

## 12:41

**The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation.** The Queen of Sheba will be at Revelation 20 with the men of Nineveh. She will be there, she will bear witness, she will talk about Solomon and a comparison will be made.

## 12:42

**She will rise up with this generation and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon.** She came from the edge of known civilization. She came from a mighty long way and she came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.

There was a man named David who was the son of Jesse, who was the son of a man who was the son of a man, who was the son of Boaz. And Boaz was in the line of Judah. And David was the youngest of eight sons, if memory serves. David was the runt of the litter. He was unimpressive in his appearance to the point where when Samuel was looking for a replacement for King Saul he comes to the house of Jesse in a town called Bethlehem, he was not brought forth.

David, for a couple decades it seems, is being run away from Jerusalem and all things regal by King Saul. He is a very loyal follower of King Saul. He has the opportunity to kill Saul and he does not do it. I must tell you, I'm not sure I would have let those chances slip away. I'm not sure I could be accused of being a man after God's own heart like David was. David reigned seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem after all of Israel was united under him. He reigned a total of forty years and during that forty years Solomon was born. Solomon was the second son of David and Bathsheba. The first one died, and so, now you have Solomon. And you know it says in 1 Samuel 18:17 that David "went in and out among the people," and he was loved by the discouraged and the despondent and the broken and the people that were not popular. They loved David. He was one of them, sleeping under the same stars and enduring the same cold with them. In 1<sup>st</sup> Kings, David is dying and he is so cold, and like it or not I'm just relaying the story to you, they bring a younger lady in to keep him warm. And I don't believe it has any sexual inference, because honestly I don't think David was in that mood. And he was dying or almost dead and freezing.

And so David tells his son Solomon, "Show yourself a man." And one of the first things Solomon does is he offers up a prayer to God when God appears to him in the night, and he says, "Lord, I need your wisdom to lead your people." This is what Solomon says: "I don't know how to go in or out among your people." Complete opposite of his dad. Dad was a soldier who slept in the woods with Saul's men that then came to David, and even some foreigners found their way to David. And often it was basically the foreigners who made up David's group, four to six hundred men at different times, until he became king. And so Solomon is told, "Show yourself a man."

David meanwhile had aspirations of building God a house. The Ark of the Covenant was the presence of God on earth ever since it was built by Moses in the wilderness, right after the exodus. Along with about five other pieces of furniture: the brazen altar, the table of showbread, the menorah, the altar of incense, and the laver. Those things have been traveling around in a tabernacle, which is basically just a beautiful tent. God said to David, "You are not going to build My house for Me because your hands are full of blood. You've killed so many that the girls in the streets sing about it." Tens of thousands, and that was before he was even king, you know. How much had he killed after forty more years of campaigns spreading all the way to the Euphrates (which in some ways is a shadow of the fulfillment of the land promise to Abraham made in Genesis 15) to the river of Egypt.

David dies and Solomon, in the fourth year of his reign begins, we're told in 1 Kings chapter 6 verse 1, the building of the temple. Then on the day of dedication they have thousands of animals sacrificed on the day of dedication. A very bloody sight at the dedication of Solomon's temple and yet there was nothing more glorious going on in all the world than going on at that moment.

*1 Kings 10:1 And when the **queen of Sheba** heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him, prove him with hard questions.*

This lady was probably from current day Ethiopia and she came to Jerusalem. This is probably the reason why there's an Ethiopian traveling from Jerusalem back to home, in Acts chapter 8.

*10:2 And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart. And Solomon told her all her questions. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.*

No more breath. There was no more breath in her lungs.

*And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me.*

“They couldn’t tell me all that I’m seeing here.”

*Thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard. Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom. Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in you, to set you on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever.*

“He set a Solomon on the throne and it’s not because He loves you, Solomon. It’s because He loves Israel.” He loves Israel forever. He loves His people so much that He gave them Solomon as king. “With all this wisdom everyone’s happy, even God is blessed,” verse 9.

*And she rounded out her visit by giving him a hundred and twenty talents of gold.*

By the way, that’s in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

*And of spices very great store, and precious stones: there came no more such abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon.*

**And, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.** I think we are authorized, by Jesus, to say that when we read 1 Kings 10 and almost everything surrounding the life of Solomon, we are authorized to see a very perfect version of King Solomon in Jesus Christ; a very perfect version of King **Solomon. A greater than Solomon is here.** “You think that **Solomon** was rich? He has nothing on Me. You think **Solomon** was wise? He has nothing on Me. Do you think **Solomon**’s servants are happy to be ministering before him? They have nothing on My servants. Do you think that people will come from the end of the earth for **Solomon**? Wait for the day when people from the ends of the earth will come and see Me. Do you think **Solomon** was rich? Do you think he was wise? Do you think that people adored him, loved his beauty? Do you think they enjoyed coming to his Jerusalem? You wait until the world comes to My Jerusalem.” And that is how the book ends, isn’t it? Revelation 22.

I showed you in chapter 12 that the Lord is greater than David, and that is why Jesus allows His disciples to pick food from the field because David allowed his people to pick the bread off of the Table of Showbread in the tabernacle. Here, then, we seem to have this authorization to make the comparison between the time of Solomon and the time of David.

