### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 8

1Well, it was some 20 years after Solomon finished building the Temple of Jehovah and his own palace 2that he started developing the cities that HiRam had given to him, and he settled the sons of IsraEl there.  
  
3He went to ZoBah (in HaMath) and strengthened its defenses, 4then he built TadMor in the desert, and he built several other fortified cities in HaMath.  
  
5He also built both Upper and Lower BethHoron, and he fortified them all with walls, bars, and gates (for that’s where he kept his chariots and cavalry).  
  
6Then Solomon did whatever things he wanted to do in JeruSalem, Lebanon, and throughout his whole kingdom.  
  
  
7At the time, those who were left in the land who were descendants of the Hittites, Amorites, Pherezites, Hivites, and Jebusites (all those who weren’t IsraElites 8and who hadn’t been destroyed by IsraEl) were forced by Solomon to pay a tribute (which they still pay to this day).  
  
9And Solomon didn’t appoint any IsraElites as servants in his kingdom; for these people served as his warriors, governors, great men, and as those who were in charge of his chariots and cavalry. 10There were 250 [of them] who King Solomon had appointed as heads over the supervisors of public works among the people.  
  
11Then Solomon built a palace for the daughter of PharaOh outside the city of David where he had sent her to live.  
  
He said:  
  
 ‘You may not live as the [wife] of the king of IsraEl inside the city of David; for it’s holy, due to the fact that the Chest of Jehovah is there.’  
  
12Solomon also sacrificed whole burnt offerings on the Altar that he built to Jehovah in front of the Temple 13on each of the days that they calculated by the Commandments of Moses on the Sabbaths, on the [New Moons], and on the three annual holidays:  
  
 • The Festival of fermentation-free Bread,  
 • The Festival of Weeks, and  
 • The Festival of Temporary Dwellings.  
  
14Then, following the instructions of his father David, he set up the divisions of the Priests and assigned their duties. He assigned the watches for the Levites for when they were to direct the other priests (as he understood it was to be handled each day), as well as the shifts for the gatekeepers of each of the gates.  
  
He did just as David (the man of God) had instructed… 15All the commandments of the king were followed when it came to the Priests, Levites, and everything that had to do with the Temple treasures.  
  
16Solomon continued to set everything in order from the day that the Temple foundation was laid to the day that it was completed.  
  
  
17Then Solomon built EziOn GeBer in ElAth by the Sea (in the land of Edom), 18and [King] HiRam [of Tyre] sent some of his servants (who were accomplished sailors) with boats that were to be used by Solomon’s servants, and they went to Ophir where they brought back 14 tons (12,700kg) of gold to King Solomon.