Interesting Facts About Solomon’s Temple

Israel’s first Temple
Israel had the Tabernacle for 400 years.
David wanted to build the Temple but was forbidden because he was a man of war. 1 Chronicles 22:8
David gave Solomon the architectural design for the temple. 1 Chronicles 28:11-12
David accumulated treasures and building materials for the building of the temple. 1 Chronicles 29:2-6

The cost of the temple in today’s money is estimated to equal 3 to 6 billion dollars.
Solomon began construction of the Temple 490 years after Israel came out of Egypt. 2 Chronicles 3:2
The temple was built of great stones, cedar beams and boards overlaid with gold. 1 Kings 6:14-22; 7:9-12
The construction took 7 years.

Dedication: 1 Kings 8:26-66; 2 Chronicles 7:4-11
- Solomon offered:
  • 220,000 oxen
  • 120,000 sheep
- A 14 day feast was held.

The temple was built by:
- 30,000 Israelites
- 150,000 Canaanites
- Phoenician artists
- Craftsmen from Tyre

The Temple faced east and was built after the general plan of the Tabernacle—but twice the size.
- 90 feet long
- 30 feet wide
- 45 feet high

The Temple itself:
- The Holy Place was 60’ long by 30’ wide.
- The Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies) was 30’ by 30’.
- The Most Holy Place was separated from he Holy Place by a veil.

Furniture in The Holy Place, 1 Kings 6:23-28
- Golden Altar of Incense
- 5 golden Candlesticks on the north side
- 5 golden Candlesticks on the south side
- 5 tables of showbread on the north side
- 5 tables of showbread on the south side

Furniture in the Most holy Place (Holy of Holies)
- The Ark of the Covenant

The Bronze Altar was 30’ square by 15’ high
The Brazen Laver (called a “sea”) was 15’ in diameter and 8’ deep, and sat on 12 bronze oxen