

## 2 Chronicles 6-9 – Chapter Study

### INTRO - Outline

#### I. THE REIGN OF SOLOMON CHS. 1-9

##### A. *Solomon's Wisdom & Prosperity Ch. 1*

##### B. *Building of the Temple 2:1-5:1*

##### C. *Dedication of the Temple 5:2-7:10*

##### 1. Housing of the ark 5:2-14

As we come to ch. 6 the temple has been completed & the ark of the covenant has been installed in the Holy of holies.

This was the signal event which completed the preparation of the temple as a place to worship God.

And indeed at the end of ch. 5 we're told that when the priests who carried the ark to it's resting place withdrew and the worship leaders lifted their voice as one to praise the Lord, the glory of God filled the inner court of the temple – showing God's acceptance & approval of the temple.

##### 2. Solomon's blessing and prayer Ch. 6

**<sup>1</sup> Then Solomon spoke: "The LORD said He would dwell in the dark cloud. <sup>2</sup> I have surely built You an exalted house, And a place for You to dwell in forever."**

As contrasts with the *tabernacle* which was temporary by nature.

In Lev. 16 God had told Moses He would manifest His presence in the tabernacle by the appearance of a thick cloud.

Since when we usually think of the appearance of God in terms of brilliance & light, the mention of a *dark cloud* seems a bit confusing.

Actually, it the best word to capture the idea of God's glory – which at it's root means *heavy*.

The word "dark" is better translated as *thick*.

The cloud of God's glory that filled the temple & rested over the ark wasn't a wispy vapor easily dispelled by a breeze.

It was a thick, solid object that blocked out all other light, yet shone from within with its own radiance.

**<sup>3</sup> Then the king turned around and blessed the whole assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel was standing.**

As we read on we realize that Solomon was actually speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit.

It's of note that the first thing God does upon the dedication of the temple is to *bless* His people.

**<sup>4</sup> 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, saying, <sup>5</sup> 'Since the day that I brought My people out of the land of Egypt, I have chosen no city from any tribe of Israel *in which* to build a house, that My name might be there, nor did I choose any man to be**

a ruler over My people Israel. <sup>6</sup> Yet I have chosen Jerusalem, that My name may be there, and I have chosen David to be over My people Israel.’ <sup>7</sup> Now it was in the heart of my father David to build a temple for the name of the LORD God of Israel. <sup>8</sup> But the LORD said to my father David, ‘Whereas it was in your heart to build a temple for My name, you did well in that it was in your heart. <sup>9</sup> Nevertheless you shall not build the temple, but your son who will come from your body, he shall build the temple for My name.’ <sup>10</sup> So the LORD has fulfilled His word which He spoke, and I have filled the position of my father David, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised; and I have built the temple for the name of the LORD God of Israel. <sup>11</sup> And there I have put the ark, in which *is* the covenant of the LORD which He made with the children of Israel.” <sup>12</sup> Then *Solomon* stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands <sup>13</sup> (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);

Since there was such a large crowd that had gathered for this event, Solomon had had a special raised dais erected in the outer courtyard so that every could see & hear

It was the perfect size for the event, 7 ½ ft. square & 4½ ft. high, just big enough for everyone to see & hear without in any way distracting from the worship of the Lord.

Indeed, this platform served the purpose of *directing* the people TO God.

If Sol had stayed at ground level, everyone would have been straining to see & hear him.

A solid principle for all ministry – it ought to be *invisible*, so that the attention can be given to what the Spirit is doing & saying.

We get a glimpse of Sol’s heart & humility in his kneeling before the Lord.

This wasn’t a false show of humility to impress people – it was sincere.

It stands in marked contrast with the response of Nadab & Abihu, the sons of Aaron, who when the glory of God filled the first tabernacle at its dedication, they rushed forward to try & grab some of God’s glory to themselves.

Sol is humbled by the Lord’s gracious acceptance of the temple and kneels before Him.

