

The Second Book of the Chronicles

{1:1} And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God [was] with him, and magnified him exceedingly. {1:2} Then Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every governor in all Israel, the chief of the fathers. {1:3} So Solomon, and all the congregation with him, went to the high place that [was] at Gibeon; for there was the tabernacle of the congregation of God, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness. {1:4} But the ark of God had David brought up from Kirjath-jearim to [the place which] David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem. {1:5} Moreover the brasen altar, that Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the LORD: and Solomon and the congregation sought unto it. {1:6} And Solomon went up thither to the brasen altar before the LORD, which [was] at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it.

{1:7} In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee. {1:8} And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead. {1:9} Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. {1:10} Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, [that is so] great? {1:11} And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king: {1:12} Wisdom and knowledge [is] granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that [have been] before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

{1:13} Then Solomon came [from his journey] to the high place that [was] at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the congregation, and reigned over Israel. {1:14} And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, which he placed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem. {1:15} And the king made silver and gold at Jerusalem [as plenteous] as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycamore trees that [are] in the vale for abundance. {1:16} And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price. {1:17} And they fetched up, and brought forth out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred [shekels] of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty: and so brought they out [horses] for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, by their means.

{2:1} And Solomon determined to build an house for the name of the LORD, and an house for his kingdom. {2:2} And Solomon told out threescore and ten thousand men to bear burdens, and fourscore thousand to hew in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred to oversee them.

{2:3} And Solomon sent to Hiram the king of Tyre, saying, As thou didst deal with David my father, and didst

send him cedars to build him an house to dwell therein, [even so deal with me.] {2:4} Behold, I build an house to the name of the LORD my God, to dedicate [it] to him, [and] to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shewbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of the LORD our God. This [is an ordinance] for ever to Israel. {2:5} And the house which I build [is] great: for great [is] our God above all gods. {2:6} But who is able to build him an house, seeing the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain him? who [am] I then, that I should build him an house, save only to burn sacrifice before him? {2:7} Send me now therefore a man cunning to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and that can skill to grave with the cunning men that [are] with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father did provide. {2:8} Send me also cedar trees, fir trees, and algum trees, out of Lebanon: for I know that thy servants can skill to cut timber in Lebanon; and, behold, my servants [shall be] with thy servants, {2:9} Even to prepare me timber in abundance: for the house which I am about to build [shall be] wonderful great. {2:10} And, behold, I will give to thy servants, the hewers that cut timber, twenty thousand measures of beaten wheat, and twenty thousand measures of barley, and twenty thousand baths of wine, and twenty thousand baths of oil.

{2:11} Then Hiram the king of Tyre answered in writing, which he sent to Solomon, Because the LORD hath loved his people, he hath made thee king over them. {2:12} Hiram said moreover, Blessed [be] the LORD God of Israel, that made heaven and earth, who hath given to David the king a wise son, endued with prudence and understanding, that might build an house for the LORD, and an house for his kingdom. {2:13} And now I have sent a cunning man, endued with understanding, of Hiram my father's, {2:14} The son of a woman of the daughters of Dan, and his father [was] a man of Tyre, skilful to work in gold, and in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone, and in timber, in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; also to grave any manner of graving, and to find out every device which shall be put to him, with thy cunning men, and with the cunning men of my lord David thy father. {2:15} Now therefore the wheat, and the barley, the oil, and the wine, which my lord hath spoken of, let him send unto his servants: {2:16} And we will cut wood out of Lebanon, as much as thou shalt need: and we will bring it to thee in flotes by sea to Joppa; and thou shall carry it up to Jerusalem.

{2:17} And Solomon numbered all the strangers that [were] in the land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred. {2:18} And he set threescore and ten thousand of them [to be] bearers of burdens, and fourscore thousand [to be] hewers in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred overseers to set the people a work.

{3:1} Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where [the LORD] appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. {3:2} And he began to build in the second [day] of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign.

