

# 1 Kings 07 - Solomon's Palace; Temple Furnishings; Two Pillars

I. United kingdom under Solomon (1 Kings 1:1—11:43)

(3) Solomon builds the Temple (1 Kings 5:1—8:66)

(B) Solomon constructs the Temple from the 4th to the 11th year of his reign (1 Kings 6:1—7:51)

(b) Solomon's other buildings and the Temple furniture (7:1-51)

## 1 Kings 7

(b) Solomon's other buildings and the Temple furniture (7:1-51)

1 Now Solomon built his own house *over the course of* thirteen years, and he finished all of his house.

1 Now Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.

1 But Solomon took thirteen years to build his own palace, and finally finished it.

1 But Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished all his house.

- The description of Solomon's palace in v1-12 raises a question as to whether one building or several were constructed; probably one palace complex was built that contained several separate but interconnected buildings

— The palace took longer to build than the temple (13 years compared with 7-1/2; Cf. 6:37-38) because it was larger

— Solomon evidently completed the temple, then began work on his palace (Cf. 9:10)

2 He built **the house of the timber from Lebanon**; its length was a hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits, on four rows of cedar pillars with cedar beams on the pillars.

2 He built the house of the forest of Lebanon; its length was 100 cubits and its width 50 cubits and its height 30 cubits, on four rows of cedar pillars with cedar beams on the pillars.

2 He built his own palace out of timber supplied from the forest of Lebanon. It was 100 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, 20 cubits tall, and was constructed on four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams interlocking the pillars.

2 He built also the house of the forest of Lebanon; the length thereof was an hundred cubits, and the breadth thereof fifty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits, upon four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams upon the pillars.

- "...the house of the timber from Lebanon" - probably given its name because of the extensive use of Lebanese cedar throughout (Cf. 7:2-3; 10:17,21; Is 22:8); it was located not in Lebanon but in Jerusalem

— It measured 150 feet by 75 feet and was 45 feet high. The floor space was 11,250 square feet, more than 4x the 2,700 square feet of the temple floor (Cf. 6:2)

— The palace evidently served as an armory (10:17; Cf. Is 22:8). Apparently next to it was a pillared colonnade (a covered walkway surrounding a patio) that had a front portico (porch) with a roof and supporting pillars.

3 And it was paneled with cedar above the side chambers which were on the forty-five pillars, fifteen *in each* row.

3 It was paneled with cedar above the side chambers which were on the 45 pillars, 15 in each row.

3 There were 45 pillars paneled with cedar above the side chambers, with rows of fifteen pillars,

3 And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.

4 *There were artistic window frames in three rows, and window was opposite window at three intervals.*

4 *There were artistic window frames in three rows, and window was opposite window in three ranks.*

4 with three rows of framed windows facing each other in three ranks.

4 And there were windows in three rows, and light was against light in three ranks.

5 And all the doorways and doorposts *had squared artistic frames*, and window was opposite window at three intervals.

5 All the doorways and doorposts *had squared artistic frames*, and window was opposite window in three ranks.

5 All the doorways and doorposts had rectangular frames, with the doorways facing each other in three tiers.

5 And all the doors and posts were square, with the windows: and light was against light in three ranks.

6 Then he made the hall of pillars; its length was fifty cubits and its width thirty cubits, and a porch *was* in front of them and pillars and a threshold in front of them.

6 Then he made the hall of pillars; its length was 50 cubits and its width 30 cubits, and a porch *was* in front of them and pillars and a threshold in front of them.

**6** There was also a hall of pillars 50 cubits long and 30 cubits wide, and a porch in front with pillars, and a canopy in front of the pillars.

**6** And he made a porch of pillars; the length thereof was fifty cubits, and the breadth thereof thirty cubits: and the porch was before them: and the other pillars and the thick beam were before them.

**7** And he made the hall of the throne where he was to judge, the hall of judgment, and it was paneled with cedar from floor to floor.