<sup>14</sup> and he said: “LORD God of Israel, *there is* no God in heaven or on earth like You, who keep *Your* covenant and mercy with *Your* servants who walk before You with all their hearts. <sup>15</sup> You have kept what You promised *Your* servant David my father; You have both spoken with *Your* mouth and fulfilled *it* with *Your* hand, as *it is* this day. <sup>16</sup> Therefore, LORD God of Israel, now keep what You promised *Your*

**servant David my father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man sit before Me on the throne of Israel, only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk in My law as you have walked before Me.'**

Don't miss that. God had promised David that one of his descendants would occupy the throne of Israel, as long as they walked in the way of God – AS DAVID HAD.

Well, how did David walk before the Lord? Perfectly?

No – he messed up. But when he did, he always repented honestly & earnestly & willingly took whatever discipline the Lord dealt him, knowing it was for his good.

You see friends, THAT'S how we're to walk with the Lord.

**Question:** Are you going to live a life of absolute moral perfection from here on out?

No – you're going to sin.

Does God know that?

Yes – So what does He want you to do when you do the sin He knows you're going to do?

Repent & return & learn from it so that your walk become closer & more consistent.

That's what David did.

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**17 And now, O LORD God of Israel, let Your word come true, which You have spoken to Your servant David.**

May David's descendant always sit upon the throne.

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Then as Sol contemplates the grandeur & glory of God, He realizes how incredibly gracious God is to show up as He has.

**18 "But will God indeed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven [the sky] and the heaven of heavens [realm of the stars] 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.**

Pay careful attention to how Solomon understands that though the cloud of God's glory has filled the temple, God doesn't *really* live there.

God is in heaven, so Sol asks that He will pay heed to the prayers people make *in* & even *toward* the temple.

What's remarkable about this is that it was the universal belief of the ancient world that the gods actually *lived* in their shrines & temples.

The theology of the people of Israel was a radical departure from that in the rest of the world at that time.

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Solomon now looks forward in time to when the people turn from God.

He presents numerous scenarios of when & how they will depart from the faith and the various forms of discipline God will use to correct them.

**22 “If anyone sins against his neighbor, and is forced to take an oath, and comes *and* takes an oath before Your altar in this temple, <sup>23</sup> then hear from heaven, and act, and judge Your servants, bringing retribution on the wicked by bringing his way on his own head, and justifying the righteous by giving him according to his righteousness.**

As a king, Solomon understood one of the most important values a society needs if it is to succeed is trust and honesty because civilization can only proceed by a commonly held social agreement – so we have to be able to trust each other. So Solomon asks God to *safeguard the bond of trust* by rewarding the trustworthy & punishing the dishonest.

**24 “Or if Your people Israel are defeated before an enemy because they have sinned against You, and return and confess Your name, and pray and make supplication before You in this temple, <sup>25</sup> then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them back to the land which You gave to them and their fathers.**

Solomon recognizes God will use military conquest by foreigners as a form of chastening.

When the people awaken to that fact & repent of the sin that’s allowed their defeat, may God deliver them.

**26 “When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, [drought] when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them, <sup>27</sup> then hear *in* heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance. <sup>28</sup> “When there is famine in the land, pestilence or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers; when their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness *there is*; <sup>29</sup> whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows his own burden and his own grief, and spreads out his hands to this temple:**

Sol refers to *both individuals* & the *collective whole* of the nation.

Note that, we’ll come back to it in a moment.

**<sup>30</sup> then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men), <sup>31</sup> that they may fear You, to walk in Your ways as long as they live in the land which You gave to our fathers.**

Sol knows there would be times when the entire nation would realize its error & repent.

But here would be times as well when only individuals would grieve over the

way both they and the nation had departed from the Lord. They would repent as individuals but their repentance would stand in contrast to the spiritual apathy of those among whom they lived. In that case, Sol asked that the individuals would be forgiven and delivered even while the society as a whole continued to experience the chastening of God.

That's a timely word for us.