{3:3} Now these [are the things wherein] Solomon was instructed for the building of the house of God. The length by cubits after the first measure [was] threescore cubits, and

the breadth twenty cubits. {3:4} And the porch that [was] in the front [of the house,] the length [of it was] according to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and the height [was] an hundred and twenty: and he overlaid it within with pure gold. {3:5} And the greater house he cieled with fir tree, which he overlaid with fine gold, and set thereon palm trees and chains. {3:6} And he garnished the house with precious stones for beauty: and the gold [was] gold of Parvaim. {3:7} He overlaid also the house, the beams, the posts, and the walls thereof, and the doors thereof, with gold; and graved cherubims on the walls. {3:8} And he made the most holy house, the length whereof [was] according to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits: and he overlaid it with fine gold, [amounting] to six hundred talents. {3:9} And the weight of the nails [was] fifty shekels of gold. And he overlaid the upper chambers with gold. {3:10} And in the most holy house he made two cherubims of image work, and overlaid them with gold.

{3:11} And the wings of the cherubims [were] twenty cubits long: one wing [of the one cherub was] five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing [was likewise] five cubits, reaching to the wing of the other cherub. {3:12} And [one] wing of the other cherub [was] five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing [was] five cubits [also,] joining to the wing of the other cherub. {3:13} The wings of these cherubims spread themselves forth twenty cubits: and they stood on their feet, and their faces [were] inward.

{3:14} And he made the vail [of] blue, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen, and wrought cherubims thereon. {3:15} Also he made before the house two pillars of thirty and five cubits high, and the chapter that [was] on the top of each of them [was] five cubits. {3:16} And he made chains, [as] in the oracle, and put [them] on the heads of the pillars; and made an hundred pomegranates, and put [them] on the chains. {3:17} And he reared up the pillars before the temple, one on the right hand, and the other on the left; and called the name of that on the right hand Jachin, and the name of that on the left Boaz.

{4:1} Moreover he made an altar of brass, twenty cubits the length thereof, and twenty cubits the breadth thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof.

{4:2} Also he made a molten sea of ten cubits from brim to brim, round in compass, and five cubits the height thereof; and a line of thirty cubits did compass it round about. {4:3} And under it [was] the similitude of oxen, which did compass it round about: ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about. Two rows of oxen [were] cast, when it was cast. {4:4} It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea [was set] above upon them, and all their hinder parts [were] inward. {4:5} And the thickness of it [was] an handbreadth, and the brim of it like the work of the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies; [and] it received and held three thousand baths.

{4:6} He made also ten lavers, and put five on the right hand, and five on the left, to wash in them: such things as they offered for the burnt offering they washed in them; but the sea [was] for the priests to wash in. {4:7} And he made ten candlesticks of gold according to their form, and set [them] in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left. {4:8} He made also ten tables, and placed [them] in the temple, five on the right side, and five on the left. And he

made an hundred basins of gold.

{4:9} Furthermore he made the court of the priests, and the great court, and doors for the court, and overlaid the doors of them with brass. {4:10} And he set the sea on the right side of the east end, over against the south. {4:11} And Hiram made the pots, and the shovels, and the basins. And Hiram finished the work that he was to make for king Solomon for the house of God; {4:12} [To wit,] the two pillars, and the pommels, and the chapters [which were] on the top of the two pillars, and the two wreaths to cover the two pommels of the chapters which [were] on the top of the pillars; {4:13} And four hundred pomegranates on the two wreaths; two rows of pomegranates on each wreath, to cover the two pommels of the chapters which [were] upon the pillars. {4:14} He made also bases, and lavers made he upon the bases; {4:15} One sea, and twelve oxen under it. {4:16} The pots also, and the shovels, and the fleshhooks, and all their instruments, did Hiram his father make to king Solomon for the house of the LORD of bright brass. {4:17} In the plain of Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredathah. {4:18} Thus Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be found out.

{4:19} And Solomon made all the vessels that [were for] the house of God, the golden altar also, and the tables whereon the shewbread [was set;] {4:20} Moreover the candlesticks with their lamps, that they should burn after the manner before the oracle, of pure gold; {4:21} And the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs, [made he of] gold, [and] that perfect gold; {4:22} And the snuffers, and the basins, and the spoons, and the censers, [of] pure gold: and the entry of the house, the inner doors thereof for the most holy [place,] and the doors of the house of the temple, [were of] gold.