**7** He made the hall of the throne where he was to judge, the hall of judgment, and it was paneled with cedar from floor to floor.

**7** He constructed the Judgment Hall for the throne room where he would be ruling, paneling it with cedar from floor to ceiling.

**7** Then he made a porch for the throne where he might judge, even the porch of judgment: and it was covered with cedar from one side of the floor to the other.

- Solomon's throne hall, the Porch of Judgment, or Hall of Justice, was attached to the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon, as were his own residence (v8a) and a separate residence (palace) for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had married (v8b), all of harmonious design.

**8** And his house where he was to live, the other courtyard inward from the hall, was of this *same* workmanship. He also made a house like this hall for Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had married.

**8** His house where he was to live, the other court inward from the hall, was of the same workmanship. He also made a house like this hall for Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had married.

**8** Solomon's personal dwelling quarters, a separate court behind the hall, was of similar workmanship. Solomon also built a house similar to this for Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had married.

**8** And his house where he dwelt had another court within the porch, which was of the like work. Solomon made also an house for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken to wife, like unto this porch.

**9** All of these were *made* of valuable stones, of stone cut according to measure, sawed with saws, inside and outside; even from the foundation to the coping, and from the outside to the large courtyard.

**9** All these were of costly stones, of stone cut according to measure, sawed with saws, inside and outside; even from the foundation to the coping, and so on the outside to the great court.

**9** All of these were made with expensive stones, pre-cut according to specifications, hand-sawed inside and out from the foundation to the coping, including from inside to the great court.

**9** All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of hewed stones, sawed with saws, within and without, even from the foundation unto the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.

- A great courtyard united all these buildings into one palace complex

- The structures were all built of stone (except the roofs) and they rested on stone foundations

— Each stone was cut to size with a saw. Palestinian limestone can be cut with a saw when freshly quarried, but hardens when exposed to the elements.

**10** And the foundation was of valuable stones, large stones, stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits.

**10** The foundation was of costly stones, *even* large stones, stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits.

10 The foundation was made of expensive stone, including large stones ten cubits long and stones eight cubits long.

10 And the foundation was of costly stones, even great stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits.

11 And above were valuable stones, cut according to measure, and cedar.

11 And above were costly stones, stone cut according to measure, and cedar.

11 Above these were expensive stones cut according to specifications, and cedar.

11 And above were costly stones, after the measures of hewed stones, and cedars.

12 So the large courtyard all around *had* three rows of cut stone and a row of cedar beams as well as the inner courtyard of the house of the LORD, and the porch of the house.

12 So the great court all around *had* three rows of cut stone and a row of cedar beams even as the inner court of the house of the LORD, and the porch of the house.

12 So the great court was surrounded by three rows of cut stone, along with a row of cedar beams, just like the inner court of the LORD's Temple and the porch surrounding the Temple.

12 And the great court round about was with three rows of hewed stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the LORD, and for the porch of the house.

- The great palace courtyard was protected by a wall similar in design to that around the inner courtyard of the temple (Cf. 6:36). The palace was probably built close to (perhaps

south of) the temple, though, so far, none of its remains have been found by archaeologists.

**13** Now King Solomon sent *word* and had Hiram brought from Tyre.

**13** Now King Solomon sent and brought Hiram from Tyre.

**13** King Solomon sent for Hiram from Tyre,

**13** And king Solomon sent and fetched Hiram out of Tyre.

- This Hiram should not be confused with Hiram, the king of Tyre (5:1)

— This Hiram was a multi-ethnic craftsman who Solomon hired from Tyre

— He was the type of worker God commends: diligent, excellent and obedient to his employer's instructions

14 He was a widow's son from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, an artisan in bronze; and he was filled with wisdom, skill, and knowledge for doing any work in bronze. So he came to King Solomon and performed all his work.

14 He was a widow's son from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in bronze; and he was filled with wisdom and understanding and skill for doing any work in bronze. So he came to King Solomon and performed all his work.

