

## 2 Chronicles 4

King James Version (KJV)

**4** Moreover he made an altar of brass, twenty cubits the length thereof, and twenty cubits the breadth thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof. (This was the altar of burnt offerings; it had to be large enough to offer oxen) (There were steps that led up the 20 ft to the altar)

<sup>2</sup>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. (This was a large circular brass basin, to be filled with water. It is thought to be where the priests washed before and/or after making offerings. It's not known for sure)

<sup>3</sup>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. (oxen = gourd like rosettes – bad translation. The Moffet Bible translation caught this mistake)

1Kings-7 (They are called knops <which are gourds>)

<sup>4</sup>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. (The twelve oxen were symbolic of the 12 tribes; positioned as when they were camped in the wilderness, after leaving Egypt – 4 sides, 3 per side) see Numbers-2

<sup>5</sup>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. (approx 10,000 gallons of water)

<sup>6</sup>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. See 1Kings-7:38 also see Leviticus-1:9

<sup>7</sup>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. (These candlesticks may have been identical to the menorah that Moses made for the mosaic temple in Exodus-25)

<sup>8</sup> 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. (Basons – bowls for sprinkling) (The tables were for the shewbread)

<sup>9</sup> 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. (These courts are outside of the holy building, where all was gold. The inner court was for the priests and the great court was for the people)

<sup>10</sup> And he set the sea on the right side of the east end, over against the south. Appendix-68 Companion Bible – temple drawings

<sup>11</sup> 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; (Hiram was the master craftsman. He had many craftsmen working under him. Hiram had oversight over them)

(The brass works 12-18)

<sup>12</sup> To wit, the two pillars, and the pommels, and the chapiters which were on the top of the two pillars, and the two wreaths to cover the two pommels of the chapiters which were on the top of the pillars; (Pommels – very large bowls that sat on top of the chapiters, on top of the pillars. They may have been filled with olive oil or incense and set afire)

<sup>13</sup> And four hundred pomegranates on the two wreaths; two rows of pomegranates on each wreath, to cover the two pommels of the chapiters which were upon the pillars. (Pomegranates have many fruitful seeds – they were representative of life. The wreaths were lattice work of gold, like a net)

<sup>14</sup> He made also bases, and lavers made he upon the bases; 1Kings-7:27 (The lavers were used to wash the sacrificed animals after they had been slaughtered)

<sup>15</sup> One sea, and twelve oxen under it. (The priests washed in this. It was called the molten sea or the brazen sea)

<sup>16</sup> 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. (father - also means adviser or counselor in Hebrew) (bright = polished)

(shovels were used to clean the ashes off of the altar of sacrifice. The fleshhooks were used to remove the sacrificial meat from the boiling pots, for the sacrificial meals, such as the peace offerings)

<sup>17</sup> In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredathah. (Close by the Jordan River, they used the clay soil to make the molds to pour the molten brass into)

<sup>18</sup> Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be found out. (More than can be measured)

<sup>19</sup> 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; (the golden altar was for burning incense. The incense was symbolic for the prayers of the people rising up to heaven)

(Shewbread = bread of the face <Hebrew>; this was an offering to God, on the golden tables for 1 week. The priests would then eat the bread and replace it on the tables for another week)

<sup>20</sup> Moreover the candlesticks with their lamps, that they should burn after the manner before the oracle, of pure gold; (oracle is a reference to the "holy of holies"; the oracle = the words <Hebrew>)

Exodus-25, 26 & 27 (the furniture and items were the same in the tabernacle that Moses made for God. The number of each item was fewer, because the tabernacle had to be transportable. The temple was a permanent structure)

<sup>21</sup> And the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs, made he of gold, and that perfect gold; (Perfect gold = purest gold)

<sup>22</sup> And the snuffers, and the basons, 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. (censers – were for burning incense) (snuffers – were used to trim the burnt part off of the wicks in the candle bowls)

(The temple was so ornate because it was the place where God resided while He dwelt with man. Gold was a symbol for the purity of God)