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There's something else here we need to take to heart in v. 30. Sol said . . .

**You alone know the hearts of the sons of men.**

Amen! It's crucial in dealing with people that we don't presume to know a person's heart.

We can only see & hear the outward behavior.

Jesus did say that it was out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks, so a person's conversation can give us a *glimpse* into the heart, but only a glimpse.

We must be careful in dealing with people that we don't make judgments about their heart – only their *behavior*.

In fact, Jesus said, "By their *fruit*, you will *know* them," meaning we would have *personal interaction* with them.

**<sup>32</sup> "Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for the sake of Your great name and Your mighty hand and Your outstretched arm, when they come and pray in this temple; <sup>33</sup> then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name.**

Sol understood that it was God's heart to reach the nations through Israel, not to hoard the knowledge and blessing of the Lord to themselves.

From the start it was God's intent to so bless Israel it would draw others to Him when they saw how good He is to those who love & serve Him.

Israel was supposed to be a *missionary* nation.

The chauvinistic arrogance that came to mark later generations of Jews is very far removed from what God intended them to be.

**<sup>34</sup> "When Your people go out to battle against their enemies, wherever You send them, and when they pray to You toward this city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name, <sup>35</sup> then hear from heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.**

Sol asks when God sends the nation to war, as they look to Him for strength, that they would prevail.

There is such a thing in a fallen world beset with evil as a Just War.

After the start of the War on Terror, I saw a slew of bumper stickers that said, "War is Never Right"

Really?

So would those who sport such stickers allow Nazi Germany to roll over the

Sudetenland, Poland, France and North Africa, killing off millions of those they deemed not fit to live?

Would they undo the American Civil War and re-enslave the Africans?

The fact is – because evil is real, there will always be some people who use force to steal, kill and destroy.

The ONLY way to stop them and protect the innocent is to oppose them with force.

**<sup>36</sup> “When they sin against You (for *there is no one who does not sin*), and You become angry with them and deliver them to the enemy, and they take them captive to a land far or near; <sup>37</sup> yet when they come to themselves in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to You in the land of their captivity, saying, ‘We have sinned, we have done wrong, and have committed wickedness’; <sup>38</sup> and *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: <sup>39</sup> 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.**

This is clearly prophetic as Sol is given a glimpse of the future that awaits the nation in the conquests & captivities that take place years later by the Assyrians & Babylonians.

**<sup>40</sup> Now, my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and *let* Your ears *be* attentive to the prayer *made* in this place. <sup>41</sup> “Now therefore, Arise, O LORD God, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength. Let Your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, And let Your saints rejoice in goodness. <sup>42</sup> “O LORD God, do not turn away the face of Your Anointed; Remember the mercies of Your servant David.”**

### **3. Solomon’s sacrifices 7:1-10**

**<sup>1</sup> 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.**

The glory cloud that had come before had entered & filled the Holy of holies containing the ark.

Here, fire fell from heaven to instantly consume the sacrifices set on the massive bronze altar in front of the temple, then the glory of God filled the entire temple building, probably including the inner courtyard where the priests were officiating.

**<sup>2</sup> And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD’s house. <sup>3</sup> 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.” <sup>4</sup> Then the king and all the**

people offered sacrifices before the LORD. <sup>5</sup> King Solomon offered a sacrifice of 22,000 bulls and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

An offering of this size would require multiple altars spread all over the outer court.

<sup>6</sup> And the priests attended to their services; the Levites also with instruments of the music of the LORD, which King David had made to praise the LORD, saying, “For His mercy *endures* forever,” whenever David offered praise by their ministry. The priests sounded trumpets opposite them, while all Israel stood. <sup>7</sup> Furthermore Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was in front of the house of the LORD; for there he offered burnt offerings and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, and the fat. <sup>8</sup> At that time Solomon kept the feast 7 days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt.

It was a national holiday.

