

# 2 Chronicles 04 - The Temple Furnishings

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

(2) Solomon's temple (2 Chr 2:1—7:22)

## 2 Chronicles 4

(B) Temple construction (2 Chr 3:1—4:22) (Cf. 1 Kings 6:23-38; 7:13-51)

### Bronze Altar

1 Then he made a **bronze altar**, twenty cubits in length, twenty cubits in width, and ten cubits in height.

1 Then he made a bronze altar, twenty cubits in length and twenty cubits in width and ten cubits in height.

1 Solomon also constructed a bronze altar 20 cubits long, 20 cubits wide, and ten cubits high.

1 Moreover he made an altar of brass, twenty cubits the length thereof, and twenty cubits the breadth thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof.

- "...bronze altar" - brass (bronze) items in Scripture are often associated with judgment

— The pathway to God and acceptance by Him was through the altar of sacrifice

— This was the main altar on which sacrifices were offered

— Cf. the Tabernacle altar (Ex 27:1-8; 38:1-7)

— Cf. the Millennial Temple altar (Ezek 43:13-17)

God designed other temple furnishings to enable the priests to carry out the instructive ritual that the Mosaic Law prescribed. The furnishings and ritual taught, and reminded everyone who viewed them, lessons about God, man, and the relationship between them that God's grace had made possible.

### Large Pool

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

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

2 He crafted a circular sea of cast metal 10 cubits from rim to rim and five cubits tall. A line 30 cubits long surrounded it.

2 Also he made a molten sea of ten cubits from brim to brim, round in compass, and five cubits the height thereof; and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about.

- "...Sea of cast *metal*" - a large laver used for ritual cleansing (Ex 30:17-21; Cf. 1 Kings 7:23)

— In the Millennial Temple, it will be replaced by the Millennial River that flows through the Temple (Ezek 47:1-12)

### Inerrancy?

1 Kings 7:23: 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.

וַיַּעַשׂ אֶת־הַיָּם מוֹצֵק עֶשֶׂר בָּאַמָּה מִשְׁפָּחוֹ עַד־שְׂפָחוֹ  
עֵגֶל סָבִיב וְחָמֵשׁ בָּאַמָּה קוֹמָתוֹ (וְקוֹנָה) [וְקוֹן]  
שְׁלֹשִׁים בָּאַמָּה יָסֹב אֹתוֹ סָבִיב:

This would seem to an "error:" the "line of 30 cubits compassing it roundabout," the circumference, is not three times 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, *wq*. The gematrical value as recorded is 111; the correct value would be 106.

When this correction, 111/106, 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-thousandths of an inch!

3 Now figures like oxen *were* under it *and* all around it, ten cubits, entirely encircling the Sea. The oxen *were* in two rows, cast in one piece.

3 Now figures like oxen *were* under it *and* all around it, ten cubits, entirely encircling the sea. The oxen *were* in two rows, cast in one piece.

3 Underneath, figurines resembling oxen encircled the circular sea beneath it, ten oxen every cubit, and encircling the sea completely. The oxen were in two rows, cast all at the same time.

3 And under it was the similitude of oxen, which did compass it round about: ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about. Two rows of oxen were cast, when it was cast.

4 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 hindquarters turned inward.

4 It stood on twelve oxen, three facing the north, three facing west, three facing south and three facing east; and the sea was set on top of them and all their hindquarters turned inwards.

4 The sea stood on top of twelve oxen, three of which faced to the north, three of which faced to the west, three of which faced to the south, and three of which faced toward the east. The sea was placed on top of the oxen, with all of their hindquarters turned inwards.

4 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.

- Likely the 12 oxen represent the 12 Tribes who were similarly arrayed around the tabernacle as they set out on their journey in the wilderness (Num 2:1-34)

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

5 It was a handbreadth thick, and its brim was made like the brim of a cup, *like* a lily blossom; it could hold 3,000 baths.

5 It was a handbreadth thick, with its brim fashioned like the brim of a cup. Similar in shape to a lily blossom, it could hold 3,000 baths.

5 And the thickness of it was an handbreadth, and the brim of it like the work of the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies; and it received and held three thousand baths.

- "...bath" - about 6 gallons

- 1 Kings 7:26 reads 2,000 baths. This has been reconciled by accounting here not only for the water the basin held, but also the water source that was necessary to keep it flowing as a fountain.

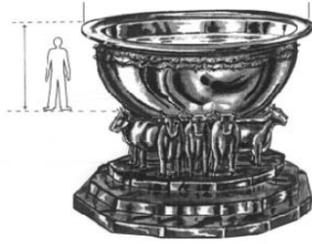
## 10 Basins

6 He also made ten basins in which to wash, and he set five on the right side and five on the left to rinse things for the burnt offering; but the Sea was for the priests to wash in.

6 He also made ten basins in which to wash, and he set five on the right side and five on the left to rinse things for the burnt offering; but the sea was for the priests to wash in.

6 Solomon also made ten wash basins, placing five on the right side and five on the left. The basins were intended for use to rinse burnt offerings, and the sea was intended for use by the priests to wash in.

6 He made also ten lavers, and put five on the right hand, and five on the left, to wash in them: such things as they offered for the burnt offering they washed in them; but the sea was for the priests to wash in.



### **10 Golden Lampstands**

7 Then he made the ten golden **lampstands** in the way prescribed for them, and he set them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left.

7 Then he made the ten golden lampstands in the way prescribed for them and he set them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left.

7 Solomon made ten gold lamp stands as he had been directed and set them in the Temple, five on the south side and five on the north side.

7 And he made ten candlesticks of gold according to their form, and set them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left.

- "...lampstands" - *menorah*

### **10 Tables for Showbread**

8 He also made ten tables and placed them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left. And he made a hundred golden bowls.

