

2Chronicles 5:1 ¶ Thus all the work that Solomon made for the house of the LORD was finished: and Solomon brought in *all* the things that David his father had dedicated; and the silver, and the gold, and all the instruments, put he among the treasures of the house of God.

All the work involved in building the temple and making the various vessels required for its operation was finally completed. All the remaining valuables, including things dedicated by King David, were stored in the temple treasury.

We learned in 1Kings that this building project took seven years.

1 Kings 6:38 “And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.”

2Chronicles 5:2 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which *is* Zion.

2Chronicles 5:3 Wherefore all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto the king in the feast which *was* in the seventh month.

2Chronicles 5:4 And all the elders of Israel came; and the Levites took up the ark.

2Chronicles 5:5 And they brought up the ark, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that *were* in the tabernacle, these did the priests *and* the Levites bring up.

King Solomon then called an assembly of all the elders, heads of tribes and chiefs of the fathers of Israel to Jerusalem to celebrate the transfer of the ark of the covenant from Zion, the city of David, to the temple. This assembly took place in the feast of the seventh month, the Feast of Tabernacles, according to the Targum (as noted in the Treasury of Scripture Knowledge).

The Levites carried the ark to the temple as instructed by Moses, but they also brought the tabernacle of the congregation and all the holy vessels that were in it. This is the first time that I noticed that the tabernacle was stored in the temple.

2Chronicles 5:6 Also king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel that were assembled unto him before the ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

King Solomon and the whole congregation assembled there and then sacrificed more sheep and oxen than they could count.

2Chronicles 5:7 And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy *place*, even under the wings of the cherubims:

2Chronicles 5:8 For the cherubims spread forth *their* wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above.

2Chronicles 5:9 And they drew out the staves *of the ark*, that the ends of the staves were seen from the ark before the oracle; but they were not seen without. And there it is unto this day.

2Chronicles 5:10 *There was nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put therein at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of Egypt.*

The priests carried the ark to place it in its designated place in the Most Holy Place under the wings of the cherubim.

Verse 9 from the CJB: "The poles were so long that their ends could be seen [extending] from the ark into the sanctuary, but they could not be seen from outside; they are there to this day."

At this time only the two tables of the commandments placed there by Moses were in the ark. We are never told what happened to Aaron's rod or the pot of manna that were originally there as well.

Hebrews 9:4 "...and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant...."

2Chronicles 5:11 ¶ And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place: (for all the priests *that were* present were sanctified, *and did not then wait by course*:

2Chronicles 5:12 Also the Levites *which were* the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, *being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets*;))

2Chronicles 5:13 It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers *were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD;*

2Chronicles 5:14 So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

The priests finally came out of the temple. It is noted that all the priests had consecrated themselves that day since this was a special day for all. The Levite singers, including Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun and their sons and kinsmen were assembled at the east end of the altar. They were dressed in white linen and holding their instruments. They were accompanied by 120 priests that sounded the trumpets.

Knowing that the ark was now in place, these musicians began praising and thanking God. Their main message: "For *he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.*"

Then the house filled with a cloud, the cloud that declared God's presence among His people in the house that they had made to honor Him. The cloud was a sign of God's acceptance and pleasure. The cloud was so filled with the LORD's glory that the priests could not stand and minister before it. This is just as it was when the tabernacle was completed under the supervision of Moses.

Exodus 40:34–35 "Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."