

**graceWORKS ! GOING DEEPER<sup>1</sup> The Papou Study Bible** is a daily study provided by me to



help folks explore the depth and joy of the “conneXion” life of God. It’s my personal study, and is not intended as a doctrinal statement or statement of any church or denomination or congregation. It’s also my belief that “grace” works, and the servant of God should always want to go deeper. Multi-tasking as usual, I’m also calling this the “Papou Study Bible.” I’m writing it as if I were speaking to my girls who love me and any descendant they have that love their Papou too. And to anyone who wants to consider me a spiritual Dad or “Papou.” I want them to be able to study the Bible with Papou (grandpa in Greek) after I’m gone---and if they don’t, I’ll haunt them. The Scriptures say it’s noble to “search the Scriptures daily” to verify truth like the ancient Bereans did (Acts 17:11). My folks came from Berea. My incredible Dad (and your grandfather and great grandfather, guys), Vasil Charles Valekis taught me to do this like he did---every day until I die. He taught me and everyone I know to go to church no matter what and to put God first. While Mama (Maria Pagona Stratakis Valekis) never really did this, she made sure we listened to Daddy on this one. She would have hit us with a spatula or frying pan or worse if we didn’t. This is a simple sharing my “daily search.” And I’d like to think it is a continuation of God’s life through my Dad through me. Both my “Dads” by the way. And a way to honor him, mama and our loving “Dad”---God. And for all of us to be together, in Spirit, even when we I join them in heaven. I like to use the Blue Letter literal, very “visual,” Greek translation a lot to help “visualize” these truths the beautiful way Greek enables you to view. And I like to share this with folks serving in an elder capacity, or any capacity, to grow them, challenge them, and stretch them. But especially share it with anyone I’ve ever brought to Christ and family members who truly love me. And when you study these, I’ll make sure to connect with you from heaven. *Ever an orthodox Greek, Jim Valekis*

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**ChristINYouSeries**

**Colossians 1:27 (King James Version)**

<sup>27</sup>To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory

**graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER**

**Ezekiel 41 Part 1<sup>2</sup>**

So now we’re actually going to get into the Temple. Again, it’s an idealized vision. And I believe it’s a creaturely parable (a fancy way of saying something in this creation God uses to explain a larger truth about Himself) of a Spiritual Reality. That “Reality” is Christ! Christ is our Reality! So now I’m ready to go into the Temple itself. I’ll try to pick up the pace, but I’ll also try to do what the angel told Ezekiel:

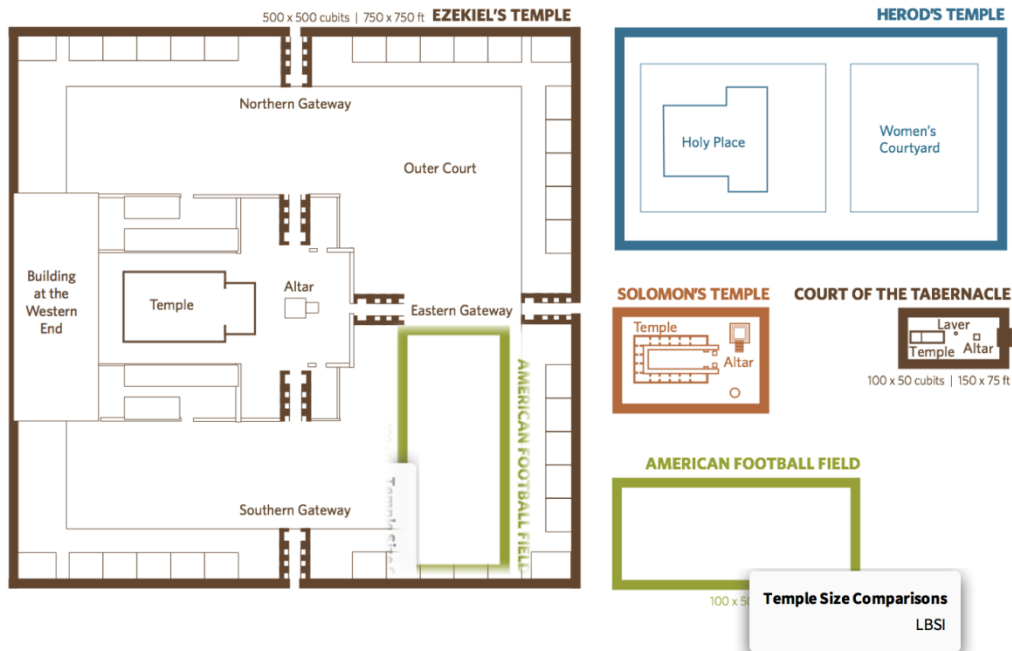
1. Look carefully
2. Listen closely
3. Pay attention to everything.