{5:1} Thus all the work that Solomon made for the house of the LORD was finished: and Solomon brought in [all] the things that David his father had dedicated; and the silver, and the gold, and all the instruments, put he among the treasures of the house of God.

{5:2} Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which [is] Zion. {5:3} Wherefore all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto the king in the feast which [was] in the seventh month. {5:4} And all the elders of Israel came; and the Levites took up the ark. {5:5} And they brought up the ark, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that [were] in the tabernacle, these did the priests and the Levites bring up. {5:6} Also king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel that were assembled unto him before the ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude. {5:7} And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy [place, even] under the wings of the cherubims: {5:8} For the cherubims spread forth [their] wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above. {5:9} And they drew out the staves [of the ark,] that the ends of the staves were seen from the ark before the oracle; but they were not seen without. And there it is unto this day. {5:10} [There was] nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put [therein] at Horeb, when the LORD made [a covenant] with the children of Israel, when they came out of Egypt.

{5:11} And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy [place:] (for all the priests [that were] present were sanctified, [and] did not [then] wait by course: {5:12} Also the Levites [which were] the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, [being] arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:) {5:13} It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers [were] as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up [their] voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, [saying,] For [he is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever: that [then] the house was filled with a cloud, [even] the house of the LORD; {5:14} So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

{6:1} Then said Solomon, The LORD hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness. {6:2} But I have built an house of habitation for thee, and a place for thy dwelling for ever. {6:3} And the king turned his face, and blessed the whole congregation of Israel: and all the congregation of Israel stood. {6:4} And he said, Blessed [be] the LORD God of Israel, who hath with his hands fulfilled [that] which he spake with his mouth to my father David, saying, {6:5} Since the day that I brought forth my people out of the land of Egypt I chose no city among all the tribes of Israel to build an house in, that my name might be there; neither chose I any man to be a ruler over my people Israel: {6:6} But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and have chosen David to be over my people Israel. {6:7} Now it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel. {6:8} But the LORD said to David my father, Forasmuch as it was in thine heart to build an house for my name, thou didst well in that it was in thine heart: {6:9} Notwithstanding thou shalt not build the house; but thy son which shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house for my name. {6:10} The LORD therefore hath performed his word that he hath spoken: for I am risen up in the room of David my father, and am set on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD God of Israel. {6:11} And in it have I put the ark, wherein [is] the covenant of the LORD, that he made with the children of Israel.

{6:12} And he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands: {6:13} For Solomon had made a brasen scaffold, of five cubits long, and five cubits broad, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court: and upon it he stood, and kneeled down upon his knees before all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven, {6:14} And said, O LORD God of Israel, [there is] no God like thee in the heaven, nor in the earth; which keepest covenant, and [shewest] mercy unto thy servants, that walk before thee with all their hearts: {6:15} Thou which hast kept with thy servant David my father that which thou hast promised him; and spakest with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled [it] with thine hand, as [it is] this day. {6:16} Now therefore, O LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that which thou hast promised him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit upon the throne of Israel; yet so that thy children take heed to their way to walk in my law, as thou hast walked before me. {6:17} Now then, O LORD God of Israel, let thy word be verified, which thou hast spoken unto thy servant David.

{6:18} But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built! {6:19} Have respect therefore to the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee: {6:20} That thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldest put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this place. {6:21} Hearken therefore unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling place, [even] from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

{6:22} If a man sin against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to make him swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house; {6:23} Then hear thou from heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, by requiting the wicked, by recompensing his way upon his own head; and by justifying the righteous, by giving him according to his righteousness.

{6:24} And if thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee; and shall return and confess thy name, and pray and make supplication before thee in this house; {6:25} Then hear thou from the heavens, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest to them and to their fathers.

{6:26} When the heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; [yet] if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou dost afflict them; {6:27} Then hear thou from heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, when thou hast taught them the good way, wherein they should walk; and send rain upon thy land, which thou hast given unto thy people for an inheritance.

