

2 Chronicles 01 - Beginning of Solomon's Administration; Solomon Prays for Wisdom; Solomon's Wealth

III. Solomon builds the temple (2 Chr 1:1—9:31)

(1) Solomon's wisdom (1:1-17)

(A) Solomon offers sacrifices on Moses' bronze altar in Gibeon (1:1-6)

(B) Solomon requests and receives divine wisdom (1:7-13)

(C) Solomon's prosperous reign (1:14-17)

2 Chronicles 1

III. Solomon builds the temple (2 Chr 1:1—9:31)

(1) Solomon's wisdom (1:1-17)

(A) Solomon offers sacrifices on Moses' bronze altar in Gibeon (1:1-6) (Cf. 1 Kings 3:1-4)

1 Now Solomon the son of David established himself securely over his kingdom, and the LORD his God *was* with him and exalted him greatly.

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1 As David's son Solomon consolidated his administration, the LORD his God *was* with him to make him very successful.

1 And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God *was* with him, and magnified him exceedingly.

2 And Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the commanders of thousands, of hundreds, and to the judges and to every leader in all Israel, the heads of the fathers' *households*.

2 Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the commanders of thousands and of hundreds and to the judges and to every leader in all Israel, the heads of the fathers' *households*.

2 Solomon addressed the entire nation of Israel, including the commanders of thousands and hundreds, the judges, all the other leaders of Israel, and all of the heads of the ancestral houses of Israel.

2 Then Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every governor in all Israel, the chief of the fathers.

3 Then Solomon and all the assembly with him went to the high place which was at **Gibeon**, because God's tent of meeting was there which Moses, the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness.

3 Then Solomon and all the assembly with him went to the high place which was at Gibeon, for God's tent of meeting was there, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness.

3 Solomon, along with the whole assembly with him, met at the high place in Gibeon because that's where God's Tent of Meeting that the LORD's servant Moses had constructed in the wilderness was located.

3 So Solomon, and all the congregation with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon; for there was the tabernacle of the congregation of God, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness.

- "...Gibeon" - the tabernacle remained at Gibeon, while the Ark remained in Jerusalem (1 Chr 16:39; 21:29)

— Although the Ark was in Jerusalem, Gibeon was still a legitimate place of worship. It was the only place where the priests could offer sacrifices on the bronze altar.

- One of Solomon's first official acts as king was to worship God

4 However, David had brought up the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to the place he had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem.

4 However, David had brought up the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to the place he had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem.

4 Nevertheless, David had brought the Ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to the place that David had prepared for it, after having erected a tent for it in Jerusalem.

4 But the ark of God had David brought up from Kirjathjearim to the place which David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem.

- Solomon and Israel's leaders made a pilgrimage to the tabernacle at Gibeon to offer sacrifices on the great bronze altar, made by Bezalel (Ex 31:11) under Moses' direction (Ex 38:17) that was still located there (1 Chr 16:39-40; Ex 38:1-7)

— The ark, however, was still in Jerusalem, where it had been brought from Kiriath Jearim by David (1 Chr 15:1)

5 Now the bronze altar which Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made was there before the tabernacle of the LORD, and Solomon and the assembly sought it *out*.

5 Now the bronze altar, which Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the LORD, and Solomon and the assembly sought it out.

5 Also, the bronze altar that Uri's son Bezalel, Hur's grandson had erected, was in place in front of the LORD's tent. Solomon and the assembly sought the LORD there.

5 Moreover the brasen altar, that Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the LORD: and Solomon and the congregation sought unto it.

6 And Solomon went up there before the LORD to the bronze altar which was at the tent of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.

6 Solomon went up there before the LORD to the bronze altar which was at the tent of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.

6 Solomon approached the presence of the LORD at the bronze altar that had been placed at the Tent of Meeting and offered 1,000 burnt offerings on it.

6 And Solomon went up thither to the brasen altar before the LORD, which was at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it.

- Along with the other national leaders, Solomon expressed his devotion to the Lord by offering 1,000 burnt offerings on that one occasion

(B) Solomon requests and receives divine wisdom (1:7-13) (Cf. 1 Kings 3:4-15)

7 In that night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, "Ask what I shall give you."

7 In that night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, "Ask what I shall give you."

7 That very night God appeared to Solomon and told him, "Ask what I am to give you."

7 In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

8 And Solomon said to God, "You have dealt with my father David with great faithfulness, and have made me king in his place.

8 Solomon said to God, "You have dealt with my father David with great lovingkindness, and have made me king in his place.

