–Save This Page as a PDF–

# Solomon's Prayer
# First Kings 8:12-66 and Second Chronicles 6:1 to 7:10



Now that **ADONAI** had taken up residence in **His house** (**to see link click Bj – The Ark Brought to the Temple**), **Solomon** responds in **praise** and **prayer**. **His** words fall into three categories: (1) **Solomon's Blessing** (see **Bl**); **Solomon's Prayer of Dedication** (see **Bm**) and **Solomon's Intercession** (see **Bn**). The theme of **the Temple** as a house of thanksgiving and intercession clearly occupies a central place. These verses form a vital link between **Chronicles** two major words from **ADONAI**. Its foundation is **God's** covenant promise to build a house for **David (First Chronicles 17:10-14)**, and its development occurs in **God's** promise about **the Temple (Second Chronicles 7:12-22)**. It therefore shows how **prayer** plays a key role in the unfolding of **God's** will for us.[161]

The theme of **Solomon's prayer** is that as **God** has seen fit to honor **His** word up to that time, **He** will continue to do so, first of all in continuing the line of **David**, and second, in accepting the prayers of **His people** and in granting forgiveness. These **prayers** are seen as being directed to **God** through **the Temple**. **Solomon** prays, in effect, that **Ha'Shem** will always recognize **the Temple** as the way for humanity to approach a holy **God**.

At the conclusion of **Solomon's prayer, when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of ADONAI filled the house (Second Chronicles**

**7:-13).** This response on **God’s** part was an awe-inspiring and unmistakable confirmation of **YHVH’s** commitment to **the Temple** as **His** residence among **His people**. When **Solomon** had finished **his prayer** of dedication, **he** rejoiced together with all **Isra’el** as they celebrated **Sukkot**. **It** was in itself a grand occasion for rejoicing and for a grand spirit of community among all **Israelites**. The dedication of **the Temple** made the occasion all the more joyful and memorable, and the time of celebration was suitably extended. When **the people** left, **they** went home rejoicing and fully satisfied in **their** realization that **God’s** blessing was on **the king** and on **the nation** as a whole.[162]