

EZEKIEL 41: 1 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 tent.

In this chapter the prophet gives us a circumstantial account of the measures, parts, chambers, and ornaments of the temple, vv. 1-26.

Verse 1

To the temple - He had first described the courts and the porch. See chap. 40.

EZEKIEL 41: 2 The breadth of the entrance was ten cubits; and the sides of the entrance were five cubits on the one side, and five cubits on the other side: and he measured its length, forty cubits, and the breadth, twenty cubits.

Verse 2

The breadth of the door - This was the door, or gate, of the sanctuary, (see gates 3, in the plan), and this doorway was filled up with folding gates. The measurements are exactly the same as those of Solomon's temple. See 1Kgs 6:2, 1Kgs 6:17.

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

EZEKIEL 41: 4 He measured its length, twenty cubits, and the breadth, twenty cubits, before the temple: and he said to me, This is the most holy place.

Verse 4

The length thereof, twenty cubits - This is the measurement of the sanctuary, or holy of holies. See G in the plan. This also was the exact measurement of Solomon's temple, see 1Kgs 6:20. This, and the other resemblances here, sufficiently prove that Ezekiel's temple and that of Solomon were on the same plan; and that the latter temple was intended to be an exact resemblance of the former.

EZEKIEL 41: 5 Then he measured the wall of the house, six cubits; and the breadth of every side room, four cubits, all around the house on every side.

EZEKIEL 41: 6 The side rooms were in three stories, one over another, and thirty in order; and they entered into the wall which belonged to the house for the side rooms all around, that they might be supported, and not penetrate the wall of the house.

Verse 6

The side chambers were three - We find by Joseph. Antiq. 8:3, 2, that round Solomon's temple were chambers three stories high, each story consisting of thirty chambers. It is supposed that twelve were placed to the north of the temple, twelve to the south, and six to the east.

Entered into the wall - The beams were admitted into the outer wall, but they rested on projections of the inner wall.

EZEKIEL 41: 7 The side rooms were wider on the higher levels, because the walls were narrower at the higher levels. Therefore the breadth of the house increased upward; and so one went up from the lowest level to the highest through the middle level.

Verse 7

An enlarging, and a winding about - Perhaps a winding staircase that-widened upward as the inner wall decreased in thickness; this wall being six cubits thick; as high as the first story, five from the floor of the second story to that of the third, and four from the floor to the ceiling of the third story: and thus there was a rest of one cubit in breadth to support the stories. - Newcome.

EZEKIEL 41: 8 I saw also that the house had a raised base all around: the foundations of the side rooms were a full reed of six great cubits.

EZEKIEL 41: 9 The thickness of the wall, which was for the side rooms, on the outside, was five cubits: and that which was left was the place of the side rooms that belonged to the house.

Verse 9

The thickness of the wall - See LLL in the plan.

The place of the side chambers - A walk, or gallery of communication along the chambers, five cubits broad, Eze 41:11.

EZEKIEL 41: 10 Between the rooms was a breadth of twenty cubits around the house on every side.

EZEKIEL 41: 11 The doors of the side rooms were toward an open area that was left, one door toward the north, and another door toward the south. The width of the open area was five cubits all around.

Verse 11

And the doors - See the plan, aa. bb.

EZEKIEL 41: 12 The building that was before the separate place at the side toward the west was seventy cubits broad; and the wall of the building was five cubits thick all around, and its length ninety cubits.

Verse 12

The length thereof ninety cubits - The temple, with the buildings which surrounded it, was eighty-one cubits long; add ten cubits for the vestibule, or five for the breadth of the separate place, and five for its wall; in all, ninety cubits. See the plan, LHIL. By the separate place I suppose the temple itself is meant.

EZEKIEL 41: 13 So he measured the house, one hundred cubits long; and the separate place, and the building, with its walls, one hundred cubits long;

Verse 13

So he measured the house - The temple, taken from the wall which encompassed it from the western side to the vestibule, was one hundred and one cubits; five for the separate place, nine for the wall and the chambers attached to the temple, sixty for the sanctuary and the holy place, ten for the vestibule, and twelve for the two great walls on the west and east of the temple; in all, one hundred and one cubits, See the plan, GHI.

EZEKIEL 41: 14 also the breadth of the face of the house, and of the separate place toward the east, one hundred cubits.

Verse 14

The breadth of the face of the house - That is, the front. See the plan, FRR.

EZEKIEL 41: 15 He measured the length of the building before the separate place which was at its back, and its galleries on the one side and on the other side, one hundred cubits; and the inner temple, and the porches of the court;

EZEKIEL 41: 16 the thresholds, and the closed windows, and the galleries around on their three stories, over against the threshold, with wood ceilings all around, and from the ground up to the windows, (now the windows were covered),

EZEKIEL 41: 17 to the space above the door, even to the inner house, and outside, and by all the wall all around inside and outside, by measure.

EZEKIEL 41: 18 It was made with cherubim and palm trees; and a palm tree was between cherub and cherub, and every cherub had two faces;

Verse 18

A palm tree was between a cherub and a cherub - That is, the palm trees and the cherubs were alternated; and each cherub had two faces, one of a lion and the other of a man; one of which was turned to the palm tree on the right, the other to the palm tree on the left.

EZEKIEL 41: 19 so that there was the face of a man 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 like this through all the house all around:

EZEKIEL 41: 20 from the ground to above the door were cherubim and palm trees made: thus was the wall of the temple.

Verse 20

From the ground unto above the door - The temple was thirty cubits high, 1Kgs 6:2, the gate was fourteen cubits, chap. Eze 40:48. The palm trees and the cherubim were the same height as the gate or door. The windows were above the door.

EZEKIEL 41: 21 As for the temple, the door posts were squared; and as for the face of the sanctuary, its appearance was as the appearance of the temple.

EZEKIEL 41: 22 The altar was of wood, three cubits high, and its length two cubits; and its corners, and its length, and its walls, were of wood: and he said to me, This is the table that is before the LORD.

Verse 22

The altar of wood - This was the altar of incense, and was covered with plates of gold.

EZEKIEL 41: 23 The temple and the sanctuary had two doors.

EZEKIEL 41: 24 The doors had two leaves each, two turning leaves: two for the one door, and two leaves for the other.

EZEKIEL 41: 25 There were made on them, on the doors of the temple, cherubim and palm trees, like as were made on the walls; and there was a threshold of wood on the face of the porch outside.

Verse 25

There were thick planks - The wood, or planks, were thick and strong; for the cherubim and palm trees were carved in relief out of their substance, and unless they had been of considerable thickness, this could not have been done.

EZEKIEL 41: 26 There were closed windows and palm trees on the one side and on the other side, on the sides of the porch: thus were the side rooms of the house, and the thresholds.
