

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

1 Kings 9:10–15, 17–28

10 After twenty years, during which Solomon built the LORD's temple and the royal palace,
 11 King Solomon gave King Hiram of Tyre twenty cities in the region of Galilee, because Hiram had supplied Solomon with cedars, evergreens, and all the gold he wanted.
 12 When Hiram went out from Tyre to inspect the cities Solomon had given him, he was not pleased with them.
 13 Hiram asked, "Why did you give me these cities, my friend?" He called that area the region of Cabul, a name which it has retained to this day.
 14 Hiram had sent to the king one hundred twenty talents of gold.

15 Here are the details concerning the work crews King Solomon conscripted to build the LORD's temple, his palace, the terrace, the wall of Jerusalem, and the cities of Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer.

17a Solomon built up Gezer,
 18b Tadmor in the wilderness,

17b lower Beth Horon,
 18a Baalath,

19 all the storage cities that belonged to him, and the cities where chariots and horses were kept. He built whatever he wanted in Jerusalem, Lebanon, and throughout his entire kingdom.

20 Now several non-Israelite peoples were left in the land after the conquest of Joshua, including the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.

21 Their descendants remained in the land (the Israelites were unable to wipe them out completely). Solomon conscripted them for his work crews, and they continue in that role to this very day.

22 Solomon did not assign Israelites to these work crews; the Israelites served as his soldiers, attendants, officers, charioteers, and commanders of his chariot forces.

23 These men were also in charge of Solomon's work projects; there were a total of 550 men who supervised the workers.

24 Solomon built the terrace as soon as Pharaoh's daughter moved up from the city of David to the palace Solomon built for her.

25 Three times a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar he had built for the LORD,

burning incense along with them before the LORD.

2 Chronicles 8

1 After twenty years, during which Solomon built the LORD's temple and his royal palace,

2 Solomon rebuilt the cities that Hiram had given him and settled Israelites there.

3 Solomon went to Hamath Zobah and seized it.

4 He built up Tadmor in the wilderness and all the storage cities he had built in Hamath.

5 He made upper Beth Horon and lower Beth Horon fortified cities with walls and barred gates,
 6 and built up Baalath,

all the storage cities that belonged to him, and all the cities where chariots and horses were kept. He built whatever he wanted in Jerusalem, Lebanon, and throughout his entire kingdom.

7 Now several non-Israelite peoples were left in the land after the conquest of Joshua, including the Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.

8 Their descendants remained in the land (the Israelites were unable to wipe them out). Solomon conscripted them for his work crews and they continue in that role to this very day.

9 Solomon did not assign Israelites to these work crews; the Israelites served as his soldiers, officers, charioteers, and commanders of his chariot forces.

10 These men worked for Solomon as supervisors; there were a total of 250 of them who were in charge of the people.

11 Solomon moved Pharaoh's daughter up from the City of David to the palace he had built for her, for he said, "My wife must not live in the palace of King David of Israel, for the places where the ark of the LORD has entered are holy."

12 Then Solomon offered burnt sacrifices to the LORD on the altar of the LORD which he had built in front of the temple's porch.

13 He observed the daily requirements for sacrifices that Moses had specified for Sabbaths, new moon festivals, and the three annual celebrations—the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast

