

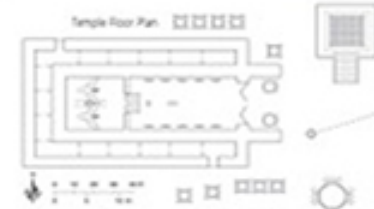
# SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

A structure was built around the walls of the temple containing three levels. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (2.7 m) wide and the upper chamber was 15.5 feet (4.7 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5-6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31-32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).

The vestibule was 10 feet (3.1 m) wide and 15 feet (4.6 m) deep (1 Kings 6:3, 7; 2 Chron 3:4).



The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "Jachin" (1 Kings 7:21; 2 Chron 3:17).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:35-36).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (2 Chron 4:1).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1-m) cube (1 Kings 6:15-20; 2 Chron 3:8-10). Such rooms were often situated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim were on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15 feet (4.6 m) wingspan (1 Kings 6:23-26). The ark of the covenant was between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1-11; 2 Chron 5:2-14).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18.3 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17-18; 2 Chron 3:9-11). It contained the golden altar for burning the golden table for the bread of the Presence and ten golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48-49; 2 Chron 4:7).

Ten bronze wheeled stands and basins held water for rinsing off what was used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27-30; 2 Chron 4:6).

The "sea" was a ritual basin 13.5 feet (4.1 m) tall and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (46,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by twelve bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23-26; 2 Chron 4:2-5).

#### SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 968 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1, 2 Chron 3:1-2) and completed it seven years later in the fall of 960 or 959 B.C. (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27.4 m) long, 30 feet (9.1 m) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 m) high. It resided in the middle of a court with boundary walls.





ULAM

HODNA



Holy of Holies

