

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Chronicles Chapters 7-9 7/27-28/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!
MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).
TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**
MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

One tap mobile; +16699006833,,85309150746# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,85309150746# US

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: **2 Chronicles Chapter 4** – Furnishings of the Temple. **Chapter 5** – The Ark Brought into the Temple. **Chapter 6** - Solomon's Speech upon Completion of the Work; Solomon's Prayer of Dedication.

THIS WEEK: 2 Chronicles Chapter 7 – Solomon Dedicates the Temple – (vs. 1-11); God's Second Appearance to Solomon – (vs. 12-22). **Chapter 8** – Solomon's Additional Achievements – (vs. 1-18); **Chapter 9** - The Queen of Sheba's Praise of Solomon – (vs. 1-12); Solomon's Great Wealth – (vs. 13-28); Death of Solomon – (vs. 29-31).

- **Then Solomon knelt on this little platform, lifted his hands towards heaven, and he prayed unto God**, asking God to keep His eyes upon this place. To let this be the place where God's people might meet with God. A place where God would hear their prayers when they came to pray.
- **Then he foresaw certain problems that might exist in the future, if the people should turn their backs on the LORD.** If they turned away from the LORD, and the LORD began to bring judgements, "When they turn their face and begin to pray, then hear from Your throne in heaven, and answer their prayers."

2 Chronicles Chapter 7 – Fire from Heaven

2Ch 7:1 When Solomon had finished praying, fire (not mentioned in Kings) came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

- **(2Ch 5:13-14)** indeed it came to pass, when 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 music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever," that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, [14] so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

- As Solomon finishes the prayer of dedication, the glory of God is still there, now the second manifestation of God's power and presence, as fire comes from God, and consumes these sacrifices that were there upon the altar.
- It is reminiscent of the dedication of the Moses' tabernacle in the wilderness. (*Exo 40:34-35*) *Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. [35] And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.*
- What the tabernacle was to the children of Israel in the wilderness, the temple is to be to the nation of Israel, that they have established in the land. This is the place that God had chosen, where people would meet Him. It is the Mount of Sacrifice, where the sacrifices are to be made, in order to open the door, whereby they may come to God.
- In the New Testament Jesus Christ, is the place of meeting, for He offered Himself, once and for all as a sacrifice for our sins. By His putting away our sin, He makes fellowship with God, a reality for us, so that we come boldly to the throne of grace, to receive mercy in our time of need, as Jesus has opened the door for you and for me.
- **As I consider how much greater than fire coming down, is that of my Lord and Savior's coming down from heaven, do I bow my face to the ground and worship and praise the LORD for His mercy enduring forever! How completely and thankfully in my heart, do I enter into His presence?**

2Ch 7:2 And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house.

- The presence of God must be something that is extremely awesome! When a person sees the glory of God's presence in a place. It was so powerful that they could not even enter.

2Ch 7:3 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."

- This refrain is often repeated in the Psalms. "O praise the LORD for He is good, for His mercy endures forever." Psalm 136 is committed to that refrain, over and over. The exhortation of praising the LORD for His goodness because His mercy endures forever. Here is the glorious scene. Solomon had finished his prayer, the fire comes from God, consumed the burnt offering. The glory of God was so powerful, the priests could not even enter the temple. The people fell on their faces on the pavement, as they praised and worshiped God!

The Dedication of the Temple

2Ch 7:4-5 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD. [5] King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand bulls and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

- The Feast of Tabernacles was an eight-day celebration at this time of the year in the seventh month. This feast of the Dedication of the temple was for a seven-day duration. So, this whole episode here took place over a fifteen-day period. These sacrifices of which the people were eating the meat that was offered as a sacrifice. They would butcher the meat, burning the fat on the altar. Then the people would eat. They were really feasting!

2Ch 7:6 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.

- There was a great celebration, a marvelous occasion. The people were there worshiping God, fellowshiping with God. The peace offering was the offering of communion. The peace offering; sitting down, eating with God!
- The idea of eating with God. Beautiful in its application, as I become one with God. As I give God His portion, and I eat my portion of the lamb that has been sacrificed as a peace offering, we have this communion. The idea is that fellowship, that koinonia, that oneness with God, that we enter with God, as we offer these peace offerings. So here it was the music, the worship, the praise, day after day, as the people had assembled for this momentous occasion.

