

King Solomon

The Transition from David to Solomon

The book of First Kings records the reign of Solomon, but began with David's decline and the attempt by Adonijah to steal the throne from Solomon. David's final years were spent in the infirmities of old age and a young woman called Abishag, who was a virgin, was chosen to minister to him.

Now King David was old, advanced in years; and they put covers on him, but he could not get warm. 2 Therefore his servants said to him, "Let a young woman, a virgin, be sought for our lord the king, and let her stand before the king, and let her care for him; and let her lie in your bosom, that our lord the king may be warm." 3 So they sought for a lovely young woman throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Abishag the Shunammite, and brought her to the king. 4 The young woman was very lovely; and she cared for the king, and served him; but the king did not know her. 1Kings 1:1-4

Even in the infirmities of his old age, he could not escape the consequences of his sin. His son Adonijah sought to use David's declining health as an opportunity to take the throne. Adonijah felt entitled to the throne.

Then he said, "You know that the kingdom was mine, and all Israel had set their expectations on me, that I should reign. However, the kingdom has been turned over, and has become my brother's; for it was his from the Lord. 1 Kings 2:15-16

Some think that after the death of Amnon and Absalom, Adonijah believed himself to be next in line and that certainly may have been true. Yet whatever the reason, "Adonijah exalted himself, saying 'I will be king,'" then devised an elaborate plan to become king and he found willing accomplices in Joab his general and Abiathar the priest, as the "followed and helped" him.

Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king"; and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. 6 (And his father had not rebuked him at any time by saying, "Why have you done so?" He was also very good-looking. His mother had borne him after Absalom.) 7 Then he conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest, and they followed and helped Adonijah. 8 But Zadok the priest, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, Nathan the prophet, Shimei, Rei, and the mighty men who belonged to David were not with Adonijah. 1 Kings 1:5-8

The plans were well laid and were actually being carried out when Nathan arrived to warn Bathsheba that she and her son Solomon were in grave danger from these events.

And Adonijah sacrificed sheep and oxen and fattened cattle by the stone of Zoheleth, which is by En Rogel; he also invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the men of Judah, the king's servants. 10 But he did not invite Nathan the prophet, Benaiah, the mighty men, or Solomon his brother.

11 So Nathan spoke to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, "Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith has become king, and David our lord does not know it? 12 Come, please, let me now give you advice, that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon. 1Kings 1:9-12

All that God had planned for Solomon and the building of the temple were now being threatened by this rebellion of Adonijah. Although Nathan was a prophet, it is nowhere stated that God was behind this. He may have been or Nathan may have been acting out of concern alone.

Nathan's advice is probably based on Nathan's concern about David's ability to grasp the situation due to old age. So he wants Bathsheba to go in first and make the problem known to David and then Nathan would follow and confirm it.

Go immediately to King David and say to him, 'Did you not, my lord, O king, swear to your maidservant, saying, "Assuredly your son Solomon shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne"? Why then has Adonijah become king?' 14 Then, while you are still talking there with the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words." 1Kings 1:13-16

She immediately acts on Nathan's words and it is made clear by the account that David is now very old. David immediately recognizes that she had come with a purpose and asked about it.

So Bathsheba went into the chamber to the king. (Now the king was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was serving the king.) 16 And Bathsheba bowed and did homage to the king. Then the king said, "What is your wish?" 1 Kings 1:13-16

Bathsheba then revealed to David what Adonijah was doing. She also revealed something nowhere else discussed in the Scriptures that David had felt the need to swear to her by the name of Jehovah that her son Solomon would become king.

Then she said to him, "My lord, you swore by the Lord your God to your maidservant, saying, 'Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne.' 18 So now, look! Adonijah has become king; and now, my lord the king, you do not know about it. 1 Kings 1:17-19

As Nathan had promised he arrived just as she finished speaking and confirmed all that Bathsheba had spoken. He used powerful incentives to move David to action.

And Nathan said, "My lord, O king, have you said, 'Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne'? 25 For he has gone down today, and has sacrificed oxen and fattened cattle and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's sons, and the commanders of the army, and Abiathar the priest; and look! They are eating and drinking before him; and they say, 'Long live King Adonijah!' 26 But he has not invited me — me your servant — nor Zadok the priest, nor Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, nor your servant Solomon. 27 Has this thing been done by my lord the king, and you have not told your servant who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?" 1 Kings 1:24-27

First, he asked if David had been the one behind Adonijah's actions. Second, he revealed that Adonijah was already invited all the kings sons, commanders of the army and a priest. Third Nathan expressed concern that they had not invited God's prophet, himself, Zadok or Benaiah who were very close to David and last of all he had not invited Solomon.

