

# I Kings 9-12

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Historical Books II  
Lecture #16

# I Kings Chapter 9

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Solomon's Greatness



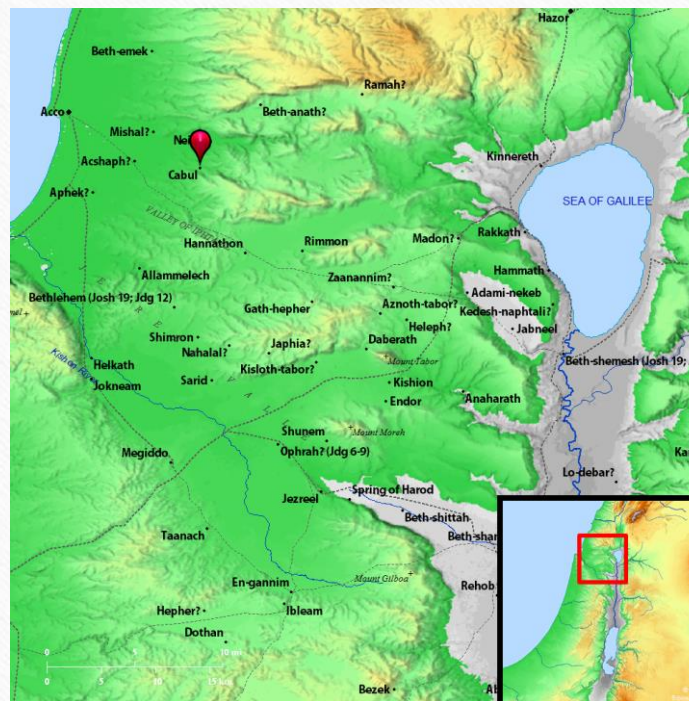
# The Second Time

- God appeared to Solomon the first time at Gibeon at the beginning of Solomon's reign.
- This second appearance twenty years later is after Solomon completes his major projects.
- This is a warning to Solomon to follow the Lord.



# Hiram

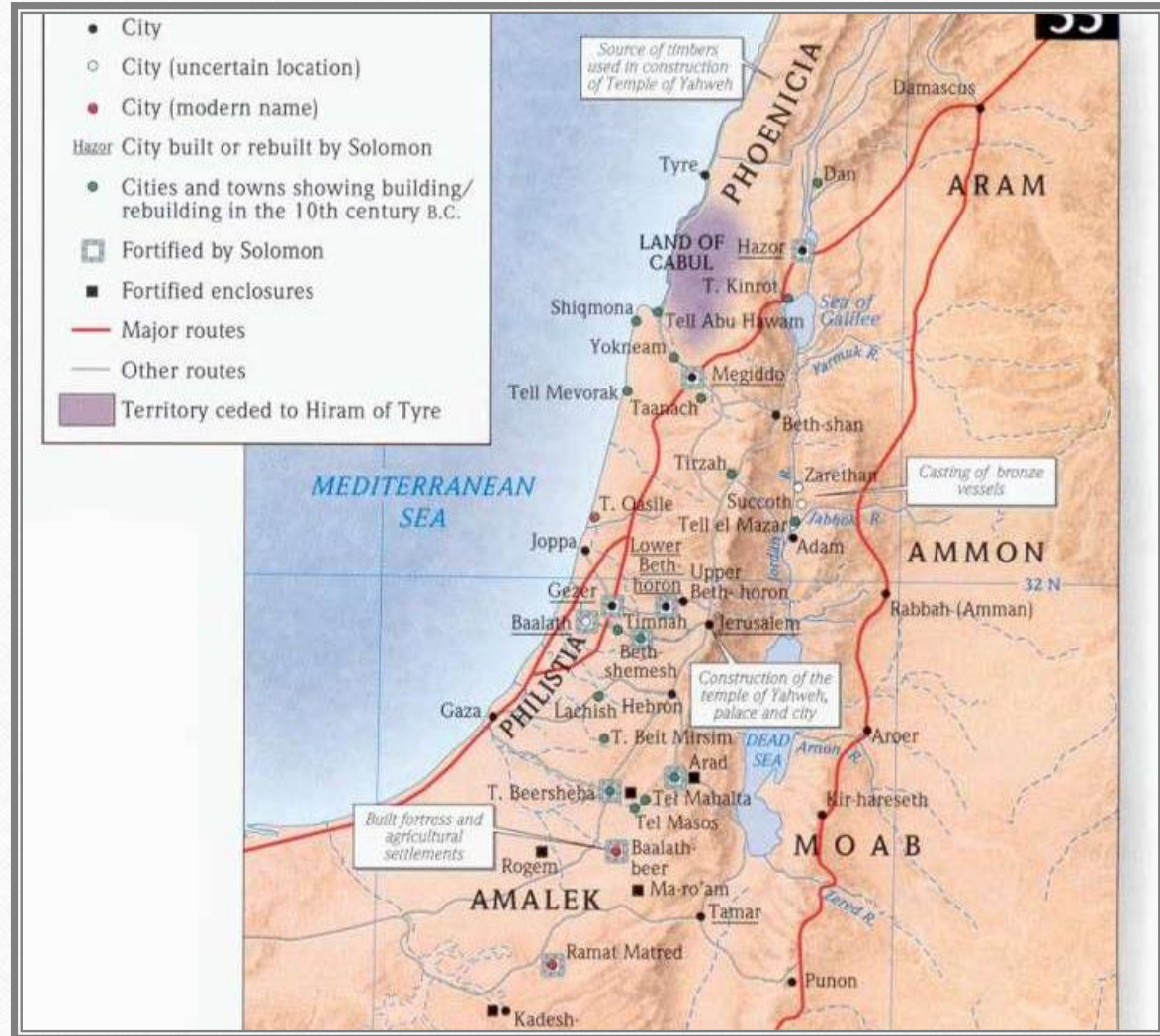
- Twenty cities were “leased” by Hiram in the border region between Tyre and Israel.
- It seems that Hiram paid 120 talents of gold for their lease and kept any taxes gathered.
- Hiram was not pleased with the quality of the cities, calling them *Cabul*.
- Control of the cities reverted to Israel.





