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YouTube Prayer Link

God listen and forgive

In 1 Kings 8, King Solomon completed his mission to build a temple in Jerusalem. He gathered the elders of the nation, the heads of the tribes of Israel, to bring the ark of God to the newly built temple. They offered sacrifices in the temple, prayed to God, and celebrated this great occasion. When they left the temple, God appeared to Solomon and promised to bless him and the Israelites as long as they obeyed God's commandments and laws.

In the celebration that followed, King Solomon offered many oxen, sheep, and other sacrifices, and held a grand feast. During this time, he addressed the Israelites, emphasizing that they should keep God's commandments and maintain their relationship with God. He also called for national unity and prayed to God to bless the Israelites.

In addition, the chapter describes some of the details in the temple, such as the pillars, the sea of copper, and the making of various utensils. King Solomon's important position and trade relations at home and abroad are also mentioned.

If a person's attention is focused on temporal and spiritual honor, he will soon fall into the temptation of self-worship. Humility, devotion, and obedience were soon replaced by pride, ambition, and indulgence, and the gifts that were once used to honor God were used for selfish purposes and worldly ambitions, and who had so visibly exalted by God's divine grace, had now degenerated into a complete tyrant, and his country was torn apart immediately after his death. Following his example, the nation of Israel lost the secret of seeking peace and prosperity on earth, and a once-prosperous theocratic state was reduced to a corrupt and desolate ruin.

In this complex world, people are often tormented and struggling, and they yearn for a kind of liberation, a power to be released from the depths of their hearts. At this moment, they are seeking not just a worldly forgiveness, but a forgiveness from above.

In the vastness of the universe, there is an eternal being, a God who can hear people's calls and give forgiveness. No matter where people are, no matter what they go through, God's merciful hand is always reaching out to them, bringing comfort to the heart and the power of forgiveness.

God does not just dwell in heaven, but takes root in people's hearts and is with them. His love and mercy permeate the world, giving people the strength to face life's challenges while also giving them the confidence that even in the midst of mistakes and mistakes, forgiveness and rebirth can be found.

Therefore, when people are restless in their hearts, when they are stuck in the abyss of sin, they should turn to God and ask for forgiveness. In prayer, they will find peace of mind and a sense of release as God's love and mercy deliver them from darkness and lead them to the other side of the light. In God's mercy, people find true forgiveness, a spiritual home, and eternal peace.

Psalms 23:6: "Grace and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." "

Psalms 84:1-2: "How lovely is your dwelling, O LORD God of hosts!" "

Isaiah 6:1: "In the year that king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a high throne, and his robe hanging down to cover the temple." "

Isaiah 57:15: "For thus saith the Most High and Highest and Eternal Named Holy: I dwell in the most high and holy place, and with the contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and the heart of the contrite man." "

John 14:2-3: "There are many dwellings in my Father's house, and if there are none, I have already told you." I went to prepare a place for you." "

These verses describe God's dwelling place, from the temple to the high throne, and God's cohabitation with the lowly, contrite people. These chapters demonstrate the supremacy of God and His closeness to believers.

We pray together

Almighty Father God

We come to you at this time to thank you for the home you have prepared for us in Heaven. In this troubled world, you have prepared for us an eternal home, a place free from pain, anxiety, and separation.

Blessed be your name, and let your kingdom come, and let your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us the strength and wisdom to live our lives on earth in accordance with your will so that we are worthy to enter the home you have prepared in Heaven.

Lord, may your love and mercy cover us like tender feathers, so that we may feel your comfort and protection in the midst of any difficulties and trials. Lead our steps and make our lives a witness of glory and glory until the day we are gathered with you in Heaven.

Thank you for hearing our prayers and respond with your wonderful grace and love. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

1 Kings 8

1Kg. 8:1 Then King Solomon summoned into his presence at Jerusalem the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes and the chiefs of the Israelite families, to bring up the ark of the LORD's covenant from Zion, the City of David.

