

## King Solomon Builds the Temple

Now at last came the time when the great temple could be built in David's city. On the top of a hill in the city was a large bare rock. On that rock Solomon decided to build the temple. Many thousands of men came to work on it. They were the best workmen in all the land. They worked for seven long years. Tall, straight cedar trees were shipped by a friendly king all the way across the sea. These were used to make beautiful carved doors and panels. The walls of the temple were made of large blocks of stone. Inside, the walls were covered with gold and precious stones.

When the temple was ready, it was the most beautiful building the people had ever seen. Then Solomon prayed and begged God to listen to the people who gathered to pray there. He knew that the really important thing about the temple was not the gold and precious stones. The important thing was that people prayed to God and that God listened to their prayers. God promised Solomon to grant his prayer and, like a shining cloud, the glory of God filled the temple.