

CC OLD BC TESTAMENT SURVEY

1 KINGS PART 4 (chapters 9–11)

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FEBRUARY 25, 2024

COMING UP... MAR 3: 1 Kings part 5 (chs. 12–16) MAR 10: 1 Kings part 6 (1 Kin 17–2 Kin 2) MAR 17: 2 Kings part 1 (chs 3–8) MAR 24: 2 Kings part 2 (chs. 9–15)



1 KINGS 9–11

At 20, Solomon followed David as Israel's king
 Taught us how to love well in Song of Solomon
 Taught us how to live wisely in Proverbs
 Taught us how to enjoy life in Ecclesiastes
 Built a magnificent temple for YHWH
 But "The secret worm ... was gnawing all the time in the royal staff upon which Solomon leaned." –Alexander Whyte

LESSON THEME: "For of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: 'It might have been!'"
 –American poet and abolitionist John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Compromise is a choice

The Worm Begins Gnawing ...

Solomon's Palace (1 Kings 7:1-12)
 Temple was 90 x 30 x 45 (2,700 sq. ft.); 7 years
 Palace was 150 x 75 x 45 (11,250 sq. ft.); 13 years
 Solomon's Debt/Alliances (1 Kings 9:10-28)
 His tastes are greater than his bank account
 Solomon's choices
 He became enamored with the "good life"

He entered wrong partnerships (cf. 2 Cor 6:14)

He compromised his judgment

And The Worm Gnaws ...

Solomon's fame (1 Kin 10:1-13)

Solomon's splendor (vv. 14-25)

Solomon's army (vv. 26-29)

But what does Deuteronomy 17:16-20 say?

Solomon's choices

He pursued wealth, comfort and ease

He gave his heart away to these things ...
but just a little at a time ... like a slow leak

He compromised his devotion to God

Solomon's wives (1 Kin 11:1-3)

Solomon "insisted" (v. 2)

Solomon's worship (vv. 4-8)

Solomon "refused" (v. 6)

Solomon's choice

Following his will for his life was more important than following God's will and God's Word

He knew what God said ... he just didn't want it

He compromised his obedience



"The Visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon"
by Sir Edward John Poynter

And God Responds

Solomon's wives (1 Kin 11:1-3)

Solomon's worship (vv. 4-8)

God's declaration (vv. 9-13)

With Solomon's judgment, devotion and obedience all compromised ...

He would finish, but not finish well

God's discipline (vv. 14-43)

For Solomon's repentance

To move on without Solomon

Solomon ...

Got caught up in materialism, comfort, ease and excess; got caught up in the "good life"

As he aged, his affections became set on ungodly relationships

He gave his heart away to these things ... but just a little at a time

Tragically, the man best equipped and endowed to live life successfully chose not to do so

APPLICATION: "For of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: *'It might have been!'*"
Compromise is a choice

Vulnerable Times Occur ...

When we're comfortable ... and want to keep it that way

When we're bored or busy or stressed out

When we're lonely and/or misunderstood

When we're underappreciated or undervalued

When we're envious of others or their stuff

When we just want what we want

When we're distant from God

Ungodly Relationships

With someone ...

With something ...

Self-centeredness: "I deserve ..."

Self-sufficiency: "I've got this ..."

Self-determination: "I'm going to ..."

Internet or entertainment or complacency

Any kind of "relationship" that causes you to slowly lose your first love—Jesus



"Solomon and His Harem" by James Tissot

Starving the Worm

Stoke the fires of devotion (Mt 4:1-11)

Time hearing from the Lord through His Word

Time talking to Him in prayer and/or journaling

Time memorizing His Word

Reflecting on grace's great privileges (e.g. Rom 5-8)

Don't desire the gifts more than the Giver (Ex 33); learn contentment (1 Tim 6:6, 9)

Be wise to temptation's snares of compromise in your life

Be mutually accountable to a couple of brothers or sisters (Heb 10:25)

Pursue the "Great Commandment" and the "Great Commission" above the "American Dream" (Mt 6:33; 22:34-40; 28:19-20)