1Kg. 8:2 All the men of Israel came together to King Solomon at the time of the festival in the month of Ethanim, the seventh month.

1Kg. 8:3 When all the elders of Israel had arrived, the priests took up the ark,

1Kg. 8:4 and they brought up the ark of the LORD and the Tent of Meeting and all the sacred furnishings in it. The priests and Levites carried them up,

1Kg. 8:5 and King Solomon and the entire assembly of Israel that had gathered about him were before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and cattle that they could not be recorded or counted.

1Kg. 8:6 The priests then brought the ark of the LORD's covenant to its place in the inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most Holy Place, and put it beneath the wings of the cherubim.

1Kg. 8:7 The cherubim spread their wings over the place of the ark and overshadowed the ark and its carrying poles.

1Kg. 8:8 These poles were so long that their ends could be seen from the Holy Place in front of the inner sanctuary, but not from

outside the Holy Place; and they are still there today.

1Kg. 8:9 There was nothing in the ark except the two stone tablets that Moses had placed in it at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites after they came out of Egypt.

1Kg. 8:10 When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the LORD.

1Kg. 8:11 And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled his temple.

1Kg. 8:12 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in a dark cloud;

1Kg. 8:13 I have indeed built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell for ever."

1Kg. 8:14 While the whole assembly of Israel was standing there, the king turned round and blessed them.

1Kg. 8:15 Then he said: "Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his own hand has fulfilled what he promised with his own mouth to my father David. For he said,

1Kg. 8:16 'Since the day I brought my people Israel out of Egypt, I have not chosen a city in any tribe of Israel to have a temple built for my Name to be there, but I have chosen David to rule my people Israel.'

1Kg. 8:17 "My father David had it in his heart to build a temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

1Kg. 8:18 But the LORD said to my father David, 'Because it was in your heart to build a temple for my Name, you did well to have this in your heart.

1Kg. 8:19 Nevertheless, you are not the one to build the temple, but your son, who is your own flesh and blood — he is the one who will build the temple for my Name.'

1Kg. 8:20 “The LORD has kept the promise he made: I have succeeded David my father and now I sit on the throne of Israel, just as the LORD promised, and I have built the temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

1Kg. 8:21 I have provided a place there for the ark, in which is the covenant of the LORD that he made with our fathers when he brought them out of Egypt.”

1Kg. 8:22 Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands towards heaven

1Kg. 8:23 and said: “O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below — you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way.

1Kg. 8:24 You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it — as it is today.

1Kg. 8:25 “Now LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, ‘You shall never fail to have a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons are careful in all they do to walk before me as you have done.’

1Kg. 8:26 And now, O God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.

1Kg. 8:27 “But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!

1Kg. 8:28 Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, O LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that

your servant is praying in your presence this day.

1Kg. 8:29 May your eyes be open towards this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays towards this place.

1Kg. 8:30 Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling-place, and when you hear, forgive.

1Kg. 8:31 "When a man wrongs his neighbour and is required to take an oath and he comes and swears the oath before your altar in this temple,

1Kg. 8:32 then hear from heaven and act. Judge between your servants, condemning the guilty and bringing down on his own head what he has done. Declare the innocent not guilty, and so establish his innocence.

1Kg. 8:33 "When your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you, and when they turn back to you and confess your name, praying and making supplication to you in this temple,

1Kg. 8:34 then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to their fathers.

1Kg. 8:35 "When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and when they pray towards this place and confess your name and turn from their sin because you have afflicted them,

1Kg. 8:36 then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and send rain on the land you gave your people for an inheritance.

1Kg. 8:37 “When famine or plague comes to the land, or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers, or when an enemy besieges them in any of their cities, whatever disaster or disease may come,

1Kg. 8:38 and when a prayer or plea is made by any of your people Israel — each one aware of the afflictions of his own heart, and spreading out his hands towards this temple —

1Kg. 8:39 then hear from heaven, your dwelling-place. Forgive and act; deal with each man according to all he does, since you know his heart (for you alone know the hearts of all men),

1Kg. 8:40 so that they will fear you all the time they live in the land you gave our fathers.