<sup>9</sup> And on the 8<sup>th</sup> day they held a sacred assembly, for they observed the dedication of the altar 7 days, and the feast 7 days. <sup>10</sup> On the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

A portion of the sacrifices made to the Lord was returned to the people who’d gather and they feasted together for a full week, then went home.

#### ***D. God's Blessings & Curses 7:11-22***

<sup>11</sup> 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.

This sums up Sol’s many public works which turned Israel from a backwater outlying province beholden to greater empires into a mighty nation in its own right.

The public buildings & infrastructure of Israel exhibited their own unique architectural flavor, a sign that Israel wasn’t a subsidiary of some greater culture or civilization.

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Now we get a glimpse into what happened on the night of the dedication of the temple, after Solomon’s prayer in ch. 6 . . .

<sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer *made in this place.***

We covered this passage a couple Sunday's ago.

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There's a story I'd like to share here I didn't get a chance to before.

It illustrates what God says in v. 14 when we read –

**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,**

When a minister was a boy, he found a cigar, slipped into an alley, and lit up. It didn't taste good, but it made him feel very grown up—until he saw his father coming.

He quickly put the cigar behind his back and tried to act casual.

Desperate to divert his father's attention, he pointed to a nearby billboard advertising the circus.

He asked, “Can we go Dad? Please, let's go when it comes to town.”

His father's reply taught him a lesson he never forgot. “Son, never make a petition while at the same time trying to hide a smoldering disobedience.”

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**<sup>16</sup> 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.**

I find this interesting & provocative because God said the temple was chosen and set apart as sacred forever, in perpetuity.

Yet there is no temple there today.

This is one of the passages that moves me to conclude the temple will be rebuilt.

In Matthew 24 & 2 Thess 2, both Jesus & Paul said it would be.

**<sup>17</sup> 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, <sup>18</sup> 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.’ <sup>19</sup> “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, <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> “*And as for this house, which is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and this house?’* <sup>22</sup> Then they will answer, ‘Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore He has brought all this calamity on them.’”**

And of course, all of this happened – not once but twice, in the destruction

wrought by the Babylonians in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century BC then by the Romans in the



1<sup>st</sup> Century AD.

## **E. Solomon's Successes Chs. 8-9**

### **1. Political success 8:1-11**

In these verses we read of Sol's building the infrastructure of Israel.

Whereas up till this time the administration of the nation had been by the elders of the various tribes, Solomon formed a super-strong federal government and reinforced it by building brand new fortress cities along the main trade routes.

This ensured all the caravans passing through Israel were safe and paid for it through fees.

Since the economy of Israel was booming, the caravans not only passed through Israel, they traded there, both buying and selling wares.

Instead of Israel being a land to pass through, it became a major stop.

Solomon also secured his position by appointing key people to positions of influence & empowering them.

A key political move he made was to marry the daughter of the Egyptian Pharaoh, though this was forbidden in the Law.

Solomon knew this was wrong but did it any way.

It was also wrong for him to build the fortress the way he did – he turned them into chariot cities and filled them with a multitude of horses which he secured in Egypt – also against the Law.

All his plans were aimed at accumulating as much wealth & power as possible; a third prohibition in the Law of God for the king.

Solomon actively pursued all of these things beginning in his second decade as ruler.

As the years went by, we became more and more brazen in his rebellion against God.

### **2. Religious success 8:12-16**

These verses tell us that even while Solomon was pursuing all the things that were contrary to the command of God, he was also making sure the service of the priests in the temple was being done according to his father David's plan.

Solomon lived a double life; He was a zealous supporter of the temple and the service of God on one hand, but he was totally doing his own thing on the other.

Probably the only man in history who's ever gone to church religiously while living however he wanted when not in church. Ha!

### **3. Economic success 8:17-9:31**

Israel had never had a navy until the time of Sol, then with Hiram's help he built a port in the Red Sea and a fleet of ships which traded all through the waters of the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean.

The goods brought back to the Middle East from these ships brought HUGE wealth to Solomon's court.

Those ships also carried the fame of Solomon's reign far & wide.