14 the son of a widow from the tribe of Naphtali, whose father was from Tyre. A bronze worker, he was wise, knowledgeable, and was skilled in all sorts of bronze working. He went to King Solomon and did all of his work.

14 He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to king Solomon, and wrought all his work.

- This Hiram was a skilled craftsman, also from Tyre, whose mother was an Israelite widow from Naphtali, and whose father was a Phoenician of Tyre

— According to 2 Chr 2:14 Hiram's mother was from Dan; perhaps Dan was the tribe into which she was born and Naphtali was her residence, or vice versa

— Hiram's special talent was working with bronze (a copper alloy). The brass should be rendered copper or bronze.

- The description of his abilities brings to mind Bezelel (Ex 31:1-5), who carried out God's design of the tabernacle of Moses' time

— God equips people with skill, wisdom, understanding and knowledge for good works

**15** He fashioned the two pillars of bronze; eighteen cubits was the height of each pillar, and a line of twelve cubits measured the circumference of both.

**15** He fashioned the two pillars of bronze; eighteen cubits was the height of one pillar, and a line of twelve cubits measured the circumference of both.

**15** He fashioned two bronze pillars, each one eighteen cubits high, with a circumference of twelve cubits.

**15** For he cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high apiece: and a line of twelve cubits did compass either of them about.

- An alleged discrepancy between v15 and 2 Chr 3:15: In front of the temple were two free-standing pillars 35 cubits (52-1/2ft) tall including a 5-cubit (7-1/2ft) capital. But according to 1 Kings 7:15 these pillars, made of bronze, stood 18 cubits (27 feet) high.

— One explanation of this alleged discrepancy is suggested by the NIV which supplies the word "together" in 2 Chr 3:15. The thought is that when the heights of the two pillars are added together they total 35 cubits. This is a close (though not exact) harmonization because two pillars of 18 cubits each total 36, not 35.

— Another solution suggests that the Hebrew figures for 18 and 35 are so similar that a scribe copying v15 could easily have read 35 when the text actually said 18

— Architecturally it seems more reasonable that the pillars would be in line with or less than the height of the temple, not towering far above it. The temple height was 30 cubits (45ft, Cf. 6:2), so each pillar may have been 18 cubits (27ft) not 35 cubits (52-1/2ft) (Cf. 2 Chr 3:15-17; Jer 52:21-23)

— Other sources suggest that the pillars flanking the entrance to the court were 52ft high, with the crown or capital measuring 7-1/2ft. They appear to have been for ornamentation only. Around the top each had decorative chains from which pomegranates were suspended.

**16** He also made two capitals of cast bronze to put on the tops of the pillars; the height of the one capital was five cubits and the height of the other capital was five cubits.

**16** He also made two capitals of molten bronze to set on the tops of the pillars; the height of the one capital was five cubits and the height of the other capital was five cubits.

**16** He also crafted two capitals of cast bronze and set them on top of the pillars. The height of one capital was five cubits, and the height of the other capital was five cubits.

**16** And he made two chapters of molten brass, to set upon the tops of the pillars: the height of the one chapter was five cubits, and the height of the other chapter was five cubits:

**17** *There were* lattices of latticework and wreaths of chainwork for the capitals which were on the top of the pillars; seven for the one capital and seven for the other capital.

**17** *There were* nets of network and twisted threads of chainwork for the capitals which were on the top of the pillars; seven for the one capital and seven for the other capital.

**17** A network of latticework on top of the pillars was inlaid with ornamental wreaths and chains, the top of each pillar containing seven groups of ornamental structures.

17 And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the chapiters which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapter, and seven for the other chapter.