8 He also made ten tables and placed them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left. And he made one hundred golden bowls.

8 He also made ten tables and placed them in the Temple, five on the right side and five on the left side. He also constructed 100 gold basins.

8 He made also ten tables, and placed them in the temple, five on the right side, and five on the left. And he made an hundred basons of gold.

### **The Courtyard**

9 Then he made the courtyard of the priests and the great courtyard, and doors for the courtyard, and overlaid their doors with bronze.

9 Then he made the court of the priests and the great court and doors for the court, and overlaid their doors with bronze.

9 He made the court of the priests, the great court, and doors for the court, overlaying their doors with bronze.

9 Furthermore he made the court of the priests, and the great court, and doors for the court, and overlaid the doors of them with brass.

10 He put the Sea on the right side *of the house* toward the southeast.

10 He set the sea on the right side of *the house* toward the southeast.  
10 He set the sea at the southeast corner of the Temple.  
10 And he set the sea on the right side of the east end, over against the south.

**11** Hiram also made the pails, the shovels, and the bowls. So Hiram finished the work that he did for King Solomon in the house of God:

**11** Hiram also made the pails, the shovels and the bowls. So Hiram finished doing the work which he performed for King Solomon in the house of God:

**11** Hiram-abi crafted the pots, shovels, and basins, thus completing the work that he did for King Solomon on the Temple of God;

**11** And Hiram made the pots, and the shovels, and the basons. And Hiram finished the work that he was to make for king Solomon for the house of God;

12 the two pillars, the bowls and the two capitals on top of the pillars, and the two latticeworks to cover the two bowls of the capitals which were on top of the pillars,

12 the two pillars, the bowls and the two capitals on top of the pillars, and the two networks to cover the two bowls of the capitals which were on top of the pillars,

12 that is, the two pillars, the bowls, the two capitals on top of the pillars, the two lattice works that covered the two bowls for the capitals that were on top of the pillars;

12 To wit, the two pillars, and the pommels, and the chapters which were on the top of the two pillars, and the two wreaths to cover the two pommels of the chapters which were on the top of the pillars;

13 and the four hundred pomegranates for the two latticeworks, two rows of pomegranates for each latticework to cover the two bowls of the capitals which were on the pillars.

13 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 pillars.

13 the 400 pomegranate-shaped ornaments for the latticework of the two pillars (each latticework having two rows of ornaments at the bowl-shaped top of each pillar);

13 And four hundred pomegranates on the two wreaths; two rows of pomegranates on each wreath, to cover the two pommels of the chapters which were upon the pillars.

14 He also made the stands and he made the basins on the stands,

14 He also made the stands and he made the basins on the stands,

14 the ten stands with their ten basins;

14 He made also bases, and lavers made he upon the bases;

15 *and* the one Sea with the twelve oxen under it.

15 *and* the one sea with the twelve oxen under it.

15 the large bronze basin called the Sea with the twelve oxen underneath,

15 One sea, and twelve oxen under it.

16 The pails, the shovels, the forks, and all its utensils, Hiram-abi made of polished bronze for King Solomon, for the house of the LORD.

16 The pails, the shovels, the forks and all its utensils, Hiram-abi made of polished bronze for King Solomon for the house of the LORD.

16 along with its pots, shovels, forks, and all of its other implements that Hiram-abi made from polished bronze for King Solomon and the LORD's Temple.

16 The pots also, and the shovels, and the fleshhooks, and all their instruments, did Hiram his father make to king Solomon for the house of the LORD of bright brass.

17 On the plain of the Jordan the king cast them in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredah.

17 On the plain of the Jordan the king cast them in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredah.

17 The king had them forged in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredah in the Jordan plain.

**17** In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredathah.

18 So Solomon made all these utensils in great quantities, for the weight of the bronze could not be determined.

18 Thus Solomon made all these utensils in great quantities, for the weight of the bronze could not be found out.

18 Solomon made so many utensils in such great quantities that the weight of the bronze was never fully recorded.

18 Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be found out.

**19** Solomon also made all the things that *were* in the house of God: the golden altar, the tables with the bread of the Presence on them,

**19** Solomon also made all the things that *were* in the house of God: even the golden altar, the tables with the bread of the Presence on them,

**19** Solomon also made these items for God's Temple: the golden altar, the tables for the Bread of the Presence,

**19** And Solomon made all the vessels that were for the house of God, the golden altar also, and the tables whereon the shewbread was set;

20 the lampstands with their lamps of pure gold, to burn in front of the inner sanctuary in the way prescribed;

20 the lampstands with their lamps of pure gold, to burn in front of the inner sanctuary in the way prescribed;

20 the lamp stands and their lamps made of pure gold to burn in front of the inner sanctuary, as required,

20 Moreover the candlesticks with their lamps, that they should burn after the manner before the oracle, of pure gold;

21 the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs of gold, that is, of purest gold;

21 the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs of gold, of purest gold;

21 the pure gold ornaments in the shape of flowers, the lamps, and the tongs (all made of the purest gold),

21 And the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs, made he of gold, and that perfect gold;

22 and the snuffers, the bowls, the spoons, and the firepans of pure gold; and the entrance of the house, its inner doors for the Most Holy Place and the doors of the house, *that is*, of the main room, of gold.

22 and the snuffers, the bowls, the spoons and the firepans of pure gold; and the entrance of the house, its inner doors for the holy of holies and the doors of the house, *that is*, of the nave, of gold.

22 the gold trimming instruments, basins, pans, censers, and the gold door sockets for the inner sanctuary (that is, the Most Holy Place), and for the doors to the main hall of the Temple.

22 And the snuffers, and the basins, and the spoons, and the censers, of pure gold: and the entry of the house, the inner doors thereof for the most holy place, and the doors of the house of the temple, were of gold.