Two people were sent back from captivity to lead temple-rebuilding efforts (among others): Haggai and Zechariah were given twin ministries basically, and it was within the same neck of the woods as Ezra’s ministry as a scribe and Nehemiah’s ministry as governor. So we’re over here about 500 years before Jesus. Haggai is back in town in Jerusalem and he’s observing, he’s trying to motivate people to rebuild the temple. What happened to the first temple, the one that took seven years to build by King Solomon? It was destroyed by King Nebuchadnezzar, and so now they’re going to build their second temple.

*Haggai 2:1 In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai, saying, Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying, Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory?*

How old did those folks he was speaking to have to be? 40? 50? “Who among you is left who is 70 years old? How do you see it now?”

*Is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?*

“Look at what we’ve built here. Isn’t this garbage?” Have you read Ezra? It says that the young men were shouting for that new temple while the old men wept because they remembered the glory of the former temple seventy years earlier.

*2:4 Now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech,*

This is not the Joshua that followed Moses, this is a different Joshua.

*the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I am with you, saith the LORD of hosts.*

“We’re going to build the second temple. We’re going to make it elaborate. We’re going to decorate it.”

*According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so My spirit remaineth among you: don’t be afraid. For thus saith the LORD of hosts. Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the dry land, and all nations. 7 and the desire of all nations shall come.*

He’s going to shake the heavens, shake the earth, shake the sea, shake the dry land, and look what He says: the desire of all nations shall come. And here’s what the Lord says:

*I will fill this house, the second temple, I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.*

Ok, you’re going to have a hard time finding that in your Old Testament. You’re going to have a hard time finding that in your New Testament. The second temple was destroyed in 70 AD. So when did this occur in the 2<sup>nd</sup> temple?

*2:8 The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine.*

I’ll decorate this joint. I own everything.” This goes well with Psalm 50. “I own the gold, the silver, the mountains, and I own the cattle on it.”

*2:9 The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former.*

How’s that possible? Anyone that saw Solomon’s temple saw that everything was overlaid with gold. Everything was made out of gold. It was oriented so that when the sun would rise up in the east that it would shine off that gold of that temple in Jerusalem and would blind the approacher coming up Mount Zion. The glory was magnificent to the point where it was bringing royalty from deep Africa. Everything about Solomon’s temple was a “wow” factor. Everything was amazing. Everyone was aghast when they saw this thing. They were amazed and they thought, “Well this can’t be topped. This is us.” And here is what the prophet Haggai says in verse 9: “The glory of this house shall be greater than of the former.” Well we know the calendar. We go 500 years forward and we find ourselves in 70 AD and the latter house falls flat, so you better do some explaining, because either God is wrong or Haggai is wrong about what God said.

*and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.*

“In this place will I give peace. In this house that will have glory that is greater than Solomon’s temple. Glory and peace will fill this house.” That cannot be a millennium fulfillment. The temple was crushed in 70 AD. We are not waiting for Haggai 2:9 to be fulfilled. It must have been fulfilled because the temple is now gone and the glory of that second house will be greater than the glory of the first.

Now it’s true that Herod took 46 years to build the temple but I doubt for even a minute that Herod, an Idumean, the Old Testament term is an Edomite, not even a son of Isaac. He added to the second temple and he did it for 46 years. Are we to assume that because some son of Esau shows up and is in charge as the so-called King of the Jews, that now that second house has glory that is greater than the first? No way would I ever say that God said an Edomite brought glory to that house. Never, because he certainly didn’t bring peace.

*Luke 2:8 [Three or four miles south of Jerusalem we find] shepherds in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.*

And why were they keeping watch in the cold months by night? Because they were in sacrifice season. This was the field in Bethlehem, Micah 4 says, was the “watchtower of the flock.” This is where there were sheep year round. This is not a proof text that Jesus was not born in December. This is the place, we’re told by Alfred Edersheim in his work “The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah” where sheep, sacrificial sheep, were kept year round because of its proximity to Jerusalem. And this was where they would bring them to the sheep market in Jerusalem, from this very field. And here are the shepherds watching over the sacrificial lambs.

*Luke 2:9 the angel of the Lord appeared, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.*

And if I were to tell you something as obvious to the reader then, as when little lambs were born they would be wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger, it would make you flip, wouldn’t it? So he shows up to these guardians of these sacrificial lambs and pronounces news that they’re going to find a little lamb somewhere, a Savior who is Christ the Lord, the Messiah.

*Luke 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

We find glory and peace being announced on the evening of Christ’s birth. And I’ve seen some commentators stop here in Haggai 2:9. The problem is, even if I were to say the new temple is the body of Christ it’s not literal enough because Haggai 2:9 says this second temple will have glory in it that will outshine the first. So, we have to find Jesus in a temple.

*Luke 2:22 And when the days of Mary’s purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought Him to Jerusalem, to present Him to the Lord; (As it is written in the law of the Lord, every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him after the custom of the law,*

*Simeon took Him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to Your word: For mine eyes have seen Your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.*

Right there, in that second temple, in the form of a boy that was about a month old, according to Levitical Law, the glory of God filled the house. The earth shook, the heavens quaked, and the sea and the land were shaking, and God was filling His house with a **greater** glory **than** that of **Solomon**.