- Above the band of chains at the top of each pillar was a band of 100 engraved pomegranates

— Actually 200 pomegranates were on each pillar (2 Chr 4:13), thus suggesting that there were two bands or rows (7:18) of 100 each

— The pomegranates on each pillar were interwoven among the chain-like lattice, with seven chains on each pillar (7:17)

18 So he made the pillars, and two rows around on the one lattice to cover the capitals which were on the top of the pomegranates; and so he did for the other capital.

18 So he made the pillars, and two rows around on the one network to cover the capitals which were on the top of the pomegranates; and so he did for the other capital.

18 The pillars contained two rows of ornaments shaped like pomegranates around the latticework covering the top of each pillar.

18 And he made the pillars, and two rows round about upon the one network, to cover the chapiters that were upon the top, with pomegranates: and so did he for the other chapter.

19 The capitals which were on the tops of the pillars in the porch were of lily design, four cubits.

19 The capitals which were on the top of the pillars in the porch were of lily design, four cubits.

19 The capitals on top of each pillar above the rounded latticework contained four cubits of lily designs,

**19** And the chapiters that were upon the top of the pillars were of lily work in the porch, four cubits.

- Since the capitals on top of the pillars were five cubits high (2 Chr 3:15) and since each capital's top portion, shaped like lilies, was four cubits high (7:19) that left one cubit for the chains and pomegranates.

20 So *there were* capitals on the two pillars, also above *and* close to the rounded projection which was beside the lattice; and the pomegranates *totaled* two hundred in rows around both capitals.

20 *There were* capitals on the two pillars, even above *and* close to the rounded projection which was beside the network; and the pomegranates *numbered* two hundred in rows around both capitals.

20 with the capitals on the two pillars covered by 200 pomegranates in rows around both the capitals above and adjoining the rounded latticework.

20 And the chapters upon the two pillars had pomegranates also above, over against the belly which was by the network: and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows round about upon the other chapter.

21 And he set up the pillars at the porch of the main room: he set up the right pillar and named it **Jachin**, and he set up the left pillar and named it **Boaz**.

21 Thus he set up the pillars at the porch of the nave; and he set up the right pillar and named it Jachin, and he set up the left pillar and named it Boaz.

21 That's how he designed the pillars at the portico of the sanctuary. When he set up the right pillar, he named it Jachin. When he set up the left pillar, he named it Boaz.

**21** And he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple: and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof Jachin: and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz.

- The pillars were erected on either side of the temple portico (the roofless front porch)

- "...Jachin" - the name of the south pillar, means "By His [Yahweh] counsel,"

- "...Boaz" - the name of the north pillar, means "In Him [Yahweh] is strength"

— These stood as a testimony to God's security and strength available to the nation as she obeyed Him

22 On the top of the pillars was *the* lily design. So the work of the pillars was finished.

22 On the top of the pillars was lily design. So the work of the pillars was finished.

22 The work on the pillars was finished with a lily design on top of the pillars.

22 And upon the top of the pillars was lily work: so was the work of the pillars finished.

**23** He also he made the Sea of cast *metal* ten cubits from brim to brim, circular *in shape*, and its height was five cubits, and it was thirty cubits in circumference.

**23** Now he made the sea of cast *metal* ten cubits from brim to brim, circular in form, and its height was five cubits, and thirty cubits in circumference.

**23** Hiram also made a sea of cast metal ten cubits from brim to brim, circular in shape and five cubits and 30 cubits in its inner circumference.

**23** And he made a molten sea, ten cubits from the one brim to the other: it was round all about, and his height was five cubits: and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.

### **Inerrancy?**

This would seem to be an "error:" the "line of 30 cubits compassing it round about," that is, the circumference, is not 3x the diameter, but 3.14159265358979, commonly known as pi. However, in the Masoretic text, the term is misspelled (known as a *kethiv*) with an extra

*heh*. The marginal correction (known as a *qere*) is spelled correctly. The gematrical value as recorded is 111; the correct value would be 106. When this correction is applied to three times the diameter of 10 cubits, the circumference would be 31.41509433962 cubits: in a circumference of over 46 feet, an error of less than 15/1,000ths of an inch!