<p>He made the temple his official worship place. 26 King Solomon also built ships in Ezion Geber, which is located near Elat in the land of Edom, on the shore of the Red Sea. 27 Hiram sent his fleet and some of his sailors, who were well acquainted with the sea, to serve with Solomon's men. 28 They sailed to Ophir, took from there four hundred twenty talents of gold, and then brought them to King Solomon.</p>	<p>of Weeks, and the Feast of Temporary Shelters. 14 As his father David had decreed, Solomon appointed the divisions of the priests to do their assigned tasks, the Levitical orders to lead worship and help the priests with their daily tasks, and the divisions of the gatekeepers to serve at their assigned gates. This was what David the man of God had ordered. 15 They did not neglect any detail of the king's orders pertaining to the priests, Levites, and treasuries. 16 All the work ordered by Solomon was completed, from the day the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid until it was finished; the LORD's temple was completed. 17 Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber and to Elat on the coast in the land of Edom. 18 Hiram sent him ships and some of his sailors, men who were well acquainted with the sea. They sailed with Solomon's men to Ophir, and took from there 450 talents of gold, which they brought back 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 When the queen of Sheba heard about Solomon, she came to challenge him with difficult questions. 2 She arrived in Jerusalem with a great display of pomp, bringing with her camels carrying spices, a very large quantity of gold, and precious gems. She visited Solomon and discussed with him everything that was on her mind. 3 Solomon answered all her questions; there was no question too complex for the king. 4 When the queen of Sheba saw for herself Solomon's extensive wisdom, the palace he had built, 5 the food in his banquet hall, his servants and attendants, their robes, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings which he presented in the LORD's temple, she was amazed. 6 She said to the king, "The report I heard in my own country about your wise sayings and insight was true! 7 I did not believe these things until I came and saw them with my own eyes. Indeed, I didn't hear even half the story! Your wisdom and wealth surpass what was reported to me. 8 Your attendants, who stand before you at all times and hear your wise sayings, are truly happy! 9 May the LORD your God be praised because he favored you by placing you on the throne of Israel! Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he made you king so you could make just and right decisions." 10 She gave the king 120 talents of gold, a very large quantity of spices, and precious gems. The quantity of spices the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon has never been matched. 11 (Hiram's fleet, which carried gold from Ophir, also brought from Ophir a very large quantity of fine timber and precious gems. 12 With the timber the king made supports for the LORD's temple and for the royal palace and stringed instruments for the musicians. No one has seen</p>	<p>1 When the queen of Sheba heard about Solomon, she came to challenge him with difficult questions. She arrived in Jerusalem with a great display of pomp, bringing with her camels carrying spices, a very large quantity of gold, and precious gems. She visited Solomon and discussed with him everything that was on her mind. 2 Solomon answered all her questions; there was no question too complex for the king. 3 When the queen of Sheba saw for herself Solomon's extensive wisdom, the palace he had built, 4 the food in his banquet hall, his servants and attendants in their robes, his cupbearers in their robes, and his burnt sacrifices which he presented in the LORD's temple, she was amazed. 5 She said to the king, "The report I heard in my own country about your wise sayings and insight was true! 6 I did not believe these things until I came and saw them with my own eyes. Indeed, I didn't hear even half the story! Your wisdom surpasses what was reported to me. 7 Your attendants, who stand before you at all times and hear your wise sayings, are truly happy! 8 May the LORD your God be praised because he favored you by placing you on his throne as the one ruling on his behalf! Because of your God's love for Israel and his lasting commitment to them, he made you king over them so you could make just and right decisions." 9 She gave the king 120 talents of gold and a very large quantity of spices and precious gems. The quantity of spices the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon has never been matched. 10 (Hiram's servants, aided by Solomon's servants, brought gold from Ophir, as well as fine timber and precious gems. 11 With the timber the king made steps for the LORD's temple and royal palace as well as stringed instruments for the musicians. No one had seen</p>