## Building Activities

- Solomon also builds and fortifies many cities around his kingdom.
- The remaining Canaanites are forced to labor in these projects.
  - The Israelites were supervisors, bureaucrats, and warriors.





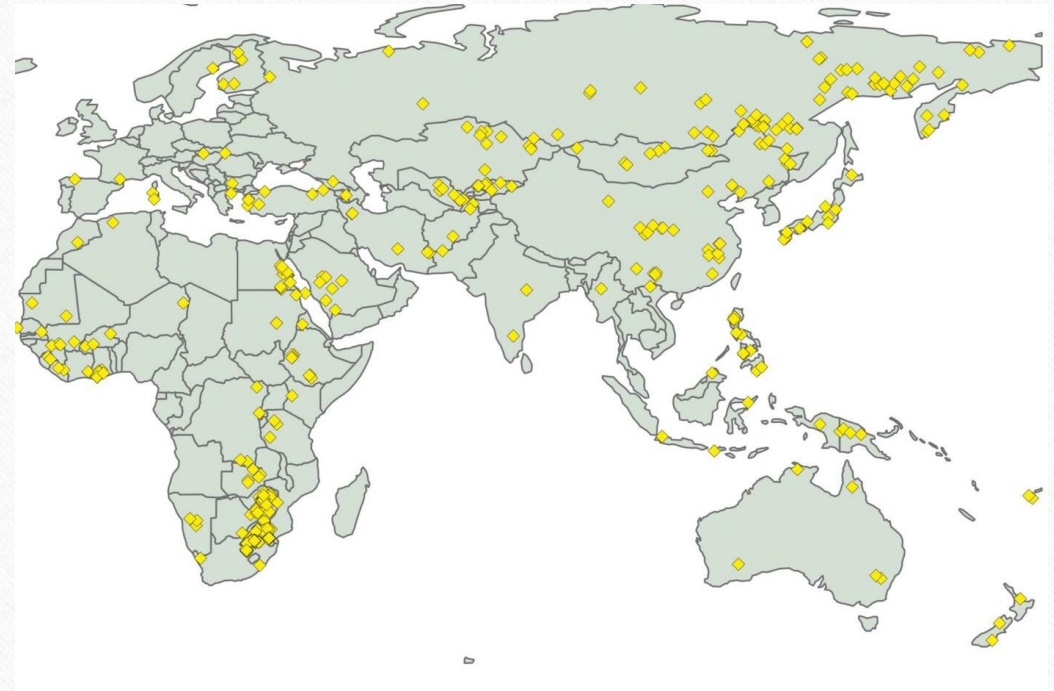
# Great Feasts

- Solomon made great sacrifices at the three Pilgrimage Feasts:
  - Passover
  - Pentecost
  - Tabernacles



