

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

1 KINGS 6

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1 Kings six is a critical chapter for dating in the Old Testament and one of the places where the dimensions of the first temple are given. The great majority of conservative scholarship agree that the date of the Exodus of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage is 1446 B.C. The more liberal schools of thought date the Exodus in the 1200's, a later date. The Biblical dating is very specific and to be taken literally and not rounded in this instance. Remember, 1 Kings is historical narrative and is helpful in accurately recounting what happened and when it happened.

"And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD." (1 Kings 6:1)

This is the key date and the key passage concerning the dating of the Exodus. Solomon died in 931 B.C. This is when the Kingdom of Israel split into two kingdoms, the Kingdom called Israel to the North and the Kingdom of

Judah to the South. The Capital of the Northern Kingdom was Samaria, and the Capital of the Southern Kingdom was Jerusalem. Solomon reigned approximately 40 years as did his father, and Saul before him. Saul reigned from 1051-50 to 1011-1010. David reigned from 1011-1010 to 971-970; seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. Solomon reigned from 971-970 until 931-930. The reason for the year span in the dating is when the year started and finished in the calendar dating; either spring with Pesach or fall and Yom Teruah. The fourth year of Solomon's reign they started building the temple, most likely 966, since Ziv is the pre-exilic name for the post-exilic month of Iyar. Ziv means "light, as in glow" and the Babylonians called this month "Blossoming" which meant it was springtime, after Pesach. $966 + 480 = 1446$ B.C. as the date of the Exodus.

Prayer and Action Steps

In the study of Scripture, the student must decide if indeed the Bible is to be trusted in all areas such as history, as well as trusted when it speaks of spiritual realities. Lord, help me to trust your word in every area of life. Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
