

Ezek. 41:1 Afterward he brought me to the temple, and measured the posts, six cubits broad on the one side, and six cubits broad on the other side, *which was the breadth of the tabernacle.*

Ezek. 41:2 And the breadth of the door *was* ten cubits; and the sides of the door *were* five cubits on the one side, and five cubits on the other side: and he measured the length thereof, forty cubits: and the breadth, twenty cubits.

Now Ezekiel begins to relay the measurements of the temple proper. These posts would appear to be counterparts to the posts of the porch. Each post that flanked the doorway was 6 cubits wide. The doorway was 10 cubits wide and consisted of double doors each of which was 5 cubits wide. The sanctuary measured 20 cubits wide x 40 cubits long from the inside.

Ezek. 41:3 Then went he inward, and measured the post of the door, two cubits; and the door, six cubits; and the breadth of the door, seven cubits.

Ezek. 41:4 So he measured the length thereof, twenty cubits; and the breadth, twenty cubits, before the temple: and he said unto me, *This is the most holy place.*

Ezekiel is then taken to the Holy of Holies, which is a 20 cubit square. Point is made that the measuring angel entered the Holy of Holies; it would seem that Ezekiel waited in the outer sanctuary. The posts flanking the door to the most holy place were 2 cubits wide and the door measured 6 cubits wide; the doorframe was 7 cubits wide, which would indicate a half cubit frame around the door.

The NIV Commentary made note that the successively narrowing entryways drew one's focus to the Holy of Holies.

Ezek. 41:5 After he measured the wall of the house, six cubits; and the breadth of *every* side chamber, four cubits, round about the house on every side.

Ezek. 41:6 And the side chambers *were* three, one over another, and thirty in order; and they entered into the wall which *was* of the house for the side chambers round about, that they might have hold, but they had not hold in the wall of the house.

It would seem that the walls of the sanctuary were 6 cubits thick. Mr. Jablonowski's diagram indicates an additional 4 cubits were needed for the side chambers. This would make sense according to the last clause of verse 6. It would also seem that there were three stories of chambers and a total of 30 chambers. It would seem that the access to the chambers came from within the sanctuary walls.

Ezek. 41:7 And *there was* an enlarging, and a winding about still upward to the side chambers: for the winding about of the house went still upward round about the house: therefore the breadth of the house *was still* upward, and so increased *from the lowest chamber to the highest by the midst.*

This verse seems to be describing an ascending staircase in the middle of the sanctuary walls that possibly led to hallways at each level. Several translations indicate that the width of each level increased as you ascended.

Ezek. 41:8 I saw also the height of the house round about: the foundations of the side chambers *were* a full reed of six great cubits.

Ezek. 41:9 The thickness of the wall, which *was* for the side chamber without, *was* five cubits: and *that* which *was* left *was* the place of the side chambers that *were* within.

Ezek. 41:10 And between the chambers *was* the wideness of twenty cubits round about the house on every side.

Ezek. 41:11 And the doors of the side chambers *were* toward *the place that was* left, one door toward the north, and another door toward the south: and the breadth of the place that *was* left *was* five cubits round about.

Ezekiel next alludes to the height of the temple proper, and point is made that the measurements are of “great” cubits. (The regular cubit measured from elbow to wrist, and the greater cubit from elbow to end of middle finger—according to JFB.) This emphasis would indicate to me that unless specified otherwise measurements are according to the regular cubit. Several translations note that this height is in reference to a terrace or base upon which the chambers were supported.

There were 20 cubits between each chamber.

Ezek. 41:12 Now the building that *was* before the separate place at the end toward the west *was* seventy cubits broad; and the wall of the building *was* five cubits thick round about, and the length thereof ninety cubits.

This describes a separate building on the west side of the temple proper that was 70 cubits broad and 90 cubits long with walls that were 5 cubits thick. There seems to be no indication of the purpose of this structure.

Ezek. 41:13 So he measured the house, an hundred cubits long; and the separate place, and the building, with the walls thereof, an hundred cubits long;

Ezek. 41:14 Also the breadth of the face of the house, and of the separate place toward the east, an hundred cubits.

Ezek. 41:15 And he measured the length of the building over against the separate place which *was* behind it, and the galleries thereof on the one side and on the other side, an hundred cubits, with the inner temple, and the porches of the court;

Ezek. 41:16 The door posts, and the narrow windows, and the galleries round about on their three stories, over against the door, cieled with wood round about, and from the ground up to the windows, and the windows *were* covered;

Ezek. 41:17 To that above the door, even unto the inner house, and without, and by all the wall round about within and without, by measure.