2Ch 7:7 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.

- The bronze altar was too small for the hundred and twenty thousand sheep, and twenty-two thousand cattle, so Solomon sanctified this place in the middle of the court.

2Ch 7:8 At that time Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt.

- From north to south! From Syria down south to the Brook of Egypt, which separated Israel from Egypt.

2Ch 7:9-10 And on the eighth day they held a sacred assembly, for they observed the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days. (total of fifteen days). [10] On the twenty-third day of the seventh 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.

- For two weeks they had been celebrating, “For God is good, and merciful.” So now as they go the whole nation, there is a spirit of the consciousness of God, “We are God’s people!” Just that afterglow of having spent this time, and just the rejoicing in the goodness of God, and His mercy; what the LORD had done!

If My People P ray

2Ch 7:11 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.

- All the work in making the temple and his own house has been accomplished. The temple has been dedicated.

2Ch 7:12 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.

- The people have gone home. The happy days of celebration have ended. There is always somewhat of a letdown after a joyous time together. With Jerusalem daily packed with people, there in the temple, the sacrifices, the rejoicing, the excitement, the joy, God was working, God was moving. Now the people have left. The excitement is over. Settle down.
- That night the LORD appeared to Solomon. I have heard your prayer. First, God, assured Solomon that He had heard the prayer of dedication that is recorded in the previous chapter. Where Solomon prayed that God would keep His eyes upon this place, His ear open to the cries that were made to Him from this place.
- God had chosen it years before when Abraham was called to offer his son Isaac. It was at this place where Abraham said, “The LORD will provide Himself a sacrifice. In the Mount of the LORD it shall be seen, the place of sacrifices.”
- It was on this same Mount that Jesus was crucified! How complete that is with Jesus Christ! He is the place where we meet God. It is in Christ that God and man are brought together!
- (1Ti 2:5) For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. Jesus, our great High Priest, who touches God, who touches me, and through Him, I meet God, and through His sacrifice, my sins are put away, so that I can stand before the holy, righteous God. “I’ve chosen this place,” God said. “The house of sacrifice.”

2Ch 7:13 When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people,

- These are the things that Solomon had prayed for. “LORD, if the people turn away and forsake You, and You send pestilence, or famine, or shut up the heavens, that it does not rain, then if Your people will call upon you, hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and answer their prayers.” God is taking the prayer of Solomon, and going down the prayer of Solomon, point by point. Taking the issues that Solomon brought up in his prayer. God declared:

2Ch 7:14 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.

- Literally it reads, “If My people, which are called by My name, then they (My people) will humble themselves. They will pray. They will seek My face. They will turn, then I, even I, it is emphatic, will hear, and I will forgive their sin, and I will heal their land. God speaks of all of this as something that is going to happen. He removes the if of it, maybe from His position, where He knows the end from the beginning, but that is the way He speaks this out. It is beautiful. As we look at this, you know, this is a promise to a literal Jewish people about a literal place.
- **We want to take this and make application. I think we can do that. In this nation God certainly wants His people to turn to Him, regardless of what the rest of the country does. He does not expect the unbeliever to do that.**

2Ch 7:15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place.

- In (2Ch 6:40) Now, my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and let Your ears be attentive to the prayer made in this place. So, God says, “Yes, I will.” One by one, the petitions that Solomon made, God says, “I will grant. My eyes will be open; My ears be attentive to the prayers made in this place.”

2Ch 7:16 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.

- God has promised His heart, His eyes, will be there perpetually on this place.

2Ch 7:17-20 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, [18] 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.' [19] "But (a warning) 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 (Indeed, Solomon did this greatly), [20] 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.