24 Under its brim gourds *went* around encircling it ten to a cubit, completely surrounding the Sea; the gourds were in two rows, cast with the rest.

24 Under its brim gourds went around encircling it ten to a cubit, completely surrounding the sea; the gourds were in two rows, cast with the rest.

24 Under the brim, completely encircling it, were two rows of gourds inlaid as part of the original casting, ten to a cubit.

**24** And under the brim of it round about there were knops compassing it, ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about: the knops were cast in two rows, when it was cast.

25 It was standing on twelve oxen, three facing north, three facing west, three facing south, and three facing east; and the Sea *was set* on top of them, and all their rear parts *turned* inward.

25 It stood on twelve oxen, three facing north, three facing west, three facing south, and three facing east; and the sea *was set* on top of them, and all their rear parts *turned* inward.

25 The sea stood on top of twelve oxen. Three faced north, three faced west, three faced south, and three faced east. The sea was set on top of them, and their hind parts faced the center.

25 It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward.

26 And it was a hand width thick, and its brim was made like the brim of a cup, *like* a lily blossom; it could hold two thousand baths.

26 It was a handbreadth thick, and its brim was made like the brim of a cup, *as* a lily blossom; it could hold two thousand baths.

26 The reservoir, which held about 2,000 baths, stood about a handbreadth thick, and its rim looked like the brim of a cup or of a lily blossom.

26 And it was an hand breadth thick, and the brim thereof was wrought like the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies: it contained two thousand baths.

- The "Sea" contained 2,000 baths (c11,500 gallons; Cf. NIV margin) of water

— 2 Chr 4:5 includes the statement that the laver held 3,000 baths (c17,500 gallons); perhaps this was its total capacity, but it apparently contained 2,000 baths)

27 Then he made the ten stands of bronze; the length of each stand was four cubits, its width four cubits, and its height was three cubits.

27 Then he made the ten stands of bronze; the length of each stand was four cubits and its width four cubits and its height three cubits.

27 Hiram also made ten bronze water carts. Each one was four cubits wide, four cubits long, and three cubits high.

27 And he made ten bases of brass; four cubits was the length of one base, and four cubits the breadth thereof, and three cubits the height of it.

- The 10 bronze movable stands were evidently used for butchering sacrificial animals. Each was six feet square and five and one-half feet high at its highest point.

28 This was the design of the stands: they had borders, that is, borders between the crossbars,

28 This was the design of the stands: they had borders, even borders between the frames,

28 The carts were designed with borders between cross-pieces,

28 And the work of the bases was on this manner: they had borders, and the borders were between the ledges:

29 and on the borders which were between the crossbars *were* lions, oxen, and cherubim; and on the crossbars there *was* a pedestal above, and beneath the lions and oxen *were* wreaths of hanging work.

29 and on the borders which were between the frames *were* lions, oxen and cherubim; and on the frames there *was* a pedestal above, and beneath the lions and oxen *were* wreaths of hanging work.

29 and on the borders between the cross-pieces were lions, oxen, and cherubim. A pedestal was placed above the cross-pieces, and beneath the lions and oxen there were wreaths hanging down.

29 And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubims: and upon the ledges there was a base above: and beneath the lions and oxen were certain additions made of thin work.

30 Now each stand had four bronze wheels with bronze axles, and its four feet had supports; beneath the basin *were* cast supports with wreaths at each side.

30 Now each stand had four bronze wheels with bronze axles, and its four feet had supports; beneath the basin *were* cast supports with wreaths at each side.

30 Each cart had four bronze wheels equipped with bronze axles with four support feet. Beneath the basin were cast support structures made like wreaths on each side.

30 And every base had four brasen wheels, and plates of brass: and the four corners thereof had undersetters: under the laver were undersetters molten, at the side of every addition.