Compromise is *your* choice

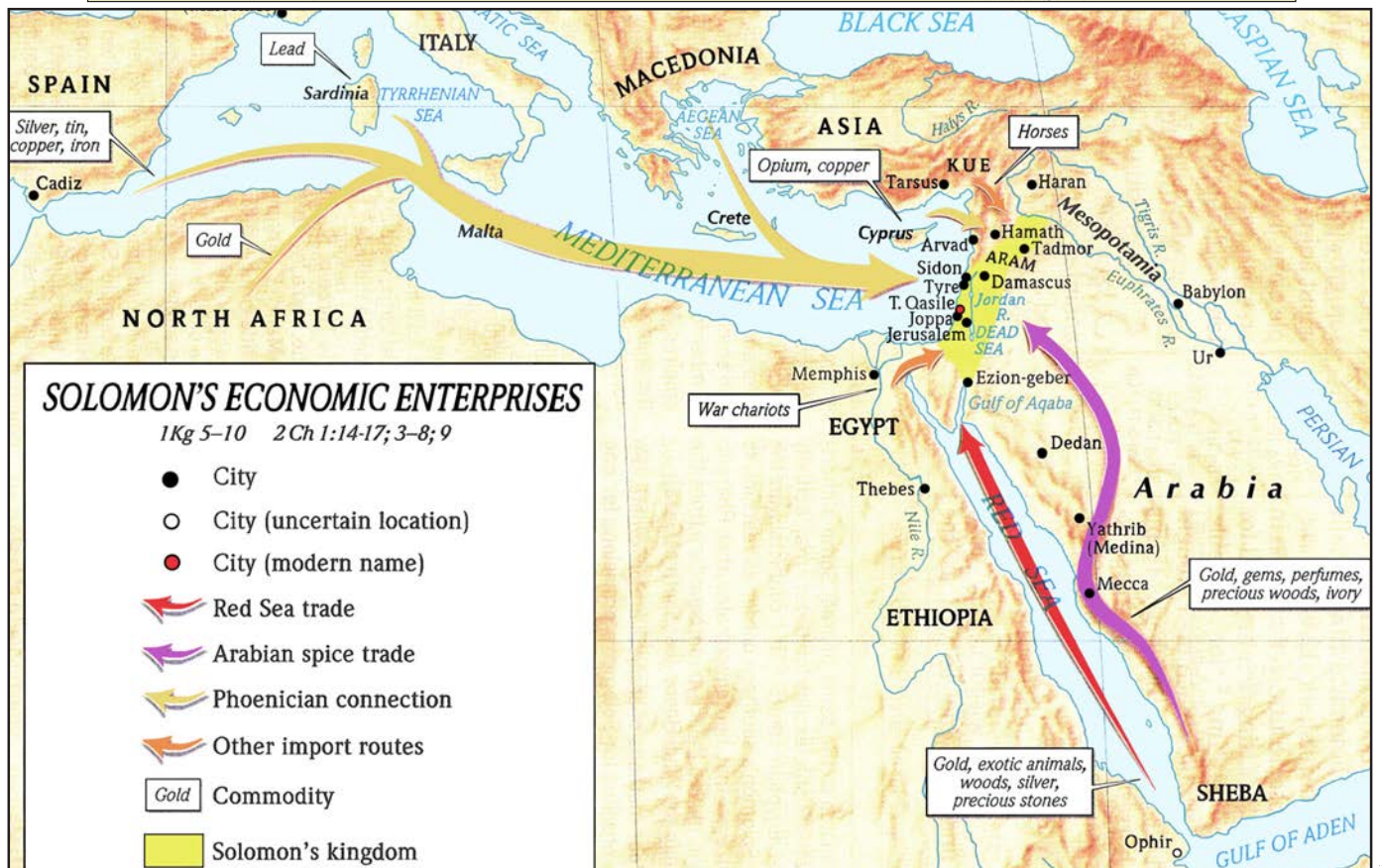
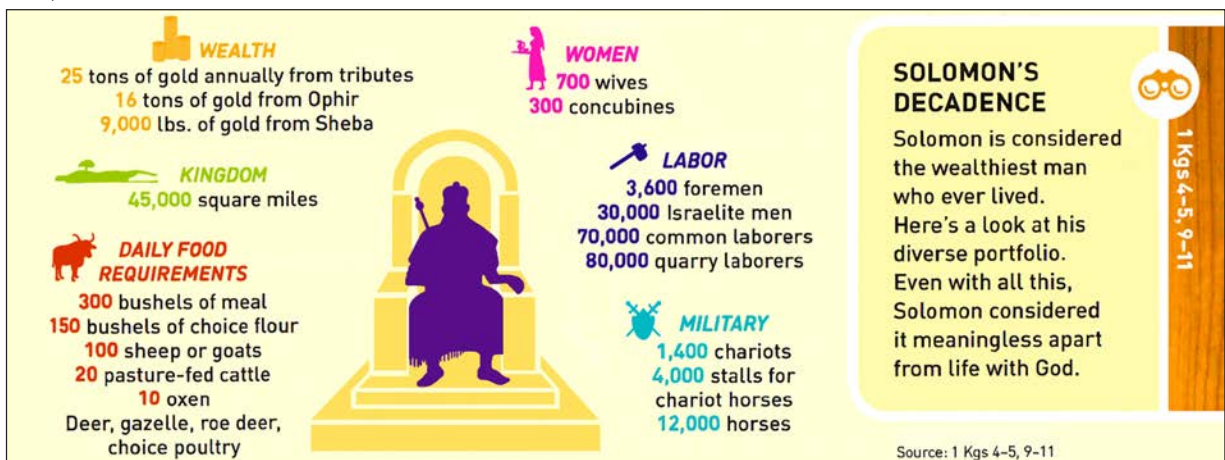
FOR NEXT TIME:

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YOUTUBE VIDEOS + HANDOUTS Private link; page is not searchable): https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGhFjfAlhYpqC2XYXZJXiwut_8g7P3qhF

PODCAST: <https://feeds.transistor.fm/old-testament-survey>

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"Solomon and the Queen of Sheba"
by James Tissot