His final words will force David to take action. Nathan already knows this was not of David, nor was it part of God's plan. It was destined to ruin all David's plans regarding the house he wanted to build for God in Jerusalem.

As planned, David is deeply moved by these events and immediately takes action. First he assures Bathsheba that he would keep the oath he had sworn to her.

Then King David answered and said, "Call Bathsheba to me." So she came into the king's presence and stood before the king. 29 And the king took an oath and said, "As the Lord lives, who has redeemed my life from every distress, 30 just as I swore to you by the Lord God of Israel, saying, 'Assuredly Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,' so I certainly will do this day." 1 Kings 1:28-30

Then he calls his three most trusted advisers and sets out the plans that will thwart Adonijah's plans and set up Solomon as king.

And King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." So they came before the king. 33 The king also said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord, and have Solomon my son ride on my own mule, and take him down to Gihon. 34 There let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him king over Israel; and blow the horn, and say, 'Long live King Solomon!' 35 Then you shall come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne, and he shall be king in my place. For I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and Judah." 1 Kings 1:32-35

The tumult this caused in the city led Adonijah's group to be concerned and after they find out what David has done, they realize the grave danger they are in. They had sought to defy God's will and David's oath and already knew what the consequences would be.

So all the guests who were with Adonijah were afraid, and arose, and each one went his way. 50 Now Adonijah was afraid of Solomon; so he arose, and went and took hold of the horns of the altar. 51 And it was told Solomon, saying, "Indeed Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon; for look, he has taken hold of the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon swear to me today that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.'" 52 Then Solomon said, "If he proves himself a worthy man, not one hair of him shall fall to the earth; but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die." 53 So King Solomon sent them to bring him down from the altar. And he came and fell down before King Solomon; and Solomon

said to him, "Go to your house." 1 Kings 1:49-53

David's Final words to Solomon

David was leaving everything in the hands of Solomon. The kingdom of Israel and the building of the temple. He was careful to help give Solomon the advice to succeed and be the kind of man necessary to continue receiving God's blessings. He knew the danger of power.

Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: 2 "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. 3 And keep the charge of the Lord your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; 4 that the Lord may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.' 1Kings 2:1-4

Note the emphasis. Solomon is to be strong and show himself a man by keeping the charge of Jehovah to walk in his ways, keep his statutes, commandments, ordinances, testimonies according to all that is written in the law of Moses. If he does so then he will prosper in all that he does and Jehovah will establish his word. In Chronicles a few more things are added to this.

As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever. 10 Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it. 1Chr. 28:9-10

It is evident from these words that David is very concerned about two things. First the importance of Solomon's faithfulness, second, the proper discharge in building the temple of Jehovah. David knew that the future of Israel and the temple would be based on these two things.

However the Lord God of Israel chose me above all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever, for He has chosen Judah to be the ruler. And of the house of Judah, the house of my father, and among the sons of my father, He was pleased with me to make me king over all Israel. 5 And of all my sons (for the Lord has given me many sons) He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel. 6 Now He said to me, 'It is your son Solomon who shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him to be My son, and I will be his Father. 7 Moreover I will establish his kingdom forever, if he is steadfast to observe My commandments and My judgments, as it is this day.' 8 Now therefore, in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the Lord, and in the hearing of our God, be careful to seek out all the commandments of the Lord your God, that you may possess this good land, and leave it as an inheritance for your children after you forever. 1Chron 28:4-8

David then instructed Solomon about dealing with some of the problems he had not completed and need to be done. First Joab was a wicked man and murderer and needed to be punished. Second Shemei had cursed David and needed to be dealt with for it. After these final words, David passed from the earth.

So David rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David. 11 The period that David reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years. 12 Then Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established. 1Kings 2:10-12

Adonijah was still scheming to become king and in his attempt to set things up for himself he revealed his intentions and Solomon had him executed. He sought the young virgin who had been with David in his final years to become his wife. He therefore went to Bathsheba and asked her to request it of the king. While she did not see the problem with this, Solomon did and immediately had him executed.

Although David does not refer to it, the prophecy that Moses had given to Israel regarding the future kings of Israel is very important.