8 Solomon replied to God, "You showed great gracious love to my father David, and have established me as king in his place.

8 And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead.

9 Now, LORD God, **Your promise** to my father David is fulfilled, for You have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.

9 Now, O LORD God, Your promise to my father David is fulfilled, for You have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.

9 Now, LORD God, your promise to my father David is fulfilled, because you have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.

9 Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude.

- "...Your promise" - a reference to the Davidic Covenant (2 Sam 7; 1 Chr 17)

10 Now give me **wisdom** and **knowledge**, so that I may go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this great people of Yours?"

10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this great people of Yours?"

10 Give me wisdom now, so I may go in and out among this people, because who can rule this great people that belongs to you?

10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?

- "...wisdom" - *chokmah*, refers to discernment and judgment

- "...knowledge" - *madda*, means practical know-how in everyday affairs

- Solomon requested the wisdom necessary to understand and obey the Mosaic Law, by which Israel's kings were to shepherd the nation (Deut 4:5-8; 17:18-20; Matt 7:7; James 1:5)

11 Then God said to Solomon, "Because this was in your heart, and you did not ask for riches, wealth, or honor, or the life of those who hate you, nor did you even ask for long life, but you asked for yourself wisdom and knowledge so that you may rule My people over whom I have made you king,

11 God said to Solomon, "Because you had this in mind, and did not ask for riches, wealth or honor, or the life of those who hate you, nor have you even asked for long life, but you have asked for yourself wisdom and knowledge that you may rule My people over whom I have made you king,

11 God told Solomon, "Since you had this in mind, to ask neither to focus on riches, wealth, honor, or the lives of those who hate you, nor have you requested a long life, but instead you have asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself, so that you may rule my people over whom I have established you as king,

11 And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:

12 wisdom and knowledge have been granted to you. I will also give you riches, wealth, and honor, such as none of the kings who were before you has possessed, nor *will* those who will come after you."

12 wisdom and knowledge have been granted to you. And I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings who were before you has possessed nor those who will come after you."

12 wisdom and knowledge have been granted to you. Furthermore, I will give you riches, wealth, and honor—such as none of the kings owned who lived before you and none after you are to ever attain their equal.”

12 Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

13 So Solomon went from the high place which was at Gibeon, from the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem, and he reigned over Israel.

13 So Solomon went from the high place which was at Gibeon, from the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem, and he reigned over Israel.

13 So Solomon returned from the Tent of Meeting at the high place in Gibeon to Jerusalem, where he reigned over Israel.

13 Then Solomon came from his journey to the high place that was at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the congregation, and reigned over Israel.

(C) Solomon's prosperous reign (1:14-17) (Cf. 1 Kings 4:21-34; 10:26-29; 2 Chr 9:25-28)

14 Solomon amassed chariots and horsemen. He had 1,400 chariots and twelve thousand **horsemen**, and he stationed them in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.

14 Solomon amassed chariots and horsemen. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, and he stationed them in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.

14 Solomon amassed both chariots and horsemen: he owned 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, stationing them in armories and with the king in Jerusalem.

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

- "...horsemen" - *parashim*, can mean either horses or charioteers (Cf. Deut 17:16-17)

15 The king made silver and gold as plentiful in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedars as plentiful as sycamores in the lowland.

15 The king made silver and gold as plentiful in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedars as plentiful as sycamores in the lowland.

15 The king made silver and gold as common in Jerusalem as stones, and made cedar trees as plentiful as sycamore trees that grow in the Shephelah.

15 And the king made silver and gold at Jerusalem as plenteous as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycamore trees that are in the vale for abundance.

16 Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and from **Kue**; the king's traders acquired them from Kue for a price.

16 Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and from Kue; the king's traders procured them from Kue for a price.

16 Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and from Kue; the king's procurement officials obtained them from Kue at great price.

16 And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

- "...Kue" - or "Keveh"; likely an ancient name for Cilicia, northwest of Israel. It was a city known for its horses.

17 They imported chariots from Egypt for six hundred *shekels* of silver apiece, horses for 150 apiece, and by the same means they exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram.

17 They imported chariots from Egypt for 600 *shekels* of silver apiece and horses for 150 apiece, and by the same means they exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram.

17 Chariots were imported from Egypt for 600 shekels each, and horses cost 150 shekels each, and then they exported them to all of the kings of the Hittites and to the kings of Aram.

17 And they fetched up, and brought forth out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred shekels of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty: and so brought they out horses for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, by their means.