

## 1 Kings 10:1-13 **Queen of Sheba visited Solomon**

### The Queen of Sheba's visit with Solomon [1 Kings 10:1-13] (2 Chron 9:1-28)

1 Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions. 2 She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels that bore spices, very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart. 3 So Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for the king that he could not explain it to her.

4 And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, 5 the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her.

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. 7 However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard. 8 Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! 9 Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the Lord has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness."

10 Then she gave the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold, spices in great quantity, and precious stones. There never again came such abundance of spices as the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

11 Also, the ships of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, brought great quantities of almug wood and precious stones from Ophir. 12 And the king made steps of the almug wood for the house of the Lord and for the king's house, also harps and stringed instruments for singers. There never again came such almug wood, nor has the like been seen to this day.

13 Now King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba all she desired, whatever she asked, besides what Solomon had given her according to the royal generosity. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

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### Facts Revealed:

### The Queen of Sheba's visit with Solomon [1 Kings 10:1-13] (2 Chron 9:1-28)

- ✧ 1 Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions.
- 2 She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels that bore spices, very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart.
- 3 So Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing so difficult for the king that he could not explain it to her. [1 Kings 10:1-3]
- ◇ Sheba was a descendant of Abraham and Keturah living in Hebron and he was sent to the land of the East from Abraham settling in Arabia at the southern most end of the Arabian

Peninsula from which if you continue southward you will be in the water of the Arabian Sea or Indian Ocean. [Genesis 25:1-6]

✧ Jesus confirmed this fact by saying the Queen of the South came from the ends of the earth. [Matthew 12:42, Luke 11:31]

#### Note regarding the name of Sheba:

✧ Sheba descendant of Ham through Cush who settled around the area of Ethiopia, which is located about midway down the continent of Africa called the land of Cush, not the end. [Genesis 10:7]

✧ Sheba descendant of Shem through Joktan settled in the mountains of the east which would locate them in the mountains east of Babylon. [Genesis 10:26-28]

✧ The people were all together and coming from the east when they came upon the plain of Shinar where they built the Tower of Babel, and from which they were scattered across the face of all the earth, with the sons of Japheth moving toward the North and West, Shem moving back toward the East, and Ham moving toward the South. [Genesis 10:1-32, 11:1-9] (The face of all the earth extended beyond the Middle East).

✧ Some Bible studies seem to believe that the face of all the earth was entirely contained within the Middle East between Turkey and Arabia so they locate all these people in the Arabian Peninsula, I doubt their conclusion.

✧ Therefore, I believe that the Queen of Sheba was a descendant of Abraham from Southern Arabian Peninsula.

✧ The Queen of Sheba brought a great tribute to Solomon and tested him with many difficult questions.

✧ Solomon answered all her questions, fully explaining the answers, nothing was too difficult for him.

✧ 4 And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, 5 the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her.

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. 7 However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard. 8 Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! 9 Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the Lord has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness." [1 Kings 10:4-9]

✧ The response of the Queen of Sheba indicates that reality of Solomon and his kingdom far exceeded her wildest expectation.

✧ She gave glory to the God of Israel who had blessed His people with a wise leader.

✧ The blessing was because of the Love of Yahweh Eloheykaa for His People Israel.

✧ Solomon was made king to do justice and righteousness.

✧ 10 Then she gave the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold, spices in great quantity, and precious stones. There never again came such abundance of spices as the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon. [1 Kings 10:10]

#### Solomon's ships bring rich cargo

✧ 11 Also, the ships of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, brought great quantities of almug wood and precious stones from Ophir. 12 And the king made steps of the almug wood for the house of the Lord and for the king's house, also harps and stringed instruments for singers.

There never again came such almug wood, nor has the like been seen to this day. [1 Kings 10:11-12]

- ✧ The ships built for Solomon by Hiram king of Tyre continued to increase the wealth of Solomon by great amounts of precious cargo which Solomon used in the Temple of Yahweh, for his own palace, and for musical instruments. [1 Kings 9:26-28, 10:11-12]
- ✧ Almug wood brought from Ophir is native to the mountains of Malabar coastal region of India which would add substance to the concept that Ophir was located on the south western coast of India. [1 Kings 10:11-12, 2 Chronicles 9:10]

### Solomon's gifts to the Queen of Sheba

- ✧ <sup>13</sup> Now King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba all she desired, whatever she asked, besides what Solomon had given her according to the royal generosity. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants. [1 Kings 10:13]
- ✧ Solomon gave to the Queen of Sheba according to his royal generosity, and in addition, he gave her whatever she asked.
- ✧ She and her servants returned to her own country.