"When you come to the land which the Lord your God is giving you, and possess it and dwell in it, and say, 'I will set a king over me like all the nations that are around me,' 15 you shall surely set a king over

you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. 16 But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' 17 Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. Deut 17:14-20

18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, 20 that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel. Deut 17:14-20

Note the important admonitions to the kings(Solomon ignored the ones in bold):

1. **Don't multiply horses** to himself. 16 (I Kings 10:26, 28; 2Chr 9:25)
2. **Don't multiply wives** for himself lest his heart turn away. 17 (I Kings 11:1-3)
3. **Don't multiply to himself silver and gold.** 17 (I Kings 10:27)
4. When sits on the throne, he shall write a copy of the law 18
5. It shall be with him and he shall read therein all the days of his life. 19
6. He must learn to fear the Jehovah, he will keep all the words of this law... to do them. 19
7. Heart must not be lifted up above his brethren, must not turn from the commands to the right or the left. 20
8. The end: That he may prolong his days in his kingdom. 20

Sadly many of the kings of Israel would have avoided serious problems if they had trusted in these words with all their heart and not leaned upon their own understanding of things(Pr. 3:5-7). Solomon was a great king, but would have been greater had he had taken to heart the things God had done to protect them from the dangers of being king.

King Solomon Worships at Gibeon

After the ark was taken by Hophni and Phinehas then captured by the Philistines, the tabernacle had been left without it. From that time until the middle of David's reign, there is no mention of it. But twice in David's reign and once here, it is revealed that the tabernacle had been relocated to Gibeon. David used this tabernacle to offer the burnt offerings that had been commanded both morning and evening.

*and Zadok the priest and his brethren the priests, **before the tabernacle of the Lord at the high place that was at Gibeon**, 40 to offer burnt offerings to the Lord on the altar of burnt offering regularly morning and evening, and to do according to all that is written in the Law of the Lord which He commanded Israel; 1Chr. 16:39-40*

*At that time, when David saw that the Lord had answered him on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he sacrificed there. 29 **For the tabernacle of the Lord and the altar of the burnt offering, which Moses had made in the wilderness, were at that time at the high place in Gibeon.** 30 But David could not go before it to inquire of God, for he was afraid of the sword of the angel of the Lord. 1Chron 21:28-30*

***Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.** 5 **At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night;** and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?" 1 Kings 3:4-5*

How it came to Gibeon is something God did not choose to reveal to us. Nothing is mentioned in the life of Samuel or the reign of Saul. It simply appeared already in Gibeon where it remained until the temple was finished by Solomon.

Solomon asked for Wisdom

It was after Solomon was worshipping the LORD with his 1,000 burnt offerings that God appeared to him in a dream. Although it states that Solomon offered them, it cannot mean more than he brought them and stood nearby as they were offered. Since he was of the tribe of Judah and only a priest descended from Aaron could offer on the altar, he would be an onlooker, but not an active participant. Everyone learned a valuable lesson from Saul who lost his kingdom for actively offering a burnt offering (1Sam. 13:8-14).

*Then **Solomon, and all the assembly with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon;** for the tabernacle of meeting with God was there, which Moses the servant of the Lord had made in the wilderness. 4 But David had brought up the ark of God from Kirjath Jearim to the place David had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem. 5 Now the bronze altar that Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the Lord; Solomon and the assembly sought Him there. 6 **And Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before the Lord, which was at the tabernacle of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.** 7 On that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, "Ask! What shall I give you?" 2Chron. 1:3-7*

That evening, God appeared to Solomon with an amazing offer. Solomon can ask whatever he wants. God is giving him the opportunity to reveal his innermost desires.

God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?" 6 And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. 7 Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. 9 Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" 1 Kings 3:4-9

Solomon's humility, submissive nature and faith are obvious. He calls himself a little child, states that in his present position, he doesn't even know the first things about going out or coming in. His position as king of God's people is a daunting task to him and he therefore petitions God. Chronicles adds:

Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?" 2Chron.. 1:10

What Solomon sought:

- ① **Wisdom and knowledge**
- ② *An understanding heart to judge*
- ③ *Discern between good and evil*
- ④ **I may go out and come in before this people**(probably an idiom for a good example to them).

From the answer God gave, it is clear that He was testing Solomon.