Moral Choices



King Solomon's good and bad decisions in the book of 1 Kings

FAILS GOD

Amasses enormous labor force, wealth, fame 9:10–10:29

Marries hundreds of foreign women 11:1–3

Turns to idolatry 11:4–13

Attempts to kill Jeroboam but is unsuccessful 11:40

HONORS GOD

Takes his father's place as king 2:12

Carries out David's final instructions 2:13–46

Asks the Lord for wisdom 3:1–10

Receives wisdom, discernment, riches and honor 3:11–13

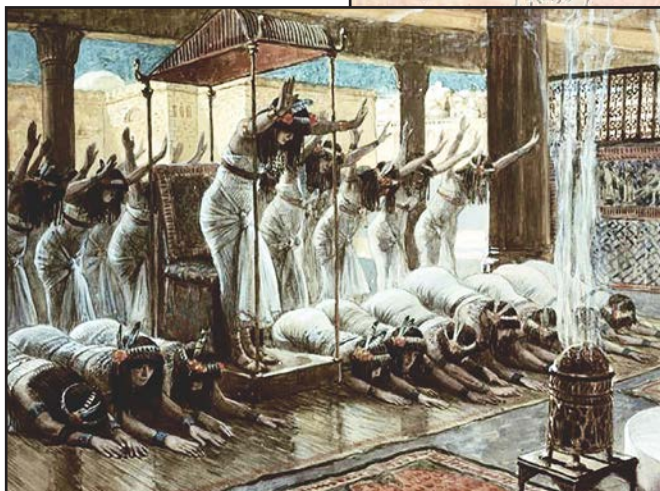
Rules over a peaceful, prosperous nation 4:20–28

Constructs a temple for the Lord 5–6

SOLOMON'S BUILDING ACTIVITIES

1Kg 6–7; 9:1–22; 2Ch 2–4; 8:1–12

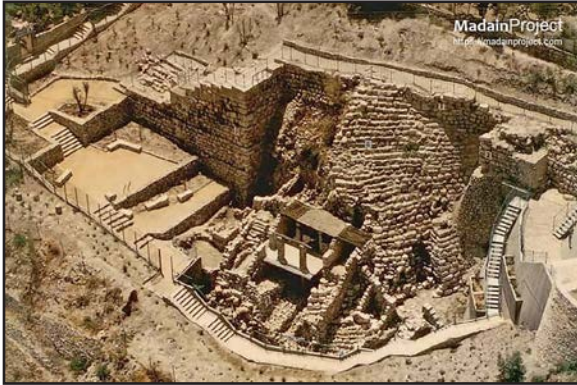
- City
- City (uncertain location)
- City (modern name)
- Hazor City built or rebuilt by Solomon
- Cities and towns showing building/rebuilding in the 10th century B.C.
- Fortified by Solomon
- Fortified enclosures
- Major routes
- Other routes
- Territory ceded to Hiram of Tyre



"The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon" by James Tissot

Modern-Day Archaeological Excavations of Solomon's Projects

CIRCA 1000 BC



MILLO AND THE WALL OF JERUSALEM

The Millo is part of the City of David—the rampart built by the Jebusites before David conquered the city. It consists of the terraces and retaining walls on the eastern slope of the southeastern spur that supported the buildings above. The texts also describe the Millo built by Solomon (1 Kin 9:24) and repaired by Hezekiah (2 Chron 32:4-5), without giving an explanation of what exactly the Millo was: there is therefore some debate among scholars as to the Millo's specific nature. Today it has been identified in the of the City of David excavations. *"The account of the forced labor which king Solomon levied to build the house of the Lord, and his own house, and Millo, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer."* If Gezer, Megiddo and Hazor were parts of the same building program as Jerusalem, we should see similar construction at Jerusalem as these other cities.



HAZOR

The remains at Hazor show that during the Early Iron Age the town gained a highly distinctive six chambered gate, as well as a characteristic style to its administration buildings and fortifications; archaeologists determined that these constructions at Hazor were built by the same leadership. This dating correlates with the biblical narrative that they were constructed in the tenth century by King Solomon as suggested by some archaeologists; others date these structures to the early 9th century BC, during the reign of the Omrides.



MEGIDDO

Megiddo reached its peak under King Solomon in the 10th century BC. He rebuilt it as a royal city, administering the northern part of the kingdom. During the reign of Solomon, Megiddo was surrounded by a sturdy casemate wall (two parallel walls with partitions between them, creating rooms). The casemates served as barracks for soldiers and for storage of equipment. A new city gate was constructed on the remains of the Canaanite gate in the northern part of wall.



GEZER

At Tel Gezer, archaeologists have uncovered the remains of a huge six-chambered gate complex, probably dating to Solomon's time 920 BC. This once-huge gate complex stands only 4 to 5 feet tall today. Although the gate is believed to have been built by the legendary King Solomon, the dating is still under debate. With the street pavement partially gone, one can see the exposed sewer channel. The sewer ran under the street, through the city, and into the valley beyond. Based on archaeological remains, the gatehouse at Gezer was over 45 feet wide, nearly 60 feet long, and contained three chambers on each side of the street.