

Solomon Begins the Second Half of His Reign (c. 948t BC)

1 Kings 9:10–15, 17–28

10 It happened at the end of twenty years *in* which Solomon had built the two houses, the house of Yahweh and the house of the king,
 11 *since* Hiram king of Tyre had supplied Solomon with wood of cedar and with wood of cypresses and with the gold according to all his desire, then King Solomon gave twenty cities in the land of the Galilee to Hiram.
 12 So Hiram went out from Tyre to see the cities that Solomon had given him, but they were not right in his eyes.
 13 So he said, “What *are* these cities that you have given to me, my brother?” So they are called the land of Cabul until this day.
 14 Then Hiram sent to the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold.

15 This *is* the account of the forced labor that King Solomon conscripted to build the house of Yahweh and his house, the Millo, the walls of Jerusalem, Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer.

17a Solomon rebuilt Gezer

18b and Tamar in the wilderness in the land;

17b and Lower Beth-Horon,

18a *as well as* Baalath

19 and *he also built* all of the storage cities which were Solomon’s, the cities *for* the chariots, the cities *for* the cavalry, and all of Solomon’s desire that he wanted to build in Jerusalem and in Lebanon and in all the land of his dominion.

20 All of the people who were remaining from the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites who *were* not of the Israelites,
 21 their children who remained after them in the land, whom the Israelites were not able to completely destroy, Solomon conscripted them for forced labor, until this very day.

22 But from the Israelites Solomon did not make a slave, but they *were* the men of war, his officers, his commanders, his captains, and the commanders of his chariots and his cavalry.

23 These *were* the commanders of the overseers who *were* over the work for Solomon, five hundred and fifty, ruling over the people doing the work.

24 As soon as the daughter of Pharaoh went up from the city of David to her house which he built for her,

then he built the Millo.

25 Solomon sacrificed three times a year: burnt offerings and fellowship offerings on the altar that he had built to Yahweh, and he offered incense with it before Yahweh;

2 Chronicles 8

8:1 And it happened *that* at the end of twenty years *in* which Solomon had built the house of Yahweh and his own house,

2 Solomon also built the cities that Hiram had given to him, and he settled the Israelites in them.

3 And Solomon went to Hamath-Zobah and laid siege upon it.

4 And he built Tadmor in the desert, and he built all the storage cities in Hamath.

5 He also built Upper Beth-Horon and Lower Beth-Horon, fortified cities *with* walls, gates, and bars;

6 Baalath

and all the storage cities that belonged to Solomon; all the cities for chariots and cities for horses; and any desire of Solomon that he desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.

7 All the people who remained from the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites who were not from Israel,

8 from the descendants who were left over after them in the land, whom the Israelites had not destroyed, Solomon conscripted them as forced labor until this day.

9 But from the Israelites Solomon did not give as servants for his work, but they *were* men of war, his commanders of his officers, and commanders of his chariots and his horses.

10 And these *were* the commanders of the garrisons that belonged to King Solomon, two hundred and fifty who exercised authority over the people.

11 And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh from the city of David to the house that he had built for her, for he said, “My wife shall not dwell in the house of David, king of Israel, for those *places* to which the ark of Yahweh has come *are* holy.

12 Then Solomon offered burnt offerings to Yahweh on the altar of Yahweh that he had built before the portico,

13 as was the daily requirement, to offer up according to the commandments of Moses for Sabbaths, new moon festivals, and the three annual feasts: the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Booths.

14 And in accord with the ordinance of David his father he

<p>and so he completed the house.</p> <p>26 King Solomon also built a fleet of ships at Ezion-Geber which <i>is</i> near Elath on the shore of the Red Sea in the land of Edom.</p> <p>27 Hiram sent his servants with the fleet of ships, sailors who knew the sea, with the servants of Solomon.</p> <p>28 They went to Ophir and imported from there four hundred and twenty talents of gold, and they brought it to King Solomon.</p>	<p>appointed working groups of priests for their service, Levites for their responsibilities for praise and cultic service before the priests according to the daily requirement, and the gatekeepers in their working groups, gate by gate. For thus David the man of God had commanded.</p> <p>15 And they did not turn aside from the commandment of the king concerning the priests and the Levites concerning anything, and concerning the treasury rooms.</p> <p>16 And Solomon accomplished all the work from the day the foundation stone <i>was laid for</i> the house of Yahweh until its completion, and the house of Yahweh was finished.</p> <p>17 Then Solomon went to Ezion-Geber, and to Elath, on the edge of the sea in the land of Edom.</p> <p>18 And Hiram sent to him, by the hand of his servants, ships and servants knowledgeable of the sea. And they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and from there they collected four hundred and fifty talents of gold and brought it to King Solomon.</p>
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The Queen of Sheba Challenges Solomon (c. 948t BC)