Then God said to Solomon: "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life — but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king — 12 wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like." 2Chr. 1:11-12

God was very pleased with his answer:

The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, 12 behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. 13 And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. 14 So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." 1Kings 3:10-14

The speech pleased the LORD

- ① **not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life**
- ② *not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor asked the life of your enemies*
- ③ **asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people**
- ④ *asked for yourself understanding to discern justice,*
- ⑤ *I have done according to your words*
- ⑥ *I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.*
- ⑦ **wisdom and knowledge are granted to you;**
- ⑧ *I have also given you what you have not asked*
- ⑨ *both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.*
- ⑩ *if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.*
- ①① **I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like."**

As we look at what God promised, it centers on what he did ask for and what he did not. Since he asked for wisdom, God gave him "a wise and understanding heart" and "wisdom and knowledge." God also gave him what he had not asked for, "riches, honor" and "riches, wealth, and honor."

"No one before him or after him" will have such a "wise and understanding heart." No one "like you among the kings in your days" will have "both riches and honor." "None of the kings" "before you or after you" will have "riches wealth and honor" as you do.

It isn't long before this new wisdom is revealed to Israel. Two harlots come for judgment. One is lying and the other is telling the truth, but from their affirmations nothing can be known. A lesser king or one without such wisdom would have been at a loss to know what to do. But with his wisdom, Solomon gives a decree he knows will reveal the truth.

Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So they brought a sword before the king. 25 And the king said, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to one, and half to the other." 26 Then the woman whose son was living spoke to the king, for she yearned with compassion for her son; and she said, "O my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him!" But the other said, "Let him be neither mine nor yours, but divide him." 27 So the king answered and said, "Give the first woman the living child, and by no means kill him; she is his mother." 1 Kings 3:23-27

The full extent of his wisdom was first noted by the people and then fully revealed to us by the Holy Spirit.

28 And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had rendered; and they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice. 1 Kings 3:28

And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 30 Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all men — than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. 32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five. 33 Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish. 34 And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon. 1 Kings 4:29-34

Prosperity and Peace during Solomon's reign

For the second time in the history of Israel, All of God's promises are mentioned. The first one was in Joshua, when God did all he promised His people and left the rest to them, which they woefully failed to do.

So the Lord gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. 44 The Lord gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the Lord delivered all their enemies into their hand. 45 Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass. Josh 21:43-45

In this second fulfillment, every single thing God had promised Moses with the help of His people, all of it was not accomplished.

Then he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying: 56 "Blessed be the Lord, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. There has not failed one word of all His good promise, which He promised through His servant Moses. 1 Kings 8:55-57

Some of the things that are under the blessings described above are:

Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and rejoicing. 21 So Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life. 1King 4:20-21

24 For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the River from Tiphseh even to Gaza, namely over all the kings on this side of the River; and he had peace on every side all around him. 25 And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, each man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan as far as Beersheba, all the days of Solomon. 1 Kings 4:24-25

21 All King Solomon's drinking vessels were gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. Not one was silver, for this was accounted as nothing in the days of Solomon. ... 24 Now all the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. 25 Each man brought his present: articles of silver and gold, garments, armor, spices, horses, and mules, at a set rate year by year. 27 The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedar trees as abundant as the sycamores which are in the lowland. 1 Kings 10:21; 24-25; 27

- ❶ Judah and Israel as numerous as the sands by the sea.
- ❷ Eating and drinking and rejoicing
- ❸ Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the

border of Egypt.

- ④ *he had peace on every side all around him.*
- ⑤ *Judah and Israel dwelt safely, each man under his vine and his fig tree,*
- ⑥ *silver was accounted as nothing in the days of Solomon*
- ⑦ *made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones,*
- ⑧ *and he made cedar trees as abundant as the sycamores*

Solomon Built The House of the LORD

In the first three years of his reign, Solomon gained wisdom, wealth and peace. His next recorded act began in the fourth year of his reign when he began building the house of the Lord. Yet it was not only the 4th year of his reign, but also the 480th year since they had left the land of Egypt. The temple took seven years to build, so it was in the 11th year of his reign that the temple was dedicated.

*Now Solomon **began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah**, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. 2 And he began to build on the second day of the second month in the fourth year of his reign. 2Chr. 3:1-2*

And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the Lord. 1 Kings 6:1-2

In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid, in the month of Ziv. 38 And in the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its details and according to all its plans. So he was seven years in building it. 1 Kings 6:37-38

While Abraham also offered his Son on the mountains of Moriah and many commentaries are content to place it there, it can't be proved conclusively.

Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." Gen 22:2

Not only did Solomon build the temple, but he also started other large building projects as well. While Solomon took thirteen years to build his own house(1Kings 7:1-8)

- ⇒ He also built the **House of the Forest of Lebanon**;
- ⇒ He also made the **Hall of Pillars**;
- ⇒ Then he made a **hall for the throne**, the **Hall of Judgment**, where he might judge;
- ⇒ And the house where he dwelt had **another court inside the hall**, of like workmanship.
- ⇒ Solomon made a **house like this hall for Pharaoh's daughter**, whom he had taken as wife.
- ⇒ The **house of the Lord**, his **own house**, the **Millo**, the **wall of Jerusalem**, **Hazor**, **Megiddo**, and **Gezer**. 1 Kings 9:15

All these buildings(including the temple) were built of large and costly stones of great size. Solomon had 70,000 to carry burdens, 80,000 to quarry stones and 3,600 to oversee the project.

All these were of costly stones cut to size, trimmed with saws, inside and out, from the foundation to the eaves, and also on the outside to the great court. 10 The foundation was of costly stones, large stones, some ten cubits and some eight cubits. 11 And above were costly stones, hewn to size, and cedar wood. 12 The great court was enclosed with three rows of hewn stones and a row of cedar beams. So were the inner court of the house of the Lord and the vestibule of the temple. 1Kg 7:9-12

Then Solomon determined to build a temple for the name of the Lord, and a royal house for himself. 2 Solomon selected seventy thousand men to bear burdens, eighty thousand to quarry stone in the mountains, and three thousand six hundred to oversee them. 2Chron. 2:1-3

The Pattern for the House

Just as God had given Moses the pattern for the tabernacle, God gave the pattern for the temple to David. The term "pattern" means more than just plans or blueprints.

*According to all that I show you, that is, the **pattern** of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it. ... And see to it that you make them according to the **pattern** which was shown you on the mountain. Ex. 25: 6, 40*

tabnîṯ — a model, resemblance: KJV - figure, form, likeness, pattern, similitude. (Strong's #8403)

tabnîṯ a pattern, a plan, a form, construction, a figure (Brown Driver & Briggs #8403)

*For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; 5 who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the **pattern** shown you on the mountain." Heb. 8:4-5*

*"**tupos**, ...1. the mark of a stroke or blow; print... 2. a figure formed by a blow or impression; hence univ. a figure, image:... 3. form... 4. an example; a. in the technical sense, viz. the pattern in conformity to which a thing must be made... b. in an ethical sense, a dissuasive example, pattern or warning... an example to be imitated: of men worthy of imitation, Phil. 3:17" (Thayer, p. 632; 5179).*

David left Solomon the same type of pattern that Moses had been given on the Mountain.

*Take heed now; for Jehovah hath chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it. 11 Then **David gave to Solomon his son the pattern ... 12 and the pattern of all that he had by the Spirit, ... 19 All this, (said David), have I been made to understand in writing from the hand of Jehovah, even all the works of this pattern.** 1Chr. 28:10-21*

What David gave to Solomon was as detailed as the one Moses was given. God had given David, by the Spirit, the pattern, in writing from the hand of the LORD.

David gave to Solomon his son the pattern

*of the porch of the houses of the treasuries
of the upper rooms, of the inner chambers,
of the place of the mercy-seat;*

the pattern of all that he had by the Spirit

*for the courts of the house of Jehovah,
for all the chambers for the treasuries
for the treasuries of the dedicated things;
for the courses of the priests and the Levites,
for all the work of the service
for all the vessels of service of gold by weight
for all vessels of every kind of service; of silver
for all the vessels of silver by weight,
for all vessels of every kind of service;
for the candlesticks of gold
for the lamps, of gold, by weight*

*for every candlestick and for the lamps
for the candlesticks of silver, by weight
for every candlestick
for the lamps to the use of every candlestick
the gold by weight for the tables of showbread
for every table; silver for the tables of silver
the flesh-hooks, basins, cups, of pure gold
for the golden bowls by weight for every bowl
for the silver bowls by weight for every bowl
for the altar of incense refined gold by weight
gold for the pattern of the chariot, the cherubim,
that spread out (their wings), and covered the ark
of the covenant of Jehovah.*

All this, have I been made to understand in writing from the hand of Jehovah, even all the works of this pattern.

David Contributed to the House

David had spent much of his life gathering things that he would leave to Solomon to work with in building this house.

