

# **Elder Vernon Johson**

## **Numbers**

### **The buildings of the tabernacle, temple, and of Ezekiel's vision**

In studying the dimensions, colors, metals, etc. of the various buildings set forth in the scriptures, we find that their correlations with various bible subjects often point us to characteristics of the object they are a type of. The tabernacle, the temple, and Ezekiel's vision of a house are all typical of the Lord's church in this New Testament age.

The dimension of forty is found in all three of the subject Old Testament buildings:

1. Ex. 26:19 "And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons."

2. 1 Ki. 6:17 "And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long."

3. 1 Ki 7:38 "Then made he ten lavers of brass: one laver contained forty baths: and every laver was four cubits: and upon every one of the ten bases one laver."

4. Ezek 41:2 "And the breadth of the door was ten cubits: and the sides of the door were five cubits on the one side, and five cubits on the other side: and he measured the length thereof, forty cubits: and the breadth, twenty cubits."

5. Ezek 46:22 "In the four corners of the court there were courts joined of forty cubits long and thirty broad: these four corners were of one measure."

Since these building in type all point us to the Lord's New Testament church, we conclude that as the number forty is associated with trial and judgment, so the New Testament church has been tried in the fire of God's judgment and found to withstand the test of time.

1 Corinthians chapter three tells us of the trying of God's people in the church:  
1 Cor. 3:10 "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise  
masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every  
man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay  
than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation  
gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made  
manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire  
shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath  
built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he  
shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 16 Know ye not that  
ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"