



BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS INC.

www.bibleradio.org.au

BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1521 ~ Solomon's Temple Dedicated.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Four hundred and eighty years after Moses had led the people of Israel out of Egypt, the nation was now at peace and the building of the Lord's Temple had started. The Temple was a beautiful and elaborately finished building made to the exact plan given by God to Moses for the Tent of the Tabernacle, only twice as large. God gave these plans again to David.

No expense was spared, for the Temple was the Lord's. No other building could be compared to it. The foundations were built with dressed stone and trimmed cedar planks that acted as shock absorbers, protecting the building against many earthquakes within that region. Solomon had so many things made out of bronze that the weight of all the bronze could not be worked out. The inside of the Temple was overlaid with pure gold and many utensils needed for worship ceremonies were also made out of gold.

At completion, it had taken 7 years to build. God spoke to Solomon and promised him that if Solomon walked in God's ways, God would fulfil to him all the promises He had made to his father David.

Solomon also built other buildings close by. When all was ready, Solomon called the leaders of Israel together for the Temple dedication ceremony. This was followed by a feast and then seven days of celebration for the Feast of Tabernacles. During this feast, the people live in temporary shelters outside of their homes and hang up harvest food to remind themselves that God has faithfully provided for them.

At the Temple's dedication, all the people worshiped God. The prayer Solomon dedicated to God during the ceremony is listed in 1 Kings, Chapter 8, and is still an encouragement to believers in this era now. When the people had finished the celebrations and returned to their homes, God spoke to Solomon in response to his prayer of dedication in the Temple. In the Bible book of 1 Kings, Chapter 9, God said this warning to Solomon: "If you or your descendants stop following me, disobey the laws and commands I have given you and worship other gods, then I will remove my people Israel from the land that I have given them. I will also abandon this Temple which I have consecrated as the place where I am to be worshiped."

God said if that should happen, this new and glorious Temple would become a pile of ruins. God would rather destroy His holy Temple than permit His people to pollute it with their sin.

Have you ever visited the ruins of some great building? When first built, it would have been magnificent but with time, everything starts to decay. Whether it is some old ship on the seashore or a deserted farmhouse in the bush, the sun, wind and rain combine to deteriorate all man-made structures. We need to be persistent in maintaining our homes or they will fall down into disrepair. We also need to be persistent in maintaining our relationship with our Creator God. If we are not moving forward with Him in faith, we are backsliding away in unbelief. There is no point where we can stand still.

At the entrance of the Temple, two tall pillars carried the weight of the roof. They each had a name that meant "He will establish" and "In Him is strength." God provides stability and strength for His people because they worship Him. The pillars in God's spiritual temple today, that is the church, are the dedicated people who serve Him devotedly.

King Solomon said wisdom is better than wealth. But how many today would rather have money? Many people measure life by price, not godly values. However, the Bible says that if you want silver and gold, you will have to work for it. If you want wisdom, you will have to work for that too, by taking time to read, meditate, pray and put truth into practice. The silver and gold you earn in this world cannot be taken with you when you die and your soul leaves this earth. It is far better to seek God's wisdom for this will last forever. The most important part of our lives is the inner part that only God sees. It is no use pretending that you are a Christian when you're not because God knows intimately those who are trusting in Him and those who aren't. Be careful! Are we more concerned about developing a right and pure relationship with God, as led by His Holy Spirit, or are we instead, seeking a good reputation and approval among our fellow people here on earth now?

When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, God's presence among them was shown by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. During the Temple dedication ceremony, after the Ark of God had been rightfully put in its holy place and the music makers were praising God, the Temple became filled with a cloud of God's glory. Everyone present there knew that God was with them and that He was pleased with them.

Since the time of the Lord Jesus Christ's suffering and shame on a cross to pay for the sins of the world, God's presence is no longer revealed by pillars of clouds. When the Lord Jesus arose from death and 40 days later, returned to heaven, He sent the promised Holy Spirit to dwell in all who dedicate themselves to Him. This indwelling of the Holy Spirit gives each humble, trusting person the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The New Testament book of Galatians, Chapter 5, says the fruit are: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control." All these fruit are complete together. If you happen to wonder whether or not someone is really a Christian, look for these character traits of a Spirit-controlled life. Is this person self serving or self giving? If we ourselves claim to be Christians, we also need to ask: are we self-serving or self-giving before God and others?

A young man was studying a preaching course. While away on holidays, he went with friends to a small church. The preacher for that service must have been at least 80 years old. The student found fault with the preacher's address and ticked off every mistake he considered the old man had made during his sermon. It seemed to last for a long time. When the service was over, the student turned to the lady next to him to say something critical. He stopped himself when he saw tears running down her cheeks. She whispered, "He said exactly what I needed to hear." Although the student was judging, the woman had a need that the Holy Spirit responded to through this old man.

Although we must always give our best effort in ministry, we must never forget that the Holy Spirit can work through even the most imperfect person. Pray that the Holy Spirit will use you to reach out to those around you with the Good News of salvation by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. May the fruit of the Spirit be evident in our lives as this indicates God is with us. He is always holy as He dwells in the fragile temples of our earthly bodies.

MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

That was Lenny LeBlanc singing "In Everything give Thanks."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

< END OF SCRIPT >