- On the surface of each stand was a basin (v38) that held about 230 gallons (40 baths) of water

— Apparently another basin (v30) drained into a circular frame (perhaps a tank) below through an opening

— Each stand had decorated panels on each side, and four bronze wheels These 10 identical work tables could be wheeled around the inner courtyard (though with difficulty) as needed. Five were stationed on the south side of the temple and five on the north.

31 And its opening inside the crown at the top *was* a cubit, and its opening *was* round *like* the design of a pedestal, a cubit and a half; and on its opening also *there were* engravings, and their borders were square, not round.

31 Its opening inside the crown at the top *was* a cubit, and its opening *was* round like the design of a pedestal, a cubit and a half; and also on its opening *there were* engravings, and their borders were square, not round.

31 The opening to each water cart inside the crown on top was one cubit wide, with engravings on the opening. The borders to the frames surrounding the opening were square, not round.

31 And the mouth of it within the chapter and above was a cubit: but the mouth thereof was round after the work of the base, a cubit and an half: and also upon the mouth of it were gravings with their borders, foursquare, not round.

32 The four wheels *were* underneath the borders, and the axles of the wheels *were* on the stand. And the height of a wheel *was* a cubit and a half.

32 The four wheels *were* underneath the borders, and the axles of the wheels *were* on the stand. And the height of a wheel *was* a cubit and a half.

32 The four wheels were placed underneath the borders, and the axles for the wheels were on the stand. Each wheel stood one and a half cubits high.

32 And under the borders were four wheels; and the axletrees of the wheels were joined to the base: and the height of a wheel was a cubit and half a cubit.

33 The workmanship of the wheels *was* like the workmanship of a chariot wheel. Their axles, their rims, their spokes, and their hubs *were* all cast.

33 The workmanship of the wheels *was* like the workmanship of a chariot wheel. Their axles, their rims, their spokes, and their hubs *were* all cast.

33 The wheels resembled those of a chariot, with their axles, rims, spokes, and hubs made of cast bronze.

33 And the work of the wheels was like the work of a chariot wheel: their axletrees, and their naves, and their felloes, and their spokes, were all molten.

34 Now *there were* four supports at the four corners of each stand; its supports *were* part of the stand itself.

34 Now *there were* four supports at the four corners of each stand; its supports *were* part of the stand itself.

34 Four supports stood at the four corners of each cart, built into the carts themselves.

34 And there were four undersetters to the four corners of one base: and the undersetters were of the very base itself.

35 And on the top of the stand *there was* a circular *form* half a cubit high, and on the top of the stand its stays and its borders *were* part of it.

35 On the top of the stand *there was* a circular form half a cubit high, and on the top of the stand its stays and its borders *were* part of it.

35 On top of each stand was a circular structure one half of one cubit high, with its braces and support frames integral with it, forming a single piece.

35 And in the top of the base was there a round compass of half a cubit high: and on the top of the base the ledges thereof and the borders thereof were of the same.

36 And he engraved on the plates of its stays and on its borders cherubim, lions, and palm trees, as *there was* clear space on each, with wreaths *all* around.

36 He engraved on the plates of its stays and on its borders, cherubim, lions and palm trees, according to the clear space on each, with wreaths *all* around.

36 Hiram engraved ornamental cherubim, lions, and palm trees on the surfaces of the supports and frames wherever there was space to do so, and encircled the artwork with wreaths.

36 For on the plates of the ledges thereof, and on the borders thereof, he graved cherubims, lions, and palm trees, according to the proportion of every one, and additions round about.

37 He made the ten stands like this: all of them had the same casting, same measure, *and* same form.

37 He made the ten stands like this: all of them had one casting, one measure and one form.

37 He made ten identical water carts by using the same plans, castings, and shapes for all of them.

37 After this manner he made the ten bases: all of them had one casting, one measure, and one size.

**38** And he made ten basins of bronze, each holding forty baths; each basin was four cubits, *and* on each of the ten stands was one basin.