{6:28} If there be dearth in the land, if there be pestilence, if there be blasting, or mildew, locusts, or caterpillers; if their enemies besiege them in the cities of their land; whatsoever sore or whatsoever sickness [there be:] {6:29} [Then] what prayer [or] what supplication soever shall be made of any man, or of all thy people Israel, when every one shall know his own sore and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands in this house: {6:30} Then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men:) {6:31} That they may fear thee, to walk in thy ways, so long as they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

{6:32} Moreover concerning the stranger, which is not of thy people Israel, but is come from a far country for thy great name's sake, and thy mighty hand, and thy stretched out arm; if they come and pray in this house; {6:33} Then hear thou from the heavens, [even] from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as [doth] thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name. {6:34} If thy people go out to war against their enemies by the way that thou shalt send them, and they pray unto thee toward this city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name; {6:35} Then hear thou from the heavens their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

{6:36} If they sin against thee, (for [there is] no man which sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before [their] enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near; {6:37} Yet [if] they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly; {6:38} If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and [toward] the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name: {6:39} Then hear thou from the heavens, [even] from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee. {6:40} Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and [let] thine ears [be] attent unto the prayer [that is made] in this place. {6:41} Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. {6:42} O LORD God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant.

{7:1} Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house. {7:2} And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD'S house. {7:3} And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the LORD, [saying,] For [he is] good; for his mercy [endureth] for ever.

{7:4} Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD. {7:5} And king Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty and two thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep: so the king and all the people dedicated the house of God. {7:6} And the priests waited on their offices: the Levites also with instruments of musick of the LORD, which David the king had made to praise the LORD, because his mercy [endureth] for ever, when David praised by their ministry; and the priests sounded trumpets before them, and all Israel stood. {7:7} Moreover Solomon hallowed the middle of the court that [was] before the house of the LORD: for there he offered burnt offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings, because the brasen altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt offerings, and the meat offerings, and the fat.

{7:8} Also at the same time Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt. {7:9} And in the eighth day they made a solemn assembly: for they kept the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days. {7:10} And on the three and twentieth day of the seventh month he sent the people away into their tents, glad and merry in heart for the goodness that the LORD had shewed unto David, and to Solomon, and to Israel his people. {7:11} Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD, and the king's house: and all that came into Solomon's heart to make in the house of the LORD, and in his own house, he prosperously effected.

{7:12} And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this

place to myself for an house of sacrifice. {7:13} If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; {7:14} If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. {7:15} Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer [that is made] in this place. {7:16} For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually. {7:17} And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my statutes and my judgments; {7:18} Then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man [to be] ruler in Israel. {7:19} But if ye turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them; {7:20} Then will I pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for my name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it [to be] a proverb and a byword among all nations. {7:21} And this house, which is high, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this land, and unto this house? {7:22} And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.

{8:1} And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, wherein Solomon had built the house of the LORD, and his own house, {8:2} That the cities which Hiram had restored to Solomon, Solomon built them, and caused the children of Israel to dwell there. {8:3} And Solomon went to Hamath-zobah, and prevailed against it. {8:4} And he built Tadmor in the wilderness, and all the store cities, which he built in Hamath. {8:5} Also he built Beth-horon the upper, and Beth-horon the nether, fenced cities, with walls, gates, and bars; {8:6} And Baalath, and all the store cities that Solomon had, and all the chariot cities, and the cities of the horsemen, and all that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and throughout all the land of his dominion.

{8:7} [As for] all the people [that were] left of the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which [were] not of Israel, {8:8} [But] of their children, who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel consumed not, them did Solomon make to pay tribute until this day. {8:9} But of the children of Israel did Solomon make no servants for his work; but they [were] men of war, and chief of his captains, and captains of his chariots and horsemen. {8:10} And these [were] the chief of king Solomon's officers, [even] two hundred and fifty, that bare rule over the people.

{8:11} And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David unto the house that he had built for her: for he said, My wife shall not dwell in the house of David king of Israel, because [the places are] holy, whereunto the ark of the LORD hath come.