- The day this place ceases to be ordered according to truth, the day it ceases to be a place of atonement, the day it ceases to be a place of reflection of My holiness, of My forgiveness, of My love for My people, of true worship, the day that ceases to happen, no more temple! It is just an expensive building, and I have no need for it.
- 2Ch 7:21-22 "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?' [22] 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.' "
- God made glorious promises to Solomon, conditioned upon Solomon walking in the ways of God, as David his father walked. God also warned of impending judgements if he should fail to walk in the ways of the LORD, and worship and serve other gods."
 - God is faithful to keep His word. The problem is that man is not! Man often fails, but God is true. When God says He will bless you, He will bless you. He will keep His promise. But if God warns you of the perils of turning away from Him, you can be sure that will happen! God will keep His word, for good or for evil.
 - The LORD is saying, "I am going to make you a witness to the Gentile world, to the unsaved world." I am going to make you a witness that I am faithful to My word, whether it is to bless you in obedience or to judge you in disobedience. But they will know My nature one way or the other. And the encouragement to Solomon, that you obey Me, stay on the blessing side of My word, My commandments, and of My heart. And that is the heart of any father, to bless his children. And here He pleads with Solomon.
 - Solomon will be one of the worst kings for introducing idolatry. In one generation, he fast-tracked wickedness and idolatry in the nation of Israel and way that nobody else did. They built on it later, but he disregards all of this warning. And just as God said that it would come to pass, it did come to pass tragically in their history! In about 460 years from this point, the temple will be burned and the people taken captive by the Babylonians!
 - **But for you and me, we are Americans. We need to be on the blessing side of His commandments. We need to pray! How we need to pray that Americans will be born-again! Eternity is at stake. Praying is what we need to do!**

2 Chronicles Chapter 8 - Solomon's Accomplishments

2Ch 8:1 *It came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the house of the LORD and his own house,*

- For seven years he was building the house of the LORD. For thirteen years he had been building his own house. No doubt it was a fabulous palace.

2Ch 8:2 *that the cities which Hiram had given to Solomon, Solomon built them; and he settled the children of Israel there.*

- Solomon in repayment to Hiram, the king of Lebanon, for the cedars and all that he had done, Solomon said, "Here have these cities" in the area of the Israel-Lebanon border. Hiram saw the cities, and he said, "Worthless!"

2Ch 8:3 *And Solomon went to Hamath Zobah and seized it.*

- Hamath is the local area, and Zobah, the whole area. Hamath is one of the cities within the area.

2Ch 8:4 *He also built Tadmor in the wilderness, and all the storage cities which he built in Hamath.*

- These are clear up north in the area of Lebanon and Syria. Tadmor is the same as Palmyra in Lebanon today.

2Ch 8:5 *He built Upper Beth Horon and Lower Beth Horon, fortified cities with walls, gates, and bars,*

- These two cities, about three miles from each other, are in the area of Ephraim, about twenty miles north of Jerusalem, near the area of Gibeon.

2Ch 8:6 *also Baalath and all the storage cities that Solomon had, and all the chariot cities and the cities of the cavalry, and all that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.*

- Solomon was a tremendous builder! There are cities today, the ruins of the cities, such as Megiddo, where you can still see the gates that Solomon built.

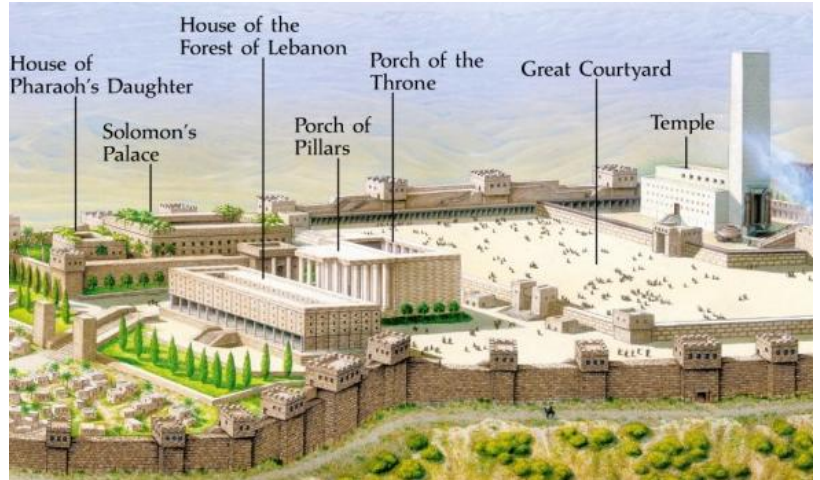
2Ch 8:7-8 *All the people who were left of the Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, who were not of Israel— [8] that is, their descendants who were left in the land after them, whom the children of Israel did not destroy—from these Solomon raised forced labor, as it is to this day.*

- They were left alive and were made slaves.