1 Kings 10:1–13	2 Chronicles 9:1–12
<p>1 Now the queen of Sheba had heard of the fame of Solomon regarding the name of Yahweh, and she came to test him with hard questions.</p> <p>2 So she came to Jerusalem with very great wealth; <i>with</i> camels carrying spices, very much gold, and precious stones. She came to Solomon, and she spoke to him all that was on her heart.</p> <p>3 Solomon answered all of her questions; there was not a thing hidden from the king which he could not explain to her.</p> <p>4 When the queen of Sheba observed all the wisdom of Solomon and the house which he had built,</p> <p>5 the food of his table, the seat of his servants, the manner of his servants and their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings which he offered in the house of Yahweh, she was breathless.</p> <p>6 Then she said to the king, “The report which I heard in my land was true concerning your accomplishments and your wisdom.</p> <p>7 I had not believed the report to be true until I came and my eyes had seen, and behold! The half had not been told to me. Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I had heard.</p> <p>8 Happy <i>are</i> your men and happy <i>are</i> these your servants who stand before you continually hearing your wisdom.</p> <p>9 May Yahweh your God be blessed, who has delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel, because of the love of Yahweh for Israel forever, and he has made you king to execute justice and righteousness.”</p> <p>10 Then she gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, abundant spices, and precious stones. Spices as these did not come again in such abundance <i>as that which</i> the queen of Sheba brought to King Solomon.</p> <p>11 Moreover, the fleet of ships of Hiram which carried the gold from Ophir <i>also</i> brought from Ophir abundant amounts of algum wood and precious stones.</p>	<p>1 Now the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, and she came to Jerusalem to test Solomon with hard questions, with much wealth and camels, bearing spices and much gold and precious stones. And she came to Solomon and told him all that <i>was</i> on her mind.</p> <p>2 And Solomon answered all her questions. Not a word was hidden from Solomon that he did not answer for her.</p> <p>3 When the queen of Sheba saw the wisdom of Solomon and the house he had built,</p> <p>4 and the food of his table, and the position of his officers, the duty of his servants and their clothing, his cupbearers and their clothing, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of Yahweh, there was no longer any breath in her.</p> <p>5 And she said to the king, “The word which I heard in my land concerning your words and your wisdom <i>is</i> true,</p> <p>6 but I did not believe their words until I came and saw with my own eyes. And behold, half the greatness of your wisdom was not reported to me; you surpass the rumors that I had heard.</p> <p>7 Blessed <i>are</i> your men, and blessed <i>are</i> these your servants who stand before you regularly and hear your wisdom!</p> <p>8 Blessed be Yahweh your God who took delight in you, to put you on his throne as king for Yahweh your God! Because your God loved Israel, he established him forever and has put you over them as king to do justice and righteousness!”</p> <p>9 And she gave to the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold and a very great amount of spices and precious stones. And there were no spices such as those that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.</p> <p>10 Moreover the servants of Hiram and the servants of Solomon who brought gold from Ophir brought algum wood and precious stones.</p>

12 The king made a raised structure for the house of Yahweh and for the house of the king out of the almug wood, as well as lyres and harps for the singers.
This much almug wood has not come nor been seen *again* up to this day.
 13 King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all of her desire that she asked, besides that which King Solomon freely offered her. Then she turned and went to her land with her servants.

11 And the king made steps for the house of Yahweh and the house of the king, and lyres and harps for the singers *from* the algum wood. And there was not seen *anything* like them before in the land of Judah.
 12 Now King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba every desired thing she asked, besides what she had brought to the king. Then she turned and went to her land, she and her servants.

Solomon—Israel's Greatest King (c. 969t – 932t BC)

1 Kings 4:20–34; 10:14–29

2 Chronicles 1:14–17; 9:13–28

Solomon's Kingdom

4:20 Judah and Israel *were* as many as the sand which is on the seashore in abundance, eating and drinking and rejoicing!
 21 Now Solomon was ruling over all the kingdoms from the River to the land of *the* Philistines, and up to the border of Egypt, who *were* bringing tribute and *were* serving Solomon all the days of his life.
 22 The food of Solomon for one day was thirty dry measures of choice meal and sixty dry measures of flour;
 23 ten stall-fed oxen and twenty pasture-fed oxen and a hundred sheep, besides deer and buck gazelles and roebucks and well-fed fowls.
 24 For he *was* ruling over all the west of the River from Tiphseh up to Gaza, over all the kings west of the River; and he had peace from every side all around.
 25 Judah and Israel lived in security, each man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan as far as Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.
 26 Now Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his war chariots and twelve thousand horsemen.
 27 These governors sustained King Solomon and all who came near to the table of King Solomon, each *in* his month; they did not omit anything.
 28 The barley and the straw for the horses and for packhorses they brought to the place where they were, each according to his share.