*Then David said, "This is the house of the Lord God, and this is the altar of burnt offering for Israel." 2 So David commanded to gather the aliens who were in the land of Israel; and **he appointed masons to cut hewn stones to build the house of God.** 3 And David **prepared iron in abundance** for the nails of the doors of the gates and for the joints, and **bronze in abundance beyond measure,** 4 and **cedar trees in abundance;** for the Sidonians and those from Tyre brought much cedar wood to David. 1Chron. 22:1-4*

*5 Now David said, "Solomon my son is young and inexperienced, and the house to be built for the Lord must be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all countries. **I will now make preparation for it.**" So David made abundant preparations before his death. 1Chron. 22:5*

*Indeed I have taken much trouble to prepare for the house of the Lord **one hundred thousand***

talents of gold and one million talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond measure, for it is so abundant. I have prepared timber and stone also, and you may add to them. 15 Moreover there are workmen with you in abundance: woodsmen and stonecutters, and all types of skillful men for every kind of work. 1Chron. 22:14-15

David then summarized all the things he had gathered in order to make it as easy as possible for Solomon to complete the house.

Now for the house of my God
I have prepared with all my might:
gold for things to be made of gold,
silver for things of silver,
bronze for things of bronze,
iron for things of iron,
wood for things of wood,

onyx stones, stones to be set,
glistening stones of various colors,
all kinds of precious stones,
marble slabs in abundance.
three thousand talents of gold of the gold of Ophir,
seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay
the walls of the houses; 1 Chron. 29:2-5

Solomon's Heart More Important

Yet though David believed the materials and building of the temple were important he made it clear that Solomon's heart was more important.

"As for you, my son Solomon, **know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.** 10 Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it." 1Chron. 28:9-10

Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: 2 "I go the way of all the earth; **be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man.** 3 And **keep the charge of the Lord your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies,** as it is written in the Law of Moses, that **you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn;** 4 **that the Lord may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'** 1Kings 2:1-4

As Solomon was finishing the temple and later when he dedicated it, God appeared to him and stated these words again.

So he built the temple and finished it, and he paneled the temple with beams and boards of cedar. 10 And he built side chambers against the entire temple, each five cubits high; they were attached to the temple with cedar beams. 11 Then the word of the Lord came to Solomon, saying: 12 "Concerning this temple which you are building, **if you walk in My statutes, execute My judgments, keep all My commandments, and walk in them, then I will perform My word with you, which I spoke to your father David.** 13 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake My people Israel." 1 Kings 6:9-13

Now **if you walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments,** 5 **then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever,** as I promised David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man on the throne of Israel.' 6 **But if you or your sons at all turn from following Me, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them,** 7 **then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them; and this house which I have consecrated for My name I will cast out of My sight.** Israel will be a proverb and a byword among all peoples. 1Kings 9:4-7

Solomon Finished / Dedicated the Temple during the Feast of Tabernacles

Once the temple was finished, before Solomon brought the ark from its tabernacle, he assembled all the elders along with all the other men of Israel. He used the feast of the seventh month (the feast of tabernacles), since all Jewish males must gather together for this occasion.

Now Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel, in Jerusalem, that they might bring the ark of the covenant of the Lord up from the City of David, which is Zion. 3 Therefore all the men of Israel assembled with the king at the feast, which was in the seventh month. 2Chron. 5:2-4

"You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress. 14 And you shall rejoice in your feast, Deut. 16:13-14

"Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. Deut. 16:16-17

The day began with the Levites carrying the ark and the mercy seat into the temple and placed under the new cherubim Solomon had built using the pattern God had given to him. The cherubim facing each other on top of the mercy seat are now placed under the newly built cherubim.

Then **they brought up the ark of the Lord, the tabernacle of meeting, and all the holy furnishings that were in the tabernacle. The priests and the Levites brought them up.** 5 Also King Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel who were assembled with him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen that could not be counted or numbered for multitude. 6 Then **the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the temple, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim.** 7 For **the cherubim spread their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles.** 1Kings 8:4-7

Nothing was in the ark except the two tablets which Moses put there at Horeb, when the Lord made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they had come out of Egypt. 2Chron. 5:10

The moment the priests left the ark in the Most Holy place and came outside the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

And it came to pass **when the priests came out of the Most Holy Place** (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without keeping to their divisions), 12 and **the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets** — 13 indeed it came to pass, **when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever,"** that the house, **the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud,** 14 so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for **the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.** 2Chron. 5:11-14

While this is happening inside the temple, Solomon begins to address the people and then offers a prayer.