2Ch 8:9-11 *But Solomon did not make the children of Israel servants for his work. Some were men of war, captains of his officers, captains of his chariots, and his cavalry. [10] And others were chiefs of the officials of King Solomon: two hundred and fifty, who ruled over the people.*

{11} *Now Solomon brought the daughter of Pharaoh up from the City of David to the house he had built for her, for he said, "My wife shall not dwell in the house of David king of Israel, because the places to which the ark of the LORD has come are holy."*

- When David built the tent for the ark of the LORD, it was near his house. Solomon realizing that this woman was not a righteous woman, built a special house, did not let her live in that place that David had, because of the ark of the LORD having been there. He knew that she would profane the holy things, but he kept her.
- Solomon knows it is wrong! He does not correct it by removing her but just moves her a little further away! He then will go further and further down this road of violating God's commandments, which will result in Solomon turning his heart from God to that of his many pagan wives
- **Thinking of Solomon recognizing and accepting Pharaoh's pagan daughter's unbelief, is there presently anything going on in my life that I know is not right? This wrong direction will eventually result in my tragic turning away from my Lord. May I heed this Spiritual check and correct it! Totally eliminating the sin, not just pushing it away, letting it continue toward certain tragedy! It is so important to put any sin away completely as soon as the Holy Spirit convicts us! Left unchecked, sin will always grow and destroy!**



2Ch 8:12-13 *Then Solomon offered burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of the LORD which he had built before the vestibule, [13] according to the daily rate, offering according to the commandment of Moses, for the Sabbaths, the New Moons, and the three appointed yearly feasts—the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Tabernacles.*

- Solomon continued to observe the sacrifices daily, weekly, the sabbaths, the new moons, and then the annual feasts. We remember (1Sa 15:22) So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

2Ch 8:14 *And, according to the order of David his father, he appointed the divisions of the priests for their service, the Levites for their duties (to praise and serve before the priests) as the duty of each day required, and the gatekeepers by their divisions at each gate; for so David the man of God had commanded.*

- All of the order of the temple had been established and set up by David, who was a marvelous administrator.

2Ch 8:15-18 *They did not depart from the command of the king to the priests and Levites concerning any matter or concerning the treasuries. [16] Now all the work of Solomon was well-ordered from the day of the foundation of the house of the LORD until it was finished. So the house of the LORD was completed. [17] Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber and Elath (on the Sea of Aqaba) on the seacoast, in the land of Edom. [18] And Hiram sent him ships by the hand of his servants, and servants who knew the sea. They went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and acquired four hundred and fifty talents (about 17 tons) of gold from there, and brought it to King Solomon.*

2 Chronicles Chapter 9 - The Queen of Sheba

2Ch 9:1-2 *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. [2] So Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for Solomon that he could not explain it to her.*

- Solomon was able to answer every question. There was nothing too difficult.

2Ch 9:3-4 And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, [4] 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.

- When she saw the table, the food, and all that Solomon had, it just took her breath away!
- We are told in (1Ki 4:22-23) *Now Solomon's provision for one day was thirty kors of fine flour (2 pounds of bread each for 14,000 people), sixty kors of meal, [23] ten fattened oxen, twenty oxen from the pastures, and one hundred sheep, besides deer, gazelles, roebucks, and fatted fowl (1.5 pounds of meat each for 14,000 people)!* Each day they had three hundred bushels of fine flour. "Sixty measures of meal, the grain, the oats," Then, "Ten fat oxen," which would be prime beef, and "twenty oxen out of the pastures," which would be commercial beef. Each day! Thirty oxen, ten prime, twenty commercials. "A hundred sheep, besides the deer, and the fatted fowl." Each day!
- She was wiped out! I mean she could not believe that opulence! His servants, everything was just so perfect! Of course, the gold vessels, from which they drank. The gold plates, and the gold everywhere. Just the royal apparel that were worn by the servants, and the way they waited the table. She could not handle it. She had no more spirit.

2Ch 9:5-6 Then she said to the king: "It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. [6] 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.