Enjoy!

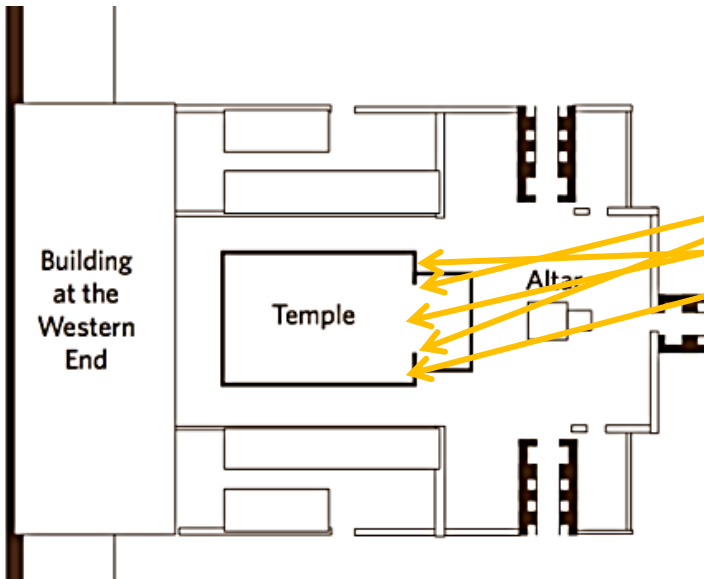
<sup>1</sup> **NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR UPLOADED TO WEB WITHOUT EXPRESS PERMISSION OF AUTHOR.**

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# Temple Size Comparisons



Logos Bible Software Infographics »



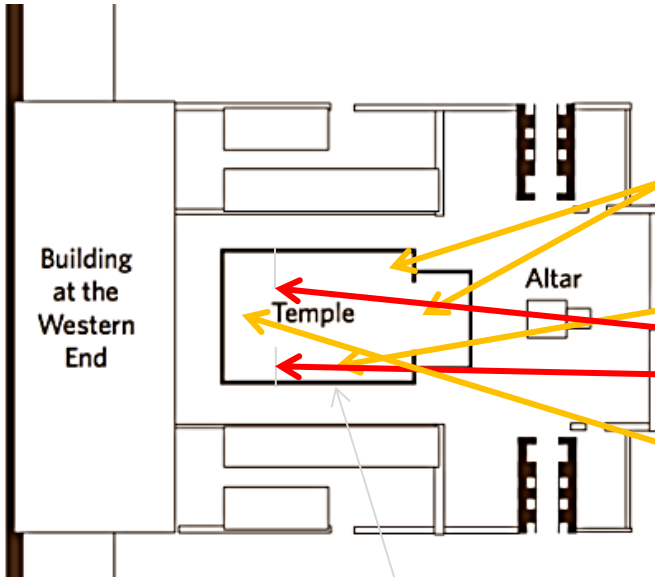
<sup>48</sup> Then he brought me to the portico of the temple and measured the jambs of the portico; they were  $8\frac{3}{4}$  feet thick on each side. The width of the gate was  $24\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and the side walls of the gate were  $5\frac{1}{4}$  feet wide on each side. <sup>49</sup> The portico was 35 feet across and 21 feet deep, and 10 steps led up to it. There were pillars by the jambs, one on each side.