Then **the king turned around and blessed the whole assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel was standing.** 4 And he said: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who has fulfilled with His hands what He spoke with His mouth to my father David, 2Chron. 6:3-4

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands 13 (for Solomon had made a **bronze platform five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court; and he stood on it, knelt down on his knees before all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven**); 14 and he said: 2Chron. 6:12-14

"But will God indeed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, **heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!** 19 Yet regard the prayer of Your servant and his supplication, O Lord my God, and **listen to the cry and the prayer which Your servant is praying before You:** 20 that **Your eyes may be open toward this temple day and night,** toward the place where You said You would put Your name, that You may hear the prayer which Your servant makes toward this place. 21 And may You hear the supplications of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. **Hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and when You hear, forgive.** 2Chron. 6:18-21

when they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul **in the land of their captivity**, where they have been carried captive, and **pray toward their land which You gave to their fathers, the city which You have chosen, and toward the temple which I have built for Your name**: 39 then **hear from heaven Your dwelling place** their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive Your people who have sinned against You. 40 **Now, my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and let Your ears be attentive to the prayer made in this place.** 2Chron. 6:38-40

After Solomon finished his prayer, the glory of the LORD again filled the temple and at the same time fire came down to devour the burnt offering.

*When **Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.** 2 And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. 3 When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever." 2Chron. 7:1-3*

After the seven days of the feast of the tabernacles was completed, the people returned to their homes filled with joy.

*At that time **Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him**, a very great assembly from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt. 9 And on the eighth day they held a sacred assembly, for they observed the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days. 10 **On the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their tents, joyful and glad of heart** for the good that the Lord had done for David, for Solomon, and for His people Israel. 11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the Lord and the king's house; and **Solomon successfully accomplished all that came into his heart to make in the house of the Lord and in his own house.** 2Chron. 7:8-11*

God Appeared a Second Time to Solomon

When everything was complete and the temple was now the center of the worship of all Israel, God again appeared to Solomon.

Then the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. 13 When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. 16 For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually. 2Chron. 7:12-17 see also 1Kings 9:1-9

1. I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice.
2. if My people will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.
3. My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place.
4. I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.

God also had some personal words for Solomon. Like all leaders of His people, God demanded that the leaders be more than just leaders in material matters, but much more importantly in spiritual matters.

As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, 18 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man as ruler in Israel.' 19 "But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them, 20 then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples. 2 Chron 7:17-22

1. **if** you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, **then** I will establish the throne of your kingdom,
2. **If** you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them **then** I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

The Wealth and Splendor of Solomon's Reign

Solomon reigned for a total of forty years(1Kings 11:42). It was in the 11th year of his reign that he finished the house of the Lord(1Kings 6:37-38). It took him 20 years to finish all his building other building projects(1Kings 9:10). We don't know how far into his reign these other projects started, but at the least, half his reign was over by the time he finished them. If he started the other projects the same time as the temple, then he only had about sixteen years left. So these final events sum up the last 16-20 years of his life.

1. Building a fleet of ships(8:17-18). Wealth came to Solomon which brought prosperity to all.

*Also, the ships of Hiram, which **brought gold from Ophir**, brought **great quantities of almug wood and precious stones from Ophir**. 1Kings 10:11-12*

*For the king had merchant ships at sea with the fleet of Hiram. Once every three years the merchant ships came bringing **gold, silver, ivory, apes, and monkeys**. 1Kings 10:22-23*

2. The visit from the Queen of Sheba (10:1-13).

Although just a simple description of one of the many visitors who came to Solomon, this one

event summed up what happened with others as well.

*Now **all the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom**, which God had put in his heart. 25 Each man brought his present: articles of silver and gold, garments, armor, spices, horses, and mules, at a set rate year by year. 1Kings 10:24-25*

First, the fame of Solomon went out into all the earth(1Kings 4:30-31). She heard, but initially did not believe all that she had heard. Yet she came with great gifts, so her doubt was minimal. Yet she came to test him to see exactly what he did know.

Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions. 2 She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels that bore spices, very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart. 3 So Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for the king that he could not explain it to her. 1Kings 10:1-4

After the visit, she was amazed at what she had seen and stated she hadn't heard the half of what was actually true.

Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. 7 However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard. 1 Kings 10:6-7

3. Descriptions of the prosperity of his reign

*All King Solomon's **drinking vessels were gold**, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. **Not one was silver, for this was accounted as nothing in the days of Solomon.** 1 Kings 10:18*

*And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen; he had **one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen**, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem. 27 The king **made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones**, and he **made cedar trees as abundant as the sycamores** which are in the lowland. 1 Kings 10:26-27*

4. The glory of his throne

Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold. 19 The throne had six steps, and the top of the throne was round at the back; there were armrests on either side of the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the armrests. 20 Twelve lions stood there, one on each side of the six steps; nothing like this had been made for any other kingdom. 1 Kings 10:18-20

Solomon's Final Years

After completing the descriptions of all the wonder and splendor of His reign and the greatness of The last words recorded of Solomon's life are filled with sorrow and woe. Solomon did not remain faithful to God as his father David had done.