1Kg. 8:41 “As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name —

1Kg. 8:42 for men will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm — when he comes and prays towards this temple,

1Kg. 8:43 then hear from heaven, your dwelling-place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

1Kg. 8:44 “When your people go to war against their enemies, wherever you send them, and when they pray to the LORD towards the city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name,

1Kg. 8:45 then hear from heaven their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause.

1Kg. 8:46 “When they sin against you — for there is no-one who does not sin — and you become angry with them and give them over to the enemy, who takes them captive to his own land, far away or near;

1Kg. 8:47 and if they have a change of heart in the land where they are held captive, and repent and plead with you in the land of their conquerors and say, ‘We have sinned, we have done wrong, we have acted wickedly’;

1Kg. 8:48 and if they turn back to you with all their heart and soul in the land of their enemies who took them captive, and pray to you towards the land you gave their fathers, towards the city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name;

1Kg. 8:49 then from heaven, your dwelling-place, hear their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause.

1Kg. 8:50 And forgive your people, who have sinned against you; forgive all the offences they have committed against you, and cause their conquerors to show them mercy;

1Kg. 8:51 for they are your people and your inheritance, whom you brought out of Egypt, out of that iron-smelting furnace.

1Kg. 8:52 “May your eyes be open to your servant’s plea and to the plea of your people Israel, and may you listen to them whenever they cry out to you.

1Kg. 8:53 For you singled them out from all the nations of the world to be your own inheritance, just as you declared through your servant Moses when you, O Sovereign LORD, brought our fathers out of Egypt.”

1Kg. 8:54 When Solomon had finished all these prayers and supplications to the LORD, he rose from before the altar of the LORD, where he had been kneeling with his hands spread

out towards heaven.

1Kg. 8:55 He stood and blessed the whole assembly of Israel in a loud voice, saying:

1Kg. 8:56 "Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses.

1Kg. 8:57 May the LORD our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us.

1Kg. 8:58 May he turn our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep the commands, decrees and regulations he gave our fathers.

1Kg. 8:59 And may these words of mine, which I have prayed before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, that he may uphold the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel according to each day's need,

1Kg. 8:60 so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God and that there is no other.

1Kg. 8:61 But your hearts must be fully committed to the LORD our God, to live by his decrees and obey his commands, as at this time."

1Kg. 8:62 Then the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifices before the LORD.

1Kg. 8:63 Solomon offered a sacrifice of fellowship offerings [Traditionally peace offerings; also in verse 64] to the LORD: twenty-two thousand cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep and goats. So the king and all the Israelites dedicated the temple of the LORD.

1Kg. 8:64 On that same day the king consecrated the middle part of the courtyard in front of the temple of the LORD, and there he

offered burnt offerings, grain offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings, because the bronze altar before the LORD was too small to hold the burnt offerings, the grain offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings.

1Kg. 8:65 So Solomon observed the festival at that time, and all Israel with him — a vast assembly, people from Lebo [Or from the entrance to] Hamath to the Wadi of Egypt. They celebrated it before the LORD our God for seven days and seven days more, fourteen days in all.

1Kg. 8:66 On the following day he sent the people away. They blessed the king and then went home, joyful and glad in heart for all the good things the LORD had done for his servant David and his people Israel.

Here's a detailed summary of chapter 8 of 1 Kings:

Chapter 8 begins with the dedication of the temple. The Ark of the Covenant is brought into the Most Holy Place, and the glory of the Lord fills the temple, causing the priests to be unable to stand and minister. Solomon then offers a prayer of dedication, asking God to bless the temple and to listen to the prayers of his people when they pray towards the temple.