9:26 And he ruled over all the kings from the River to the land of the Philistines, to the boundary of Egypt.

Solomon's Wealth

10:14 The weight of the gold that came to Solomon in one year *was* six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold,
 15 apart from *that of* the men of the traders and the profits of the traders, and all the kings of the Arabs and the governors of the land.
 16 King Solomon made two hundred shields of hammered gold; six hundred *measures of* gold went up over each shield.
 17 Also *he made* three hundred small shields of hammered gold; three minas of gold went up over each of the small shields; and the king put them *into* the House of the Forest of Lebanon.
 18 The king also made a large ivory throne, and he overlaid it *with* fine gold.
 19 Six steps *led up* to the throne, and *there was* a circular top to the throne behind it,
 and armrests were on each side of the seat,
 with two lions standing beside the armrests.

13 And it happened *that* the weight of the gold that came to Solomon in one year *was* six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold,
 14 besides the gold and silver the traders and merchants brought, and all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the land brought.
 15 And King Solomon made two hundred shields of beaten gold; six hundred *shekels* of beaten gold went into each shield.
 16 And *he made* three hundred small shields of beaten gold; three hundred *shekels* went into each small shield. And the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.
 17 And the king made a large ivory throne and overlaid it with pure gold.
 18 And the throne had six steps,
 and a footstool of gold *was* attached to the throne.
 And *there were* armrests on each side.
 And by the seat *were* two lions standing beside the armrests.

20 Twelve lions *were* standing there, six on each of the six steps on either side; nothing like this was made for any of the kingdoms.

21 All of the drinking vessels of King Solomon *were* gold, and all the vessels for the House of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. There was no silver; *it was* not considered as something valuable in the days of Solomon.

27 The king made the silver in Jerusalem as the stones, and the cedars he made as the sycamore fig trees which are in the Shephelah in abundance.

22 For the fleet of Tarshish belonged to the king *and was* on the sea with the fleet of Hiram; once every three years the fleet of Tarshish used to come carrying gold and silver, ivory, apes, and baboons.

Solomon's Horses

26 Solomon gathered chariots and horses; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses. He stationed them in the cities of the chariots and with the king in Jerusalem.

28 The import of the horses which were Solomon's *was* from Egypt and from Kue; the traders of the king received *horses* from Kue at a price.

29 A chariot went up and went out from Egypt at six hundred silver *shekels* and a horse at a hundred and fifty. So it was for all the kings of the Hittites and for the kings of Aram; by their hand they were exported.

Solomon's Wisdom

4:29 God gave wisdom to Solomon and very great discernment, as well as breadth of understanding, as the sand which is on the edge of the seashore.

30 The wisdom of Solomon was greater than the wisdom of all the people of *the* east and more than all the wisdom of Egypt.

31 He was wiser than all the men: Ethan the Ezrahite; Heman, Calcol, and Darda the children of Mahol; and he was very well known.

32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five.

33 He spoke concerning the trees, from the cedar which *is* in Lebanon up to the hyssop which grows on the wall; he also spoke concerning the animals, concerning the birds, concerning the creeping things, and concerning the fish.

34 They came from all the nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon; from all the kings of the earth who had heard *of* his wisdom.

10:23 King Solomon was greater than all the kings of the earth with respect to wealth and wisdom.

19 And twelve lions were standing there on *each* of the six steps on each end. And there was nothing like *it* made in all the kingdom.

20 And all the drinking vessels of King Solomon *were* of gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon *were* of pure gold.

Silver was not valued as anything in the days of Solomon.

27 And the king made silver in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedar as the sycamore trees that *are* in the Shephelah for abundance.

1:15 And the king made silver and gold in Jerusalem like the stones. And he made cedar as abundant as the sycamore fig trees that *were* in the Shephelah.

9:21 For the ships of the king went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years the ships of Tarshish came carrying gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

1:14 And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen. And he had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, and he placed them in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.

9:25 And Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen. And he stationed them in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.

28 And the horses *were* imported from Egypt and from all lands for Solomon.

1:16 And Solomon's horses *were* imported from Egypt and from Kue. The traders of the king received *them* from Kue at a price.

17 They went up and exported a chariot from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver and a horse for one hundred and fifty *shekels*. And *these were* likewise exported to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram.

9:22 Thus King Solomon was greater than all the kings of the earth in wealth and wisdom.

<p>24 All of the earth <i>was</i> seeking the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart.</p> <p>25 They <i>were</i> each bringing his gift; objects of silver and objects of gold, clothing, weapons, spices, horses, and mules. This used to happen year after year.</p>	<p>23 And all the kings of the earth sought the face of Solomon to hear his wisdom that God put in his heart.</p> <p>24 And each of them brought his gifts, objects of silver, objects of gold, cloaks, myrrh, spices, horses, and mules, <i>as</i> an amount year by year.</p>
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