

## Zion's King Shall Reign Victorious! - 27

We have seen that the covenant of God with David promised that his “seed”, who would also be the son of God, “SHALL BUILD A HOUSE FOR MY NAME...” - 2 Samuel 7:13, and that those who have believed the gospel and been baptized are members of that house -

•“You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” - 1 Peter 2:5.

•“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith” - Galatians 6:10.

But there is also a physical structure included in the work of David's promised “seed”, the Lord Jesus Christ, after his return from the right hand of the Father in heaven. This “house” will be the final in a series which began with the tabernacle (tent) in the wilderness, which God arranged through Moses to be placed in the centre of their encampment -

•“Let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. 9 According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it” - Exodus 25:8.

About 440 years after Joshua led Israel in the conquest of Canaan, Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem - 1 Kings 6:1. This was a preliminary fulfilment of God's promise that David's promised “seed” would “build a house for My name” - 2 Samuel 7:13, which would be the focal point of Israel's worship of God, as Solomon prayed,

•“May You hear the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel. When they pray toward this place, then hear in heaven Your dwelling place; and when You hear, forgive” - 1 Kings 8:30. About 430 years after this, the prophet Daniel so directed his prayers -

• “...Daniel..in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem... knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days” - Daniel 6:10.

God warned Solomon that the Temple would be destroyed if he or his descendants turned away from worshipping Him -

•“If you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and...go and serve other gods and worship them, 7 then...the house that I have consecrated for my name I will cast out of my sight...And this house will become a heap of ruins” - 1 Kings 9:6. This occurred when the king of Babylon overthrew king Zedekiah, afterward destroying Jerusalem and the temple. But the purpose of God continued to progress. It was necessary for the rebuilt temple to be present when God sent the promised “seed” of David -

•“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will SUDDENLY COME TO HIS TEMPLE; and the messenger of the covenant [of God with David] in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts” - Malachi 3:1. About 130 years afterwards, under the Persian empire, the temple was rebuilt -

•“THIS HOUSE was finished...in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king. for the service of God at Jerusalem, as it is written in the Book of Moses” - Ezra 6:15.