This seems to be a summary of measurements of the temple and its adjacent structure on the west. Even though I can't pretend to truly comprehend it all, it stands out to me as significant that the Lord is very particular about giving us these details. I keep reminding myself that if He is that particular about the details of this physical structure that the details regarding the creation of each individual are very specific according to His purpose for us here on planet earth,

especially since the body of believers form a temple whose foundation is Jesus Christ.

1Cor. 3:9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye are God's building.*

1Cor. 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Cor. 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Ezek. 41:18 And *it was made with cherubims and palm trees, so that a palm tree was between a cherub and a cherub; and every cherub had two faces;*

Ezek. 41:19 So that the face of a man *was toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion toward the palm tree on the other side: it was made through all the house round about.*

Ezek. 41:20 From the ground unto above the door *were cherubims and palm trees made, and on the wall of the temple.*

Cherubim and palm trees are dominant in the décor around the temple. I think the cherubim are significant regarding their service in emphasizing the holiness of God. Although the cherubim had four faces, two faces were singled out for use as part of the temple décor—the lion and the man. This makes sense to me since it pointed to the ministry of Jesus who came as a man to redeem man and will culminate in victory as the King of kings. The temple declares the need for the sacrifice as well as serving as the throne of God's presence on earth among His chosen people in His chosen land.

In trying to find out the significance of the palm trees I came across an entry on Jericho, which was known as the city of palms and references "a place of fragrance." This would definitely apply to the temple as a place of offerings and sacrifices that produce a fragrant aroma before the Lord.

Ezek. 41:21 The posts of the temple *were squared, and the face of the sanctuary; the appearance of the one as the appearance of the other.*

Point is made that the posts of the temple are square.

I'm not sure what the next phrase means. JFB makes application regarding the outer sanctuary and the Holy of Holies. To me it is a statement of balance and symmetry in the structure. Scripture, and this section of Ezekiel in particular, emphasizes that God desires that things are structured and orderly.

1Cor. 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

Ezek. 41:22 The altar of wood *was three cubits high, and the length thereof two cubits; and the corners thereof, and the length thereof, and the walls thereof, were of wood: and he said unto me, This is the table that is before the LORD.* This altar of wood appears to be the only piece of furniture in this temple.

I found an article at www.templemount.org by Lambert Dolphin that pointed out some unique features of Ezekiel's temple with scriptural support for the difference.

No wall of partition to exclude Gentiles (compare Ephesians 2:14)
The Gentiles were previously welcome in the Outer Courts, but excluded from the inner courts on pain of death.

Eph. 2:14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

No Court of Women (compare Galatians 3:28 (Outer Court and Inner Court only)

Gal. 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

No Laver (see Ezekiel 36:24-27, John 15:3)

Ezek. 36:24-27 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

No Table of Shewbread (see Micah 5:4, John 6:35)

Mic. 5:4 And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

No Lampstand or Menorah (see Isaiah 49:6, John 8:12)

Is. 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

No Golden Altar of Incense (Zechariah 8:20-23, John 14:6)

Zech. 8:20-23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; *It shall yet come to pass*, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: And the inhabitants of one *city* shall go to another, saying, Let us go

speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also. Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days *it shall come to pass*, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard *that God is with you*.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

No Veil (Isaiah 25:6-8, Matthew 27:51)

Is. 25:6-8 And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

Matt. 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

No Ark of the Covenant (Jeremiah 3:16, John 10:30-33)

Jer. 3:16 And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the LORD: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit *it*; neither shall *that* be done any more.

John 10:30-33 I and *my* Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.

Major Changes to the Altar: The sacrificial Altar will be approached by a ramp from the East. Previous altars were all approached from the South. Now there will be stairs to the altar, not a ramp as previously. The top of the altar is now described by the Hebrew word "ariel" [Isaiah 29:1] meaning "hearth of God" or "lion of God." [Rev. 5:5].

Rev. 5:5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

Ezek. 41:23 And the temple and the sanctuary had two doors.

Ezek. 41:24 And the doors had two leaves *apiece*, two turning leaves; two *leaves* for the one door, and two leaves for the other *door*.

Ezek. 41:25 And *there were* made on them, on the doors of the temple, cherubims and palm trees, like as *were* made upon the walls; and *there were* thick planks upon the face of the porch without.

Ezek. 41:26 And *there were* narrow windows and palm trees on the one side and on the other side, on the sides of the porch, and *upon* the side chambers of the house, and thick planks.

Both the doors leading into the temple and the sanctuary consisted of double doors decorated with cherubim and palm trees. The outside porch was made of thick planks of wood. Reference is again made to the use of narrow windows and the side chambers as being well constructed and in symmetry with the whole design of the building.