**It's kind of hard to tell what's what here. But I've placed the arrows to what I'm guessing is being referred to. The numbers  $24\frac{1}{2} + 5\frac{1}{4} + 5\frac{1}{4} = 35$ . So I guess the jambs**

**were in front of the walls on either side of the door to the Temple. See football field above for size comparisons. What a huge complex.**

<sup>3</sup> <https://i.pinimg.com/originals/34/09/c1/3409c11284abfe52fc0e88c30e4ce6e8.jpg>

## Inside the Temple



41 Next he brought me into the great hall and measured the jambs; on each side the width of the jamb was  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet. <sup>2</sup> The width of the entrance was  $17\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and the side walls of the entrance were  $8\frac{3}{4}$  feet wide on each side. He also measured the length of the great hall, 70 feet, and the width, 35 feet. <sup>3</sup> He went inside the next room and measured the jambs at the entrance; they were  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide. The entrance was  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, and the width of the entrance's side walls on each side<sup>1</sup> was  $12\frac{1}{4}$  feet. <sup>4</sup> He then measured the length of the room adjacent to the great hall, 35 feet, and the width, 35 feet. And he said to me, "This is the most holy place."

**Ok. I did my best. I'll let God show me more when I get to heaven. But in the interim, this is a decent start.**



## Outside the Temple

<sup>5</sup> Then he measured the wall of the temple; it was  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick. The width of the side rooms all around the temple was 7 feet. <sup>[j]</sup> <sup>6</sup> The side rooms were arranged one above another in three stories of thirty rooms each. <sup>[k]</sup>

**Ok. Still confused. But here is one artists rendering.**

There were ledges on the wall of the temple all around to serve as supports for the side rooms, so that the supports would not be in the temple wall itself.

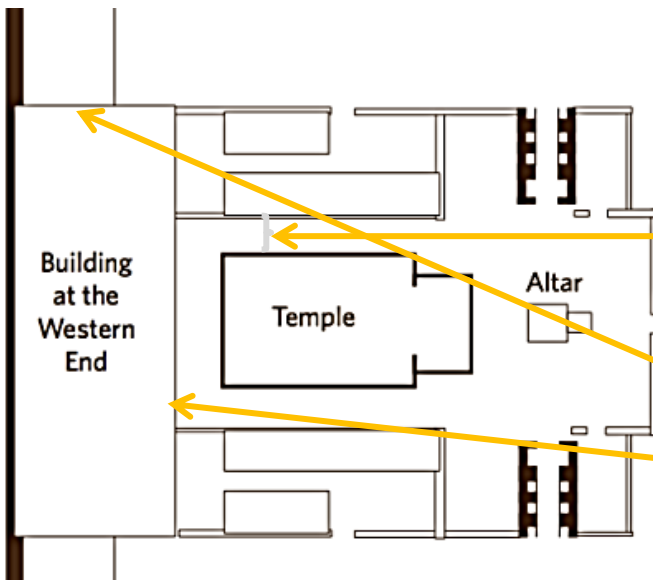
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . <sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and dwelt<sup>[h]</sup> among us. . . John 1

**There are certain aspects of God that are pictured as being untouchable by anything secular. That's why it's so amazing that the Word became flesh, and became sin!**

<sup>21</sup> For God made<sup>[a]</sup> the only one who did not know sin to become sin for us . . . 2 Corinthians 5 (TPT)

<sup>7</sup> The side rooms surrounding the temple widened at each successive story, for the structure surrounding the temple went up by stages. This was the reason for the temple's broadness as it rose. And so, one would go up from the lowest story to the highest by means of the middle one.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Fascinating, ahead of its time, architecture. More like Shangri La than an ancient Greek Temple. Palm trees were going to be a huge decorating motif.**



<sup>8</sup> I saw that the temple had a raised platform surrounding it; this foundation for the side rooms was 10½ feet high.<sup>[m]</sup> <sup>9</sup> The thickness of the outer wall of the side rooms was 8¾ feet. The free space between the side rooms of the temple <sup>10</sup> and the outer chambers was 35 feet wide all around the temple. <sup>11</sup> The side rooms opened into the free space, one entrance toward the north and another to the south. The area of free space was 8¾ feet wide all around.