{8:12} Then Solomon offered burnt offerings unto the LORD on the altar of the LORD, which he had built before the porch, {8:13} Even after a certain rate every day,

offering according to the commandment of Moses, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts, three times in the year, [even] in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles.

{8:14} And he appointed, according to the order of David his father, the courses of the priests to their service, and the Levites to their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as the duty of every day required: the porters also by their courses at every gate: for so had David the man of God commanded. {8:15} And they departed not from the commandment of the king unto the priests and Levites concerning any matter, or concerning the treasures. {8:16} Now all the work of Solomon was prepared unto the day of the foundation of the house of the LORD, and until it was finished. So the house of the LORD was perfected.

{8:17} Then went Solomon to Ezion-geber, and to Eloth, at the sea side in the land of Edom. {8:18} And Hiram sent him by the hands of his servants ships, and servants that had knowledge of the sea; and they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took thence four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought [them] to king Solomon.

{9:1} And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels that bare spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart. {9:2} And Solomon told her all her questions: and there was nothing hid from Solomon which he told her not. {9:3} And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had built, {9:4} And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel; his cupbearers also, and their apparel; and his ascent by which he went up into the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her. {9:5} And she said to the king, [It was] a true report which I heard in mine own land of thine acts, and of thy wisdom: {9:6} Howbeit I believed not their words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen [it:] and, behold, the one half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me: [for] thou exceedest the fame that I heard. {9:7} Happy [are] thy men, and happy [are] these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and hear thy wisdom. {9:8} Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne, [to be] king for the LORD thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do judgment and justice. {9:9} And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon. {9:10} And the servants also of Hiram, and the servants of Solomon, which brought gold from Ophir, brought alnum trees and precious stones. {9:11} And the king made [of] the alnum trees terraces to the house of the LORD, and to the king's palace, and harps and psalteries for singers: and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah. {9:12} And king Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside [that] which she had brought unto the king. So she turned, and went away to her own land, she and her servants.

{9:13} Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and threescore and six talents of gold; {9:14} Beside [that which] chapmen and merchants brought. And all the kings of Arabia and governors of the

country brought gold and silver to Solomon.

{9:15} And king Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold: six hundred [shekels] of beaten gold went to one target. {9:16} And three hundred shields [made he of] beaten gold: three hundred [shekels] of gold went to one shield. And the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon. {9:17} Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold. {9:18} And [there were] six steps to the throne, with a footstool of gold, [which were] fastened to the throne, and stays on each side of the sitting place, and two lions standing by the stays: {9:19} And twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other upon the six steps. There was not the like made in any kingdom.

{9:20} And all the drinking vessels of king Solomon [were of] gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon [were of] pure gold: none [were of] silver; it was [not] any thing accounted of in the days of Solomon. {9:21} For the king's ships went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram: every three years once came the ships of Tarshish bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks. {9:22} And king Solomon passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

{9:23} And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart. {9:24} And they brought every man his present, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and raiment, harness, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year.

{9:25} And Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen; whom he bestowed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem.

{9:26} And he reigned over all the kings from the river even unto the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt. {9:27} And the king made silver in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycomore trees that [are] in the low plains in abundance. {9:28} And they brought unto Solomon horses out of Egypt, and out of all lands.

{9:29} Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, [are] they not written in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer against Jeroboam the son of Nebat? {9:30} And Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years. {9:31} And Solomon slept with his fathers, and he was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

{10:1} And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for to Shechem were all Israel come to make him king. {10:2} And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who [was] in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of Solomon the king, heard [it,] that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt. {10:3} And they sent and called him. So Jeroboam and all Israel came and spake to Rehoboam, saying, {10:4} Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father, and his heavy yoke that he put upon us, and we will serve thee. {10:5} And he said unto them, Come again unto me after three days. And the people departed.

