 7 we see that Solomon brought the first and best materials in to build the temple. Describe the benefits we receive by giving our first and best to God. Do you agree with what Pastor Nick said that "giving, rather than receiving, leads to greater happiness"? Why or why not?

5. Read John 4:21-23 and Ephesians 2:19-22 aloud. Discuss how these two passages relate to each other and how the temple was a foreshadowing of Jesus.

Pray that God will bless our new building and use it for the gathering of His people. Pray for our pastors, our church, and our community.