<sup>12</sup> Now the building that faced the temple yard toward the west was 122½ feet<sup>[n]</sup> wide. The wall of the building was 8¾ feet thick on all sides, and the building's length was 157½ feet.<sup>[o]</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Then the man measured the temple; it was 175 feet<sup>[p]</sup> long. In addition, the temple yard and the building, including its walls, were 175 feet long. <sup>14</sup> The width of the front of the temple along with the temple yard to the east was 175 feet. <sup>15</sup> Next he measured the length of the building facing the temple yard to the west, with its galleries<sup>[q]</sup> on each side; it was 175 feet.

**I clearly don't get this one. I'll have to find some better graphics for it.**

### Interior Wooden Structures

The interior of the great hall and the porticoes of the court—<sup>16</sup> the thresholds, the beveled windows, and the balconies all around with their three levels opposite the threshold—were overlaid with wood on all sides. They were paneled from the ground to the windows (but the windows were covered), <sup>17</sup> reaching to the top of the entrance, and as far as the inner temple and on the outside. On every wall all around, on the inside and outside, was a pattern <sup>18</sup> carved with

cherubim and palm trees. There was a palm tree between each pair of cherubim. Each cherub had two faces: <sup>19</sup> a human face turned toward the palm tree on one side, and a lion's face turned toward it on the other. They were carved throughout the temple on all sides. <sup>20</sup> Cherubim and palm trees were carved from the ground to the top of the entrance and on the wall of the great hall.

<sup>21</sup> The doorposts of the great hall were square, and the front of the sanctuary had the same appearance. <sup>22</sup> The altar was <sup>[r]</sup> made of wood, 5¼ feet <sup>[s]</sup> high and 3½ feet long. <sup>[t]</sup> It had corners, and its length <sup>[u]</sup> and sides were of wood. The man told me, "This is the table that stands before the LORD."

<sup>23</sup> The great hall and the sanctuary each had a double door, <sup>24</sup> and each of the doors had two swinging panels. There were two panels for one door and two for the other. <sup>25</sup> Cherubim and palm trees were carved on the doors of the great hall like those carved on the walls. There was a wooden canopy <sup>[v]</sup> outside, in front of the portico. <sup>26</sup> There were beveled windows and palm trees on both sides, on the side walls of the portico, the side rooms of the temple, and the canopies. <sup>[w]</sup>

**Ok. I'm overwhelmed. I'll revisit this Temple tomorrow. God bless.**

*Footnotes:*

- a. **41:1** LXX; MT reads *jamb*s; they were 10½ feet wide on each side—the width of the tabernacle
- b. **41:1** Lit *six cubits*, also in vv. 3,5
- c. **41:2** Lit *10 cubits*
- d. **41:2** Lit *five cubits*, also in vv. 9,11,12
- e. **41:2** Lit *40 cubits*
- f. **41:2** Lit *20 cubits*, also in vv. 4,10
- g. **41:3** Lit *two cubits*, also in v. 22
- h. **41:3** LXX; MT reads *width of the entrance*
- i. **41:3** Lit *seven cubits*
- j. **41:5** Lit *four cubits*
- k. **41:6** Lit *another three and thirty times*
- l. **41:7** Hb obscure
- m. **41:8** Lit *a full rod of six cubits of a joint*; Hb obscure
- n. **41:12** Lit *70 cubits*
- o. **41:12** Lit *90 cubits*
- p. **41:13** Lit *100 cubits*
- q. **41:15** Or *ledges*
- r. **41:21–22** Or *and in front of the sanctuary was something that looked like* <sup>22</sup> *an altar*
- s. **41:22** Lit *three cubits*
- t. **41:22** LXX reads *long and 3½ feet wide*
- u. **41:22** LXX reads *base*
- v. **41:25** Hb obscure
- w. **41:26** Hb obscure