# Gold Trade

- A trade partnership between Solomon and Hiram:
  - Solomon provided the port
  - Hiram provided sailors
- The gold trade with Ophir established with Ophir is extremely lucrative - \$900,000,000





# I Kings

## Chapter 10

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Solomon and the Queen of Sheba



# Sheba

- Most likely the Sabaeans of southern Arabia.
- Josephus and others identify it with Ethiopia.



# Queen of Sheba



- Her visit is likely motivated by the new sea trade established by Solomon and Hiram.
- She is awed by the splendor of Solomon's court and his wisdom.

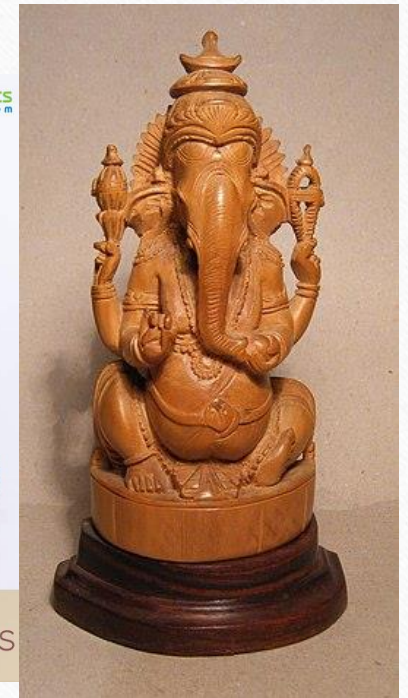


# Almug Trees

- Maybe red sandalwood.
- “The woods are heavy, yellow, and fine-grained, and, unlike many other aromatic woods, they retain their fragrance for decades. Sandalwood oil is extracted from the woods. Sandalwood is often cited as one of the most expensive woods in the world. Both the wood and the oil produce a distinctive fragrance that has been highly valued for centuries. Consequently, some species of these slow-growing trees have suffered over-harvesting in the past.” - Wikipedia



**Red Sandalwood**~ *Pterocarpus santalinus*





# Solomon's Fame

- 666 talents of gold - \$1.2 billion!
- Gold so abundant that silver is worthless
- Sea trade with Tharshish.
- All the world marvels at Solomon's wealth and wisdom.





# I Kings

## Chapter 11

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Solomon's Decline and Death

# Solomon's Harem

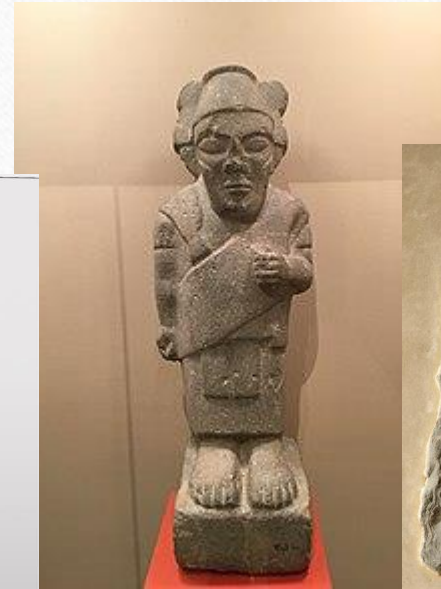


- 700 wives/princesses
- 300 concubines
- Solomon violates Exodus 23:32-33 by taking foreign wives.
- Solomon violates Deuteronomy 17:17 by multiply wives.
  - Many of these are likely political marriages.