But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites — 2 from the nations of whom the Lord had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. 1Kings 11:1-3

In spite of God's clear warnings to Solomon, in regard to him remaining loyal and not worshipping other Gods, Solomon ignored some very important commands God had given in the Law of Moses.

*"When the LORD your God shall bring you into the land where you are entering to possess it, and shall clear away many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and stronger than you, 2 and when the LORD your God shall deliver them before you, and you shall defeat them, then you shall utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them and show no favor to them. 3 "Furthermore, **you shall not intermarry with them; you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons.** 4 "For they will turn your sons*

away from following Me to serve other gods; then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and He will quickly destroy you. Deut 7:1-4

*“When you come to the land which the Lord your God is giving you, and possess it and dwell in it, and say, 'I will set a king over me like all the nations that are around me,' 15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. 16 But **he shall not multiply horses for himself**, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' 17 **Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.** Deut 17:14-17*

God had given Solomon the armor he needed to navigate through life. But even with all his wisdom and understanding, inspiration and knowledge, he could not rise above the principles God warned against. The fact that he ignored so many clear warnings illustrates the very pride Solomon himself had warned against in the Proverbs.

Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall. Prov 16:18

A man's pride will bring him low, But the humble in spirit will retain honor. Prov 29:23

Though Solomon thought he was strong enough to ignore or forget these commands, the very things God warned against were exactly what Solomon did and the very consequences God had warned would happen is exactly what happened to Solomon.

*And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it was so, when Solomon was old, that **his wives turned his heart after other gods**; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David. 1Kings 11:3-4*

*Furthermore, **you shall not intermarry with them; you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons.** 4 "For they will turn your sons away from following Me to serve other gods; Deut 7:1-4*

*Set a king over you ... **Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.** Deut 17:14-17*

After his heart was turned, it wasn't long before his actions reflected his new heart.

*For Solomon **went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.** 6 Solomon **did evil in the sight of the Lord**, and did not fully follow the Lord, as did his father David. 7 Then Solomon **built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem,** and for **Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon.** 8 And **he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.** 1Kings 11:5-8*

It is amazing that the loyal king who built the temple to the Lord in Jerusalem and to whom the LORD had appeared twice could fall so low that he would also build temples to abominable idols in the same city of Jerusalem. Not only was it a sin, but it was also a terrible example to those in Jerusalem who now had a choice of where and whom to worship.

This created anger within the heart of the Lord.

*So the **Lord became angry with Solomon**, because **his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel**, who had **appeared to him twice**, 10 and **had commanded him concerning this thing**, that he should not go after other gods; **but he did not keep what the Lord had commanded.** 1 Kings 11:9-12*

God gave four reasons for this anger.

1. His heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel.
2. God had appeared to him twice,
3. had commanded him concerning this thing, that
4. but he did not keep what the Lord had commanded.

God then passed judgment on Solomon.

*Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, "**Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant.** 1 Kings 11:9-12*

God himself would tear the kingdom away from Solomon and give it to one of his servants. This is exactly what God had told David, and had warned Solomon against. God did manifest grace in two ways. First it would not happen in his days and second, his son would retain one tribe.

Nevertheless I will not do it in your days, for the sake of your father David; I will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 However I will not tear away the whole kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of My servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen." 1 Kings 11:12-13

God Raised up Adversaries

In quick succession, God lists the three adversaries that He raised up against Solomon and gave the power to work against him.

Now the Lord raised up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was a descendant of the king in Edom. 1 Kings 11:14

And God raised up another adversary against him, Rezon the son of Eliadah, who had fled from his lord, Hadadezer king of Zobah. 1Kings 11:23-24

Then Solomon's servant, Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite from Zereda, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, also rebelled against the king. 1Kings 11:26

So the final years of Solomon's reign were not enjoyed in peace. Solomon knew exactly why these adversaries had been allowed to grow in power. The final words concerning Solomon do not give much hope of repentance.

Solomon therefore sought to kill Jeroboam. But Jeroboam arose and fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon. 41 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon? 42 And the period that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. 43 Then Solomon rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place. 1 Kings 11:41-43

We will finish the final things about Solomon's life when we speak of the reigns of Jeroboam and Rehoboam.