

## 2 Chronicles 8

King James Version (KJV)

**8** And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, wherein Solomon had built the house of the LORD, and his own house, (7 years for the temple, 13 years for his palace; Solomon is now approx. 40)

<sup>2</sup>That the cities which Huram had restored to Solomon, Solomon built them, and caused the children of Israel to dwell there. (Huram, king of Tyre is called Hiram in the Book of kings)

1Kings-9:10 (David gave 20 cities to Hiram as collateral. They were slums filled with Canaanites, so Hiram gave them back. Solomon rebuilt them and gave them to Israelites to inhabit)

<sup>3</sup>And Solomon went to Hamathzobah, and prevailed against it. (David had defeated Hamath and Zobah, and they paid tribute to Israel. Under Solomon, they had stopped paying tribute, so Solomon went back in and re-subjugated them)

<sup>4</sup>And he built Tadmor in the wilderness, and all the store cities, which he built in Hamath. (built = rebuilt & fortified) (Store cities were fortified and had a small army stationed on site)

(Tadmor was later called Palmyra by the Greeks & Romans. It was a stop on the caravan route between the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea)

<sup>5</sup>Also he built Bethhoron the upper, and Bethhoron the nether, fenced cities, with walls, gates, and bars; (These were more fortified cities with garrisons. These cities protected the mountainous regions of Judah, Benjamin and Ephraim)

<sup>6</sup>And Baalath, and all the store cities that Solomon had, and all the chariot cities, and the cities of the horsemen, and all that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and throughout all the land of his dominion. (He had military forces deployed in these border cities, for the defense of Israel)

(in Lebanon - the House of Lebanon - a complex located close by Solomon's palace in Jerusalem. That is where Solomon had his throne and where he entertained guests. He also judged the people there)

<sup>7</sup> As for all the people that were left of the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which were not of Israel,

Deuteronomy-7:1-6 (God instructed Israel to completely destroy these Canaanite tribes. They had mated with the fallen angels, and produced giant offspring. God wanted them wiped out, but Israel didn't obey)

(God was right. Eventually, Israel started worshipping the heathens' false gods instead of Yahoveh. This offended God greatly and finally caused Him to take His blessings away from Israel. They were eventually defeated by their enemies)

<sup>8</sup> But of their children, who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel consumed not, them did Solomon make to pay tribute until this day. (They either paid taxes or became forced laborers for Israel)

<sup>9</sup> But of the children of Israel did Solomon make no servants for his work; but they were men of war, and chief of his captains, and captains of his chariots and horsemen.

<sup>10</sup> And these were the chief of king Solomon's officers, even two hundred and fifty, that bare rule over the people. (Over the forced laborers)

1Kings-9:23 (It is stated there as 550; but those were both some Israelites<250> and some who were foreigners<300>)

<sup>11</sup> And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David unto the house that he had built for her: for he said, My wife shall not dwell in the house of David king of Israel, because the places are holy, whereunto the ark of the LORD hath come. (This woman was an Egyptian; a heathen, idol worshipping woman. She was not of Israeli descent) 1Kings-3:1

Deuteronomy-17 (God said the kings of Israel should not multiply wives unto themselves – Solomon had 600 wives, and 300 concubines. Most of them were foreign, heathen women. Also, he was not to return to Egypt for horses, which Solomon did. He even took an Egyptian to wife)

(Solomon knew that he had transgressed against God, but that didn't stop him. He never repented for his transgressions. His ego must have gotten to him. His pagan wives set up altars to their false gods, and Solomon worshipped them also)

<sup>12</sup> Then Solomon offered burnt offerings unto the LORD on the altar of the LORD, which he had built before the porch, (He worshipped God at the temple in Jerusalem. He also worshipped the idols of his heathen wives. As the king goes, so go the people. Israel became a nation of polytheists under Solomon)

<sup>13</sup> Even after a certain rate every day, offering according to the commandment of Moses, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts, three times in the year, even in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles. (the new moons – first day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month – feast of trumps; feast of unleavened bread - was 7 day feast immediately after the Passover; feast of weeks – Pentecost, today; feast of tabernacles – Succoth, also known as the feast of Booths)

<sup>14</sup> And he appointed, according to the order of David his father, the courses of the priests to their service, and the Levites to their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as the duty of every day required: the porters also by their courses at every gate: for so had David the man of God commanded. (Solomon continued the courses of the temple as David had set them up)

<sup>15</sup> And they departed not from the commandment of the king unto the priests and Levites concerning any matter, or concerning the treasures. (These were the instructions that God gave to David, concerning the temple)

<sup>16</sup> Now all the work of Solomon was prepared unto the day of the foundation of the house of the LORD, and until it was finished. So the house of the LORD was perfected. (The courses of the priests began after the dedication of the temple; on the first day of the civil year)

NOTE: (Although Solomon worshipped God as commanded, he also began to worship the idols of his heathen wives. Yahoveh was the only God that Israel was supposed to worship. God does not tolerate idolatry very long)

<sup>17</sup> Then went Solomon to Eziongeber, and to Eloth, at the sea side in the land of Edom. (This gave Israel a port on the Red Sea)

<sup>18</sup> And Hiram sent him by the hands of his servants ships, and servants that had knowledge of the sea; and they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took thence four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought them to king Solomon. (It is not known where Ophir was. They brought back the finest gold and precious woods and gems from there. This made Israel very wealthy)

(Tyre <Hiram's nation> was an island. Its people were experienced sailors and merchants. They are also known as Phoenicians. They accompanied the Israelites on their trips to Ophir)