- She said that it seemed unbelievable to me when I heard it. I could not believe it. So this is why I came myself! Until I came and my eyes had seen it, and behold, the one half of the greatness of your wisdom had not told me. They did not even tell me the half of it, she says! For you exceed the fame which I heard.
- **When the Queen of Sheba heard about Solomon's wisdom and riches, she wanted see for herself to the point where she would make a difficult 1,200-mile journey on the back of a camel, to see the king first-hand, if it were true! Seeing and knowing the king first-hand was so convincing, she was blown away!**
- **When we witness to an unbeliever, do they hear and see enough of our Lord and Savior in us, to make them want to go and see Him themselves? Once that unbeliever comes to Christ, consider how much more they receive than the queen received from Solomon! Eternal life! Forever and ever!**

2Ch 9:7-11 Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! [8] 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." [9] And she gave the king one hundred and twenty talents (4.5 tons) 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. [10] Also, the servants of Hiram and the servants of Solomon, who brought gold from Ophir, brought algum wood and precious stones. [11] And the king made walkways of the algum wood for the house of the LORD and for the king's house, also harps and stringed instruments for singers; and there were none such as these seen before in the land of Judah.

- *Algum wood.* Most think the algum is probably the red sandalwood, having a dark or black outer surface, a rich ruby-red inner heartwood, natural insect resistance, and a smooth, high-quality polish. It was used in making musical instruments. It was an incredibly special kind of wood.

2Ch 9:12 Now King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all she desired, whatever she asked, much more than she had brought to the king. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

- The queen of Sheba was probably an Arabian, from the area of Yemen, Oman. However, the Ethiopians say that she had come from Ethiopia. When it declares that, "Solomon gave to her all that she desired," that a part of that was Solomon impregnating her with a son.
- Thus, in Ethiopia, up until 1974, when the communists took over, the Ethiopian's spiritual leader, Haile Salassie said he was a direct descendant of Solomon.

Solomon's Wealth - 2Ch 9:13 The weight of gold that came to Solomon yearly was six hundred and sixty-six talents (25 tons) of gold,

- Although Solomon was not to multiply gold, here we are told that twenty-five tons of gold came to him annually! An interesting number indeed! Six from a symbolic standpoint in the Bible, is the number of men. Man's imperfection. Seven is the number of completeness. Six, one short, the number of man, incomplete.

- *2Ch 9:14-16 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. [15] And King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold; six hundred shekels of hammered gold (7.5 pounds of gold) went into each shield. [16] He also made three hundred shields of hammered gold; three hundred shekels of gold went into each shield. The king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.*

2Ch 9:17-19 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold. [18] The throne had six steps, with a footstool of gold, which were fastened to the throne; there were armrests on either side of the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the armrests. [19] Twelve lions stood there, one on each side of the six steps; nothing like this had been made for any other kingdom.

2Ch 9:20 All King Solomon's drinking vessels were gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. Not one was silver, for this was accounted as nothing in the days of Solomon.

- The House of the Forest of Lebanon was a massive royal armory and ceremonial hall built by King Solomon in Jerusalem, so named because of its vast amount of imported Lebanon cedar pillars, resembling an indoor forest.



2Ch 9:21 For the king's ships went to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years the merchant ships came, bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and monkeys.

- Solomon had the one navy that was going from the Red Sea, down along the African coast, gathering gold and trading. He had another navy, which was sailing the Mediterranean, all the way to Tarshish, which is thought to have been in southern Spain. They would make their circuit every three years..

2Ch 9:22 So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

- He surpassed them all.

2Ch 9:23-25 And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon (an audience with him) to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. [24] Each man brought his present: articles of silver and gold, garments, armor, spices, horses, and mules, at a set rate year by year. [25] Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem.

- In Megiddo there are a lot of stalls that they believe go back to Solomon's time.

2Ch 9:26-28 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.

Solomon's Death

2Ch 9:29-31 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? [30] Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years. [31] Then Solomon rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

- Here was a man endowed with so much wisdom. Solomon wrote three thousand proverbs and a thousand psalms. He was wise. With all of this wisdom, with all of the endowment of God upon his life, how could he turn his back upon the LORD in his later years?
- Somehow, Solomon felt he was above the commandments of God; that they did not apply to him. He felt that he could disobey God and get by with it. But he found that God was wiser than he. Those things which God declared, did come to pass! Though he thought he could not lose his love for God, he did exactly that!
- We are not nearly as wise as Solomon, but unfortunately, we are often as foolish, thinking that we can somehow go against the word of God and still come out all right. (*Gal 6:7*) Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.
- We do see two great summary verses from Solomon at the end of Ecclesiastes, (*Ecc 12:13-14*) Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: ***Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.*** [14] For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing. Whether good or evil.