{10:6} And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet

lived, saying, What counsel give ye [me] to return answer to this people? {10:7} And they spake unto him, saying, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants for ever. {10:8} But he forsook the counsel which the old men gave him, and took counsel with the young men that were brought up with him, that stood before him. {10:9} And he said unto them, What advice give ye that we may return answer to this people, which have spoken to me, saying, Ease somewhat the yoke that thy father did put upon us? {10:10} And the young men that were brought up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou answer the people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou [it] somewhat lighter for us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little [finger] shall be thicker than my father's loins. {10:11} For whereas my father put a heavy yoke upon you, I will put more to your yoke: my father chastised you with whips, but I [will chastise you] with scorpions. {10:12} So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king bade, saying, Come again to me on the third day. {10:13} And the king answered them roughly; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men, {10:14} And answered them after the advice of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto: my father chastised you with whips, but I [will chastise you] with scorpions. {10:15} So the king hearkened not unto the people: for the cause was of God, that the LORD might perform his word, which he spake by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

{10:16} And when all Israel [saw] that the king would not hearken unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? and [we have] none inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to your tents, O Israel: [and] now, David, see to thine own house. So all Israel went to their tents. {10:17} But [as for] the children of Israel that dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them. {10:18} Then king Rehoboam sent Hadoram that [was] over the tribute; and the children of Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. But king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to [his] chariot, to flee to Jerusalem. {10:19} And Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

{11:1} And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he gathered of the house of Judah and Benjamin an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen [men,] which were warriors, to fight against Israel, that he might bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam. {11:2} But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying, {11:3} Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying, {11:4} Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house: for this thing is done of me. And they obeyed the words of the LORD, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

{11:5} And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for defence in Judah. {11:6} He built even Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa, {11:7} And Beth-zur, and Shoco, and Adullam, {11:8} And Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph, {11:9} And Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah, {11:10} And Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which [are] in Judah and in Benjamin fenced cities. {11:11} And he fortified the strong holds, and put captains in them, and store of victual, and of oil and wine. {11:12} And in every several city [he put] shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong, having Judah and Benjamin on his side.

{11:13} And the priests and the Levites that [were] in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts. {11:14} For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the LORD: {11:15} And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made. {11:16} And after them out of all the tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the LORD God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the LORD God of their fathers. {11:17} So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years: for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

{11:18} And Rehoboam took him Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David to wife, [and] Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse; {11:19} Which bare him children; Jeush, and Shamariah, and Zaham. {11:20} And after her he took Maachah the daughter of Absalom; which bare him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith. {11:21} And Rehoboam loved Maachah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took eighteen wives, and threescore concubines; and begat twenty and eight sons, and threescore daughters.) {11:22} And Rehoboam made Abijah the son of Maachah the chief, to be ruler among his brethren: for [he thought] to make him king. {11:23} And he dealt wisely, and dispersed of all his children throughout all the countries of Judah and Benjamin, unto every fenced city: and he gave them victual in abundance. And he desired many wives.

{12:1} And it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom, and had strengthened himself, he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel with him. {12:2} And it came to pass, [that] in the fifth year of king Rehoboam Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had transgressed against the LORD, {12:3} With twelve hundred chariots, and threescore thousand horsemen: and the people [were] without number that came with him out of Egypt; the Lubim, the Sukkiims, and the Ethiopians. {12:4} And he took the fenced cities which [pertained] to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.

{12:5} Then came Shemaiah the prophet to Rehoboam, and [to] the princes of Judah, that were gathered together to Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Ye have forsaken me, and therefore have I also left you in the hand of Shishak. {12:6} Whereupon the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves; and they said, The LORD [is] righteous. {12:7} And when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, They have humbled themselves; [therefore] I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance; and my wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak. {12:8} Nevertheless they shall be his servants; that they may know my service, and the service of the kingdoms of the countries. {12:9} So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he took all: he carried away also the shields of gold which Solomon had made. {12:10} Instead of which king Rehoboam made shields of brass, and committed [them] to the hands of the chief of the guard, that kept the entrance of the king's house. {12:11} And when the king entered into the house of the LORD, the guard came and fetched them, and brought them again into the guard chamber. {12:12} And when he humbled himself, the wrath of the LORD turned from him