**38** He made ten basins of bronze, one basin held forty baths; each basin was four cubits, *and* on each of the ten stands was one basin.

**38** Hiram also fashioned ten bronze basins, each holding about 40 baths, each basin measuring four cubits in diameter, with one basin for each stand.

**38** Then made he ten lavers of brass: one laver contained forty baths: and every laver was four cubits: and upon every one of the ten bases one laver.

39 Then he placed the stands, five on the right side of the house and five on the left side of the house; and he set the *Sea of cast metal* on the right side of the house eastward toward the south.

39 Then he set the stands, five on the right side of the house and five on the left side of the house; and he set the *sea of cast metal* on the right side of the house eastward toward the south.

39 He set five of the stands on the right side of the Temple and five on the left side of the Temple. He set the bronze sea on the right side of the Temple eastward facing the south.

39 And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house: and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward over against the south.

**40** Now Hiram made the basins and the shovels and the bowls. So Hiram finished doing all the work which he performed for King Solomon *in* the house of the LORD:

**40** Now Hiram made the basins and the shovels and the bowls. So Hiram finished doing all the work which he performed for King Solomon *in* the house of the LORD:

**40** Hiram also made the basins, shovels, and bowls to complete the work that he performed for King Solomon in the LORD's Temple,

**40** And Hiram made the lavers, and the shovels, and the basons. So Hiram made an end of doing all the work that he made king Solomon for the house of the LORD:

- This summary of Hiram's handiwork excludes the bronze altar which he also fashioned (2 Chr 4:1). Recording the crafting of these furnishings in so much detail emphasizes the magnificent beauty, symmetry, and glory of the temple.

41 the two pillars and the *two* bowls of the capitals which *were* on the top of the two pillars, and the two lattices to cover the two bowls of the capitals which *were* on the top of the pillars;

41 the two pillars and the *two* bowls of the capitals which *were* on the top of the two pillars, and the two networks to cover the two bowls of the capitals which *were* on the top of the pillars;

41 including the two pillars and the bowls for the capitals that stood on top of the two pillars, along with the two lattices that covered the two bowls of the capitals that stood on top of the pillars,

41 The two pillars, and the two bowls of the chapters that were on the top of the two pillars; and the two networks, to cover the two bowls of the chapters which were upon the top of the pillars;

42 and the four hundred pomegranates for the two lattices, two rows of pomegranates for each lattice to cover the two bowls of the capitals which *were* on the tops of the pillars;

42 and the four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, two rows of pomegranates for each network to cover the two bowls of the capitals which *were* on the tops of the pillars;

42 plus the 400 pomegranates for the two lattices (that is, the two rows of pomegranates for each lattice to cover the two bowls of the capitals that stood on top of the pillars),

42 And four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, even two rows of pomegranates for one network, to cover the two bowls of the chapters that were upon the pillars;

43 and the ten stands with the ten basins on the stands;

43 and the ten stands with the ten basins on the stands;

43 the ten stands with the ten basins on the stands,

43 And the ten bases, and ten lavers on the bases;

44 and the one Sea and the twelve oxen under the Sea;

44 and the one sea and the twelve oxen under the sea;

44 the single bronze sea and the twelve oxen that stood under the sea,

44 And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;

45 and the buckets, the shovels, and the bowls; indeed, all these utensils which Hiram made for King Solomon *in* the house of the LORD *were* of polished bronze.

45 and the pails and the shovels and the bowls; even all these utensils which Hiram made for King Solomon *in* the house of the LORD *were* of polished bronze.

45 and the pots, shovels, and bowls—all of these utensils that Hiram made for King Solomon for the LORD's Temple were made from polished bronze.

45 And the pots, and the shovels, and the basons: and all these vessels, which Hiram made to king Solomon for the house of the LORD, were of bright brass.

