

Temple (religion of empire) vs. Tabernacle (religion of creation): parallels and contrasts

	Tabernacle (Hebrew, <i>mishkan</i>)	Temple (Hebrew, <i>bayit</i> YHWH or <i>haychal</i>)
PARALLELS		
Measured in cubits <i>[only Noah's ark and Ezekiel's temple vision elsewhere in Hebrew Scriptures]</i>	25x in Exodus 25-40	35x in 1 Kings 6-7
Ark of the covenant <i>[elsewhere, 4x in Numbers then 24x in Deut-2 Sam; 12x in 1-2 Chronicles]</i>	10x in Exodus 25-40	4x in 1 Kings 3-8
Cherubim <i>[20x in Ezekiel's temple vision; 11x 1-2 Chronicles; 6x elsewhere, including Gen 3.24]</i>	13x in Exodus 25-40	14x in 1 Kings 6-8
Pomegranates <i>[9x elsewhere in Hebrew Scriptures]</i>	Decorate the priestly robe [Ex 28.33; 39.24, 25]	Decorate the Temple [1 Ki 7, 18, 20, 42]
"pure" (Exodus, <i>mahor</i> ; 1 Kings, <i>sgr</i> for "pure") gold	24x in Ex 25-39	5x in 1 Kings 6-10
CONTRASTS		
Primary purpose	Symbol of YHWH with the people as they leave slavery empire (Egypt)	Symbol of YHWH with the king as they coerce workers to build and extract resources from them
Cause of construction	YHWH commands Moses to have the people build it (Ex 25.8ff)	David has the idea, which YHWH rejects, but accepts Solomon as builder
Wisdom/skill <i>[Hebrew, <i>Chokmah</i>; 161x in Hebrew Scriptures]</i>	8x in Exodus 28-36, all about the workers/artisans	17x in 1 Kings, all in the Solomon story: all about the king
Location	On the move in the wilderness	Fixed in the royal city
Chief artisan	Bezalel, a full Judahite, "filled him with divine spirit, with ability, intelligence, and knowledge in every kind of craft" [Ex 31.3]	Hiram, a half-Israelite of Tyre, "full of skill, intelligence, and knowledge in working bronze." [1 Kings 7.14]
Other workers	All those with "skill" [= wisdom"] (Ex 36.1]	Forced laborers
Financing	Goodwill offerings of the people [Ex 36.3]	International agreement with Tyre and extraction of labor
Primary material	Acacia wood, locally obtained [26x in Ex 25-40; only 2x elsewhere	Cedars of Lebanon, purchased from Tyre ["cedar" 20x in 1 Kings 6-10; 76x in Hebrew Scriptures, not in Exodus]