

Solomon Dedicates the Temple

1 Kings 8

Group ¹	C	V	Description	
The Ark Brought Into the Temple	8	1-11	All Israel is gathered as the Ark is brought into the temple and the glory of the LORD filled the temple in the form of a cloud	
Solomon Addresses the People		12-13	Solomon's response	
The Prayer of Dedication		14-21	Solomon proclaims God's fulfilled promises regarding the temple and His people	
		22-26	Solomon asks God to fulfill and confirm His word to David	
		27-30	... that prayers will be heard	
		31-32	... when someone sins and makes an oath	
		33-34	... when Israel is defeated in battle	
		35-36	... when there are times of drought	
		37-40	... when there are times of famine or distress	
		41-43	... when a foreigner comes to pray and worship	
		44-45	... when the Israelites go out to battle	
		46-53	... when the nation sins against God and they are taken captive	
Solomon's Benediction		54-55	Solomon blesses the assembly	
Dedicatory Sacrifices		56-61	Solomon's blessing	
		62-64	Solomon provisions for the sacrifices of the peace offerings	
		65-66	The celebration lasted 14 days but Solomon dismissed the people after 8 days and the people returned to their tents "joyful and glad of heart"	

Solomon's prayer of dedication is one that should be read often by anyone who is in a leadership position. In it he asks God to hear the prayers of His people and of foreigners who would seek to worship Him in a variety of different situations. There is no need for much explanation with regard to the prayer. It pretty much speak for itself.

Two things to me noted. First, the glory of the LORD filled the temple when the Ark is placed in the Most Holy Place. In fact the cloud is so thick that the priests could no longer minister in the temple and perform their duties.

Second, we should take note of Solomon's blessing to the people as well. In it he reiterates his desire for God to keep His part of the covenant and that the people also keep their part. Additionally, he prays that God would incline their hearts to Himself and that the people would be wholly devoted to the Lord. A truer blessing could not be said over a gathering of God's people.

1 Kings 8:56-61 NASB

56 "Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised; not one word has failed of all His good promise, which He promised through Moses His servant.

57 "May the LORD our God be with us, as He was with our fathers; may He not leave us

1 (NASB) "Group" column from the headings in the NASB text.

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- or forsake us, **58** that He may incline our hearts to Himself, to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His ordinances, which He commanded our fathers.
- 59** "And may these words of mine, with which I have made supplication before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, that He may maintain the cause of His servant and the cause of His people Israel, as each day requires, **60** so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no one else.
- 61** "Let your heart therefore be wholly devoted to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day."

Key Words: Old Testament, History, 1 Kings, Solomon, Temple, Ark of the Covenant, Glory of the Lord, Cloud, Prayer



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Bibliography

(NASB) *New American Standard Bible*. La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation, 1995. Print.