46 The king had them cast in the plain of the Jordan, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarethan.

46 In the plain of the Jordan the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarethan.

46 The king had them cast in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarethan in the Jordan plain.

46 In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarthan.

- The bronze objects were cast in clay molds in the Jordan Valley between Succoth and Zarethan, about 35 miles north of the Dead Sea and east of the Jordan River

47 However, Solomon left all the utensils *unweighed*, because *they were* too many; the weight of the bronze could not be determined.

47 Solomon left all the utensils *unweighed*, because *they were* too many; the weight of the bronze could not be ascertained.

47 Solomon never inventoried the weight of the bronze used, because there were too many utensils, so the weight of the bronze used was never ascertained.

47 And Solomon left all the vessels unweighed, because they were exceeding many: neither was the weight of the brass found out.

- Bronze was so abundant that it was not even weighed. Bronze was used for the furnishings outside the temple (v40-45), but all the furniture on the inside was made of gold.

**48** Solomon also made all the furniture that *was in* the house of the LORD: the golden altar and the golden table on which *was set* the bread of the Presence;

**48** Solomon made all the furniture which *was in* the house of the LORD: the golden altar and the golden table on which *was* the bread of the Presence;

**48** Solomon made all the furnishings that were placed in the LORD's Temple, including the golden altar and the golden table on which the bread of the Presence was placed,

**48** And Solomon made all the vessels that pertained unto the house of the LORD: the altar of gold, and the table of gold, whereupon the shewbread was,

- The golden altar was the altar of incense. The table for the bread of the Presence ("showbread" [KJV]) was possibly one larger table with nine others with it, which, though not mentioned here, are mentioned in 2 Chr 4:8 ("10 tables") and 2 Chr 4:19 ("tables").

49 and the lampstands of pure gold, five on the right side and five on the left, in front of the inner sanctuary; and the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs, of gold;

49 and the lampstands, five on the right side and five on the left, in front of the inner sanctuary, of pure gold; and the flowers and the lamps and the tongs, of gold;

49 along with the lamp stands (five on the right side and five on the left in front of the inner sanctuary), all made of pure gold, as well as the flower blossoms, lamps, and tongs of gold,

49 And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

- Whereas the tabernacle had one lampstand, menorah, the temple had 10 lampstands in the holy place (the main hall)

50 also the cups, the shears, the bowls, the ladles, and the firepans, of pure gold; and the hinges *both* for the doors of the inner house, the Most Holy Place, *and* for the doors of the house, *that is*, for the main room, of gold.

50 and the cups and the snuffers and the bowls and the spoons and the firepans, of pure gold; and the hinges both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, *and* for the doors of the house, *that is*, of the nave, of gold.

50 and the cups, snuffers, bowls, spoons, and the fire pans, all made of pure gold, and hinges for the doors of the inner sanctuary, the Most Holy Place, and for the gates of the Temple that led to the nave, also of gold.

50 And the bowls, and the snuffers, and the basins, and the spoons, and the censers of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the house, to wit, of the temple.

**51** So all the work that King Solomon performed *in* the house of the LORD was finished. And Solomon brought in the offerings vowed by his father David, the silver and the gold and the utensils, *and* he put them in the treasuries of the house of the LORD.

**51** Thus all the work that King Solomon performed *in* the house of the LORD was finished. And Solomon brought in the things dedicated by his father David, the silver and the gold and the utensils, *and* he put them in the treasuries of the house of the LORD.

**51** Thus all the work that King Solomon performed in the LORD's Temple was finished. Then Solomon brought in the articles that had been dedicated by his father David, including silver, gold, and other utensils, and he placed them into storage in the treasuries of the LORD's Temple.

**51** So was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the LORD. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and

the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the LORD.

- To all these items were added the furnishings King David had prepared and dedicated for temple service (2 Sam 8:11; 1 Chr 22:14; 29:1-9)

— The temple, then, became the treasury of Israel in that it housed the nation's greatest treasures