# Turning to Idolatry

- As Solomon grows older, he begins to practice the idolatry of his wives.
  - Ashtaroath – Phoenician
  - Milcom and Molech – Ammonite
  - Chemosh – Moabite



# New/Old Enemies

- Hadad the Edomite had found refuge in Egypt but returns to reestablish the Edomite kingdom.
- Rezon establishes a kingdom at Damascus





# Jeroboam



- Jeroboam is an Ephraimite that Solomon promoted to a governorship over Ephraim and Manasseh.
- The prophet Ahijah foretells of the coming division in Israel and Jeroboam's role in it.
- Solomon sought to kill Jeroboam, who escapes to Egypt.



# Solomon's Passing

- Solomon became king at 20, ruled for 40 years, and died at 60.
  - No doubt his life was cut short because of his unfaithfulness.
- With his passing ends the Golden Age of Israel.





# I Kings

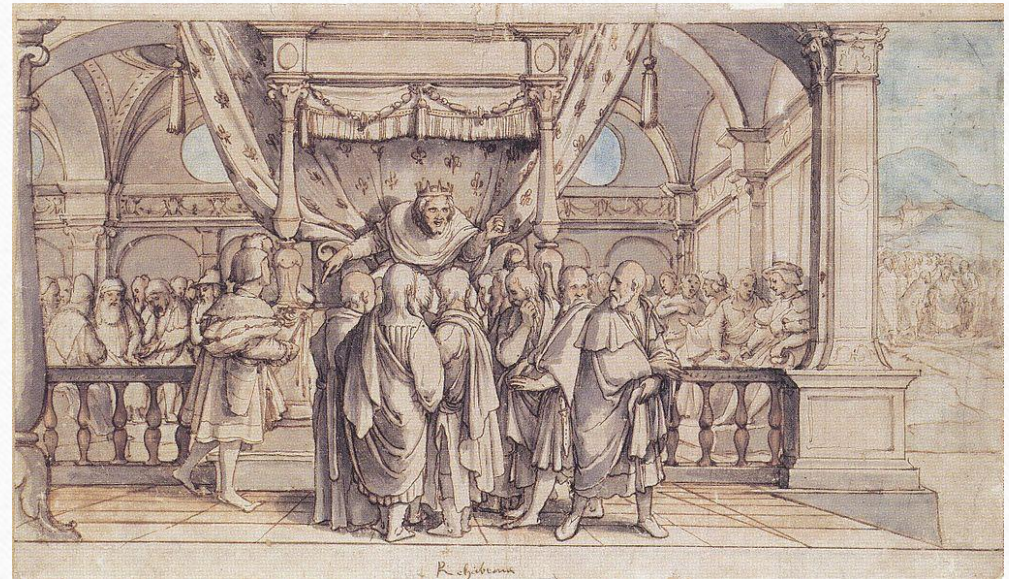
## Chapter 12

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The Divided Kingdom

# Rehoboam

- Rehoboam is the son of Solomon and Naamah the Ammonite.
- He is 41.
- He is set to be anointed and proclaimed king at a national assembly at Schechem.





# Israel's Complaint

- The Northern Tribes use Jeroboam as a spokesman.
- They requested that Rehoboam ease the burden placed on the people in his administration.
- Rehoboam does not heed the wise advice of the older counselors, instead following that of the younger.



THIS WAS  
GOD'S  
WILL!!!

- I Kings 12:15 - “Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the LORD, that he might perform his saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat.”



# The Divided Kingdom – 975 B.C.

- The ten Northern Tribes (Israel) reject Rehoboam and chose Jeroboam.
- The two Southern Tribes (Judah) stick with Rehoboam
  - Benjamin joins Judah and eventually much of Levi also.



# Initial Hostilities

- Rehoboam sends Adoram to collect tribute/taxes from the Northern Tribes.
- Adoram is stoned and Rehoboam races back from Shechem to safety.
- Rehoboam assembles an army to attack, but the prophet Shemaiah stops it.



Der Prophet Semaia vor dem Könige Rehobeam. 242. 11. 1. 1-1.



# Golden Calves



- Jeroboam establishes his own form of the Jewish religion to separate from Jerusalem and Judah.
  - New priesthood.
  - New sacrifices
  - New holy days
- Calves were set up at Bethel and Dan.



# Dan and Bethel today

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