**9:1 Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to Jerusalem to test Solomon with hard questions, *having a very great retinue, camels that bore spices, gold in abundance, and***

**precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart.**

Sheba is Hebrew for the Kingdom of *Sabea* located in modern day Yemen at the southern end of the Arabian peninsula.

Recent archaeology has revealed that the Sabea of that time was a wealthy & powerful kingdom ruled by several queens as well as kings.

They did a rich trade in gold, spices, precious woods & stones, which they probably secured from trading bases in India.

Because an overland route of some 1,500 miles through mostly desert would have been difficult, it's likely this visit came aboard some of the ships of Solomon's fleet.

The Queen had heard of Solomon's glory & had to come check it out for herself. This seems like an awful lot of bother to us and we wonder why someone so important would go to such trouble.

The answer lies in discovering that in the ancient world – the *greatest treasure* of all wasn't gold or precious gems; it was wisdom.

And Solomon was being heralded far & wide as possessing a measure of wisdom undreamed of.

Since it was thought that wisdom could be dispensed from one person to another, no distance was deemed too great to travel if it meant at the end would be the proverbial pot of gold.

Actually, they brought the pot of gold with them in the hopes of using it to get the much sought after wisdom.

The Queen of Sheba came with a set of questions to see if Sol was really as wise as the reports made him out to be.

**<sup>2</sup> So Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for Solomon that he could not explain it to her. <sup>3</sup> And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, <sup>4</sup> the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers and their apparel, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her. <sup>5</sup> Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. <sup>6</sup> However I did not believe their words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me. You exceed the fame of which I heard. <sup>7</sup> Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! <sup>8</sup> Blessed be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on His throne to be king for the LORD your God! Because your God has loved Israel, to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do justice and righteousness." <sup>9</sup> And she gave the king 120 talents of gold, spices in great abundance, and precious stones; there never were any spices such as those the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.**

In the following verses we read that while she gave all this to Solomon, she returned home with gifts *from him* that were more than she brought.

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Jump on down to v. 13 -

**13 The weight of gold that came to Solomon yearly was 666 talents of gold, 14 besides what the traveling merchants and traders brought. And all the kings of Arabia and governors of the country brought gold and silver to Solomon.**

The way this is recorded is odd because one number is mentioned, 666 – but it isn't the total weight of gold that came annually to Sol, it's *more* than that. What we read here would be akin to saying Michael Phelps won 5 gold medals, in addition to the other gold medals he won.

So why don't we read of the actual amount? I have only the faintest inkling of an idea.

Could it be that the Holy Spirit had Ezra record this figure of 666 because it's the only other time besides Rev. 13 were it's found?

In Rev. 13, 666 is the numerical equivalent of the antichrist's name.

Knowing how well the Spirit has engineered Scripture, there must be some tie intended between Solomon and the antichrist.

It might be that just as Solomon was so phenomenally wise and started out good but went bad, that's the same course the antichrist will take.

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In vs. 15-20 we read about some of the special gold items Solomon had made.

In vs. 21-24 we read about more of his trade routes and how his fame spread throughout the earth.

**25 Solomon had 4,000 stalls for horses and chariots, and 12,000 horsemen whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.**

One of those cities was Megiddo which we're going to see in a little over a month.

**26 So he reigned over all the kings from the River [Euphrates] to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. 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. 28 And they brought horses to Solomon from Egypt and from all lands. 29 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, are they not written in the book of Nathan the prophet, in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat?**

Jeroboam was one of Solomon's chief administrators, an overseer of the labor force that built the special projects constructed at this time.

He grew to believe that Sol's power was growing too great & staged an insurrection which was quickly put down, but he was able to flee to Egypt for refuge.

By that time, a new dynasty had risen to power in Egypt, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, which was hostile to Israel whereas the last king of the 21<sup>st</sup> had maintained an alliance with Solomon.

**<sup>30</sup> Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel 40 years. <sup>31</sup> Then Solomon rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.**