so much of this fine timber to this very day.) 13 King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba everything she requested, besides what he had freely offered her. Then she left and returned to her homeland with her attendants.	anything like them in the land of Judah prior to that.) 12 King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba everything she requested, more than what she had brought him. Then she left and returned to her homeland with her attendants.
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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
<p>Solomon's Kingdom</p> <p>4:20 The people of Judah and Israel were as innumerable as the sand on the seashore; they had plenty to eat and drink and were happy.</p> <p>21 Solomon ruled all the kingdoms from the Euphrates River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. These kingdoms paid tribute as Solomon's subjects throughout his lifetime.</p> <p>22 Each day Solomon's royal court consumed thirty cors of finely milled flour, sixty cors of cereal,</p> <p>23 ten calves fattened in the stall, twenty calves from the pasture, and a hundred sheep, not to mention rams, gazelles, deer, and well-fed birds.</p> <p>24 His royal court was so large because he ruled over all the kingdoms west of the Euphrates River from Tiphshah to Gaza; he was at peace with all his neighbors.</p> <p>25 All the people of Judah and Israel had security; everyone from Dan to Beer Sheba enjoyed the produce of their vines and fig trees throughout Solomon's lifetime.</p> <p>26 Solomon had 4,000 stalls for his chariot horses and 12,000 horses.</p> <p>27 The district governors acquired supplies for King Solomon and all who ate in his royal palace. Each was responsible for one month in the year; they made sure nothing was lacking.</p> <p>28 Each one also brought to the assigned location his quota of barley and straw for the various horses.</p> <p>Solomon's Wealth</p> <p>10:14 Solomon received 666 talents of gold per year, 15 besides what he collected from the merchants, traders, Arabian kings, and governors of the land.</p> <p>16 King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold; 600 measures of gold were used for each shield.</p> <p>17 He also made three hundred small shields of hammered gold; three minas of gold were used for each of these shields. The king placed them in the Palace of the Lebanon Forest.</p> <p>18 The king made a large throne decorated with ivory and overlaid it with pure gold.</p> <p>19 There were six steps leading up to the throne, and the back of it was rounded on top.</p> <p>The throne had two armrests with a statue of a lion standing on each side.</p> <p>20 There were twelve statues of lions on the six steps, one lion at each end of each step. There was nothing like it in any other kingdom.</p> <p>21 All of King Solomon's cups were made of gold, and all the household items in the Palace of the Lebanon Forest were made</p>	<p>9:26 He ruled all the kingdoms from the Euphrates River to the land of the Philistines as far as the border of Egypt.</p> <p>13 Solomon received 666 talents of gold per year, 14 besides what he collected from the merchants and traders. All the Arabian kings and the governors of the land also brought gold and silver to Solomon.</p> <p>15 King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold; 600 measures of hammered gold were used for each shield.</p> <p>16 He also made three hundred small shields of hammered gold; 300 measures of gold were used for each of those shields. The king placed them in the Palace of the Lebanon Forest.</p> <p>17 The king made a large throne decorated with ivory and overlaid it with pure gold.</p> <p>18 There were six steps leading up to the throne, and a gold footstool was attached to the throne.</p> <p>The throne had two armrests with a statue of a lion standing on each side.</p> <p>19 There were twelve statues of lions on the six steps, one lion at each end of each step. There was nothing like it in any other kingdom.</p> <p>20 All of King Solomon's cups were made of gold, and all the household items in the Palace of the Lebanon Forest were made</p>

of pure gold. There were no silver items, for silver was not considered very valuable in Solomon's time.
27 The king made silver as plentiful in Jerusalem as stones; cedar was as plentiful as sycamore fig trees are in the lowlands.

22 Along with Hiram's fleet, the king had a fleet of large merchant ships

that sailed the sea. Once every three years the fleet came into port with cargoes of gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

Solomon's Horses

26 Solomon accumulated chariots and horses. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horses. He kept them in assigned cities and in Jerusalem.

28 Solomon acquired his horses from Egypt and from Que; the king's traders purchased them from Que.

29 They paid 600 silver pieces for each chariot from Egypt and 150 silver pieces for each horse. They also sold chariots and horses to all the kings of the Hittites and to the kings of Syria.

Solomon's Wisdom

4:29 God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment; the breadth of his understanding was as infinite as the sand on the seashore.

30 Solomon was wiser than all the men of the east and all the sages of Egypt.

31 He was wiser than any man, including Ethan the Ezrahite or Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol. He was famous in all the neighboring nations.

32 He composed 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs.

33 He produced manuals on botany, describing every kind of plant, from the cedars of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows on walls. He also produced manuals on biology, describing animals, birds, insects, and fish.

34 People from all nations came to hear Solomon's display of wisdom; they came from all the kings of the earth who heard about his wisdom.

10:23 King Solomon was wealthier and wiser than any of the kings of the earth.

24 Everyone in the world wanted to visit Solomon to see him display his God-given wisdom.

25 Year after year visitors brought their gifts, which included items of silver, items of gold, clothes, perfume, spices, horses, and mules.

of pure gold. There were no silver items, for silver was not considered very valuable in Solomon's time.
27 The king made silver as plentiful in Jerusalem as stones; cedar was as plentiful as sycamore fig trees are in the lowlands.
1:15 The king made silver and gold as plentiful in Jerusalem as stones; cedar was as plentiful as sycamore fig trees are in the lowlands.

9:21 The king had a fleet of large merchant ships manned by Hiram's men that sailed the sea. Once every three years the fleet came into port with cargoes of gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

1:14 Solomon accumulated chariots and horses. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horses. He kept them in assigned cities and in Jerusalem.

9:25 Solomon had 4,000 stalls for his chariot horses and 12,000 horses. He kept them in assigned cities and in Jerusalem.

28 Solomon acquired horses from Egypt and from all the lands.

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