



UPWARD *and outward*

God's Vision for Us
as a Church Family

A Preview

Sermon 1 of a 9 week series

Dr. Tim Savage

January 29, 2012



Camelback
Bible Church

3900 East Stanford Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
602-955-7217 www.cbcaz.org

I A Preview

1 Kings 8:54-60; 10:1-9

**God gives us tools to focus us
upward with praise
and outward in witness.**

**One such tool is the family home,
the buildings where brothers and sisters
gather in Christ.**

In the largest building project ever by the people of God, the construction of the Temple during the days of King Solomon, there were two goals: to build a home where believers would gather ‘to incline their hearts to God’ (1 Kings 8:58) and where ‘all the peoples of the earth would know that the Lord is God’ (1 Kings 8:60).

There was thus an **upward** goal (praising God from the heart) and an **outward** goal (witnessing to the entire world).

Take note: it was a building – bricks and mortar – that would facilitate these lofty goals.

Can buildings do the same today? Should they?

I Sermon Questions & Discussion

1 Kings 8:54-60; 10:1-9

Can buildings do the same today as they did in Solomon's time? Should they?

1

What is the purpose of our church family home at Camelback? How does it help to accomplish the biblical vision God has given us as a body? As you answer these questions, be sure to make reference to the twin goals of the Temple above.

2

The apostle Paul teaches that we – Christians – are the new temples of God and that the Spirit of Christ now dwells in us (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19). Does that mean we no longer need to build ‘temples’ or, as we say now, churches? Why or why not?

3

If you were hired to be the architect of our church family home, what rooms would you design and why? Remember to filter your answer through a biblical vision, taking careful note of the upward and outward aspects of that vision.