Cities Given to Hiram

10 It came about \( b \) at the end of twenty years in which Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the Lord and the king’s house \( 11 \) (Hiram king of Tyre had supplied Solomon with cedar and cypress timber and gold according to all his desire), then King Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. \( 12 \) So Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him, and they did not please him. \( 13 \) He said, “What are these cities which you have given me, my brother?” So they were called the land of \( a \) Cabul to this day. \( 14 \) And Hiram sent to the king 120 talents of gold.

15 Now this is the account of the forced labor which King Solomon \( a \) levied to build the house of the Lord, his own house, the \( b \) Millo, the wall of Jerusalem, the Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer. \( 16 \) For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and captured Gezer and burned it with fire, and killed the Canaanites who lived in the city, and had given it as a dowry to his daughter, Solomon’s wife.

17 So Solomon rebuilt Gezer and the lower Beth-horon and \( a \) Baalath and Tamar in the wilderness, in the land of Judah, and all the storage cities which Solomon had, even the cities for his chariots and the cities for his horsemen, and all that he pleased Solomon to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land \( a \) under his rule.

20 As for all the people who were left of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, who were not of the sons of Israel, \( a \) their descendants who were left after them in the land whom the sons of Israel were unable to destroy utterly, \( a \) from them Solomon levied forced laborers, even to this day. \( 22 \) But Solomon \( a \) did not make slaves of the sons of Israel; for they were men of war, his servants, his princes, his captains, his chariot commanders, and his horsemen.

23 These were the chief officers who were over Solomon’s work, five hundred and fifty, \( b \) who ruled over the people doing the work.

24 As soon as \( a \) Pharaoh’s daughter came up from the city of David to her house which Solomon had built for her, \( b \) then he built the Millo.

25 Now \( a \) three times in a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar which he built to the Lord, burning incense with them on the altar which was before the Lord. So he finished the house.

26 King Solomon also built a fleet of ships in Ezion-geber, which is near Ethol on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. \( 27 \) And Hiram sent his servants with the fleet, sailors who knew the sea, along with the servants of Solomon. \( 28 \) They went to Ophir and took five hundred and twenty talents of gold from there, and brought it to King Solomon.

The Queen of Sheba

10 Now when the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with difficult questions. \( 2 \) So she came to Jerusalem with a very large retinue, with camels carrying spices and very much gold and precious stones. When she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart. \( 3 \) Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was hidden from the king which he did not explain to her. \( 4 \) When the queen of Sheba perceived all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, \( 5 \) the food of his table, the sitting of his servants, the attendance of his waiters and their attire, his cupbearers, and \( a \) his stairway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her. \( 6 \) Then she said to the king, “It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. \( 7 \) Nevertheless I did not believe the reports, until I came and my eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. You exceed in wisdom and prosperity the report which I heard. \( 8 \) How \( a \) blessed are your men, how blessed are these your servants who stand before you continually and hear your wisdom. \( 9 \) Blessed be the Lord your God who delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel; because the Lord loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.”

10 She gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a very great amount of spices and precious stones. Never again did such abundance of spices come in as that which the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon.

11 Also the ships of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, brought in from Ophir a very great number of almug trees and precious stones.

12 The king made of the almug trees supports for the house of the Lord and for the king’s house, also lyres and harps for the singers; such almug trees have not come in again nor have they been seen to this day.

13 King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire which she requested,