- **God is faithful to His word.** God has promised the blessings that He will bestow upon you if you will submit your life to the lordship of Jesus Christ. God will forgive your sins. He will blot out your past. God will give you eternal life! He promises to you, that you will be with Him in the glory forever! But God has also warned, **(2Ch 15:2b)** *The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.* That if you walk after your own ways, if you live after the flesh, if you walk in disobedience to His commandments, one day, His judgement will come, and you will know the wrath of God.
- **God also speaks to nations.** In the prayer of Solomon, He was praying for a national thing, and God answered in the national aspect. “If the nation will serve me and follow me, then I will bless the nation and prosper it. But if they turn from me, then calamities will come.”
- **What applied to Israel, applies somewhat the United States.** Surely even as Israel born in the Spirit, its early days of inception were days of glory, the blessing, and the power of God, yet in the later years they turned their back, and felt that they could live independent of God. We see our nation following that same path of disaster.
- **But God is faithful, righteous, and just. What God has said He would do, in judgement, He will surely do to this nation, if we continue this downward path, away from Him.** But “If My people called by My name, will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked way.” It starts with us, with individuals. It starts with me! I cannot say, “Oh would to God that everyone would start praying!” if I am not praying myself! It starts with me; it starts with you, seeking the Lord, as never before.
- **At the time when Israel ultimately failed, God spoke to the prophet Ezekiel,** who was warning them at that very moment, and God said, “I sought for a man among them, who would stand in the gap, and fill in the hedge, and I found none. Therefore, their judgement came.” God is seeking men and women today who will stand in this gap, who will pray. The time has come, where we have to get serious before God! **Will we pray?**

SUMMARY:

- **2Ch 7:1** As I consider how much greater than fire coming down, is that of my Lord and Savior’s coming down from heaven, do I bow my face to the ground and worship and praise the LORD for His mercy enduring forever! How completely and thankfully in my heart, do I enter into His presence?
- **2Ch 7:14** We want to take this and make application. I think we can do that. In this nation God certainly wants His people to turn to Him, regardless of what the rest of the country does. He does not expect the unbeliever to do that.
- **2Ch 7:22** But for you and me, we are Americans. We need to be on the blessing side of His commandments. We need to pray! How we need to pray that Americans will be born-again! Eternity is at stake. **Praying** is what we need to do!
- **2Ch 8:11** Thinking of Solomon recognizing and accepting Pharaoh’s pagan daughter’s unbelief, Is there presently anything going on in my life that I know is not right? This wrong direction will eventually result in my tragic turning away from my Lord. May I heed this Spiritual check and correct it! Totally eliminating the sin, not just pushing it away, letting it continue toward certain tragedy! It is so important to put any sin away completely as soon as the Holy Spirit convicts us! Left unchecked, sin will always grow and destroy!
- **2Ch 9:6** When the Queen of Sheba heard about Solomon’s wisdom and riches, she wanted see for herself to the point where she would make a difficult 1,200-mile journey on the back of a camel, to see the king first-hand, if it were true! Seeing and knowing the king first-hand was so convincing, she was blown away!
- **When we witness to an unbeliever, do they hear and see enough of our Lord and Savior in us, to make them want to go** and see Him themselves? Once that unbeliever comes to Christ, consider how much more they receive than the queen received from Solomon! Eternal life! Forever and ever!

HEAR MY CRY, OH LORD (PSALM 61) *Maranatha (3:10/3:13)*

Hear my cry, Oh Lord, Attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth, Will I cry out to Thee.

When my heart is overwhelmed, Lead me to the Rock, That is higher than I... That is higher than I...

For Thou hast been, A shelter for me. And a strong tower; From the enemy.

When my heart is overwhelmed, Lead me to the Rock, That is higher than I...That is higher than I... (2x)

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Chronicles, Chapters 10-12