After Solomon's prayer, sacrifices are offered to God, and a great feast is held for the people of Israel. The chapter then describes a dream that Solomon has, in which God promises to establish his throne forever if he remains faithful to God's commands.

The chapter then goes on to describe the various ways in which the temple is used. Solomon offers a prayer of repentance on behalf of the people of Israel, asking God to forgive them when they sin and turn back to him. The chapter also describes various other sacrifices and offerings made at the temple, as well as the role of the priests and Levites in performing these rituals.

The chapter concludes with a description of the great wealth and influence that Solomon possesses. He receives tribute from other nations, and his wisdom and knowledge are renowned throughout the world.

Overall, chapter 8 emphasizes the importance of the temple as a physical representation of God's presence among his people. The chapter also highlights the role of sacrifice and worship in Israelite religion, as well as the power and influence of the king. The chapter ends on a note of hope and promise, as God promises to establish Solomon's throne forever if he remains faithful to God's commands.

Here are some important verses from 1 Kings chapter 8 in the Christian Bible:

1 Kings 8:1-4 - The transfer of the Ark of the Covenant from the City of David to the temple in Jerusalem.

1 Kings 8:5-13 - A description of the consecration of the temple and the placement of the Ark in the inner sanctuary.

1 Kings 8:22-30 - Solomon's prayer of dedication for the temple, in which he asks for God's blessings on the people of Israel and on the temple itself.

1 Kings 8:31-53 - A series of petitions and prayers by Solomon, in which he asks God to forgive the people of Israel when they sin and to hear their prayers when they seek his help.

1 Kings 8:54-61 - A conclusion to the dedication ceremony, in which Solomon blesses the people and offers sacrifices to God.

These verses describe the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem and Solomon's prayer of dedication for the new house of worship. Solomon acknowledges God's power and asks for his blessings and protection for the people of Israel. The chapter emphasizes the importance of the temple in the Israelite religion and the belief that God's presence was specially manifested there.

In the eighth chapter of the book of 1 Kings in the Bible, we witness the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem and Solomon's prayer of dedication. Here are some reflections on this chapter:

The importance of worship and seeking God's presence: The dedication of the temple was a significant event that involved bringing the Ark of the Covenant into the Most Holy Place. It symbolized the presence of God among His people and the establishment of a central place for worship. It reminds us of the importance of worshiping God, seeking His presence, and dedicating ourselves to Him in all aspects of our lives.

God's faithfulness and fulfillment of promises: Solomon acknowledges God's faithfulness and the fulfillment of His promises to his father David. He recognizes that God has fulfilled His promise to dwell among His people in the temple. This serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness to His covenant promises and His commitment to His people throughout generations.

Prayer as a means of communication with God: Solomon's prayer of dedication showcases his deep reverence and dependence on God. He acknowledges God's greatness, faithfulness, and sovereignty. He also recognizes the need for forgiveness, guidance, and blessing from God. This teaches us the importance of prayer as a means of communicating with God, seeking His wisdom, and surrendering our lives to His will.

God's response to humble and repentant hearts: Following Solomon's prayer, God manifests His presence in a powerful way. The glory of the Lord fills the temple, and His acceptance is evident. This highlights God's response to humble and repentant hearts. It reminds us that when we humble ourselves, seek forgiveness, and turn to God, He is ready to hear us and respond with His grace and presence.

The inclusion of foreigners in God's plan: Solomon acknowledges that the temple is not limited to the Israelites but is a place where foreigners can come to pray and seek God's favor. This demonstrates God's inclusive plan of salvation for all people. It emphasizes that God's love and mercy extend beyond any particular group or nation.

These reflections offer insights into the themes and lessons found in the eighth chapter of 1 Kings. They emphasize the importance of worship and seeking God's presence, God's faithfulness and fulfillment of promises, prayer as a means of communication with God, God's response to humble and repentant hearts, and the inclusion of foreigners in God's plan of salvation. As you continue reading, you will encounter more narratives and teachings that further develop these themes and provide spiritual guidance.