### 1 Kings

## Chapter 9

1Well, after Solomon had finished building the Temple of Jehovah, his own palace, and all the other things that he wanted to do, 2the Lord appeared to him a second time (like He had appeared to him in GibeOn) 3and said to him:  
  
 ‘I heard what you said in your prayer, and of the things that you asked and begged of Me. So, I’ve now done everything that you asked for in your prayer… I’ve made this Temple (which you built to [honor] My Name) holy throughout the ages, and I’ll [always] watch over it and keep it in My heart.  
  
 4‘And if you’ll continue to follow Me uprightly with holiness in your heart like your father David did, and do everything that I told him to do –following My orders and Commandments– 5I’ll lift the throne of your kingdom over IsraEl throughout the ages, as I promised to your father.  
  
 ‘For I told him:  
  
 ‘There will always be a man [descended from you] to lead IsraEl.’  
  
 6‘However, if you or your descendants should turn away from Me and fail to keep My Commandments and orders that Moses set before you, and you then go and serve other gods and bow before them... 7I’ll remove IsraEl from the land that I’ve given to them, and I’ll turn My face away from this Temple that I’ve made holy to My Name!  
  
 ‘Then IsraEl will become extinct and a topic of discussion among all the people!  
  
 8‘And everyone who passes this lofty Temple will be amazed and whistle, asking:  
  
 ‘Why did Jehovah do such a thing to this land and to this Temple?’  
  
 9‘And they’ll be told:  
  
 ‘Because they abandoned their God – the God of their ancestors, Jehovah – who led them out of the house of slavery in Egypt!  
  
 ‘Then they took hold of alien gods, and bowed before them and served them… This is why Jehovah brought all these bad things upon them!’  
  
  
10Well, this all took place some 20 years after Solomon had [started] construction of the two houses – the Temple of Jehovah and the palace of the king.  
  
11King HiRam of Tyre had helped Solomon by providing the cedar and pine boards, [some of] the gold, and everything else [that Solomon had asked for]. So King Solomon gave HiRam 20 cities in the land of Galilee. 12But when HiRam traveled from Tyre to Galilee to look at the cities that Solomon had given to him, he wasn’t pleased with them.  
  
13And he asked:  
  
 ‘What kind of cities have you given to your brother?’  
  
So from then on, he just referred to them as ‘the border lands.’  
  
14Now, HiRam had sent Solomon 4-1/2 tons (4,000kg) of gold 15that he’d plundered for the construction of the Temple of Jehovah, the king’s palace, the walls around JeruSalem (to fortify the city of David), as well as the cities of MegidDo and GeZer.  
  
  
16Also, after PharaOh, the king of Egypt, took GeZer (he burned it and killed all the CanaAnites who lived in the city), he then gave it to Solomon as a dowry for his daughter when he gave her to Solomon.  
  
17Thereafter, Solomon rebuilt GeZer, 18as well as Lower BethHoron, BaAlAth, and TadMor (which is in the desert). 19He also built many other fortified cities, as well as forts for his chariots and cavalry; and he had many other construction projects in JeruSalem, Lebanon, and throughout all the land that he ruled.  
  
  
20However, the Hittites, Amorites, Pherezites, CanaAnites, Hivites, Jebusites, and Gergesites (all those who weren’t sons of IsraEl) 21and their children remained in the land, because the sons of IsraEl weren’t able to wipe them out; so, Solomon forced them to pay a tribute to him, which they’ve continued to do down to this day.  
  
22And many of these non-IsraElites served Solomon as soldiers and as lieutenants over his chariots and cavalry. 23Also, many of them (some 550 of them) were put in charge over Solomon’s construction projects and they supervised the people who were doing the work.  
  
24The daughter of PharaOh didn’t actually live in the city of David, for she lived in a house that Solomon had built for her.  
  
And thereafter, he built MilLo.  
  
  
25Well, three times each year, Solomon would sacrifice whole burnt offerings and peace offerings on the Altar that he’d built to Jehovah. He also burned incense upon it there before Jehovah, until he had completed the Temple.  
  
  
26Then King Solomon built a ship at GeBer (which is next to the seaport of ElAth on the border of Edom), 27and HiRam sent some of his servants who were mariners and knew the sea [both] to do the rowing and as assistants to the servants of Solomon.  
  
28Then they [attacked] SopheRam and brought back gold to King Solomon – some 16 tons (14,500kg) of it!