

1 Kings 4:1-19 **Solomon's Administration**

Officials in Solomon's Government

¹ So King Solomon was king over all Israel. ² And these were his officials: Azariah the son of Zadok, the priest; ³ Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder; ⁴ Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, over the army; Zadok and Abiathar, the priests; ⁵ Azariah the son of Nathan, over the officers; Zabud the son of Nathan, a priest and the king's friend; ⁶ Ahishar, over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda, over the labor force.

Twelve Governors over the land of Israel

⁷ And Solomon had twelve governors over all Israel, who provided food for the king and his household; each one made provision for one month of the year. ⁸ These are their names: Ben-Hur, in the mountains of Ephraim; ⁹ Ben-Deker, in Makaz, Shaalbim, Beth Shemesh, and Elon Beth Hanan; ¹⁰ Ben-Hesed, in Arubboth; to him belonged Sochoh and all the land of Hepher; ¹¹ Ben-Abinadab, in all the regions of Dor; he had Taphath the daughter of Solomon as wife; ¹² Baana the son of Ahilud, in Taanach, Megiddo, and all Beth Shean, which is beside Zaretan below Jezreel, from Beth Shean to Abel Meholah, as far as the other side of Jokneam; ¹³ Ben-Geber, in Ramoth Gilead; to him belonged the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, in Gilead; to him also belonged the region of Argob in Bashan — sixty large cities with walls and bronze gate-bars; ¹⁴ Ahinadab the son of Iddo, in Mahanaim; ¹⁵ Ahimaaz, in Naphtali; he also took Basemath the daughter of Solomon as wife; ¹⁶ Baanah the son of Hushai, in Asher and Aloth; ¹⁷ Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar; ¹⁸ Shimei the son of Elah, in Benjamin; ¹⁹ Geber the son of Uri, in the land of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan. He was the only governor who was in the land.

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Facts Revealed:

Officials in Solomon's Government [1 Kings 4:1-6]

- ✧ So King Solomon was king over all Israel. [1 Kings 4:1]
- ✧ These were his officers:
 1. Azariah the son of Zadok, the priest;
 2. Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, scribes;
 3. Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder;
 4. Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, over the army;
 5. Zadok and Abiathar, the priests;
 6. Azariah the son of Nathan, over the officers;
 7. Zabud the son of Nathan, a priest and the king's friend;
 8. Ahishar, over the household;
 9. Adoniram the son of Abda, over the labor force. [1 Kings 4:2-6]

Twelve Governors over the land of Israel [1 Kings 4:7-19]

- ✧ And Solomon had twelve governors over all Israel, who provided food for the king and his household; each one made provision for one month of the year. [1 Kings 4:7]
- ✧ These are their names:
 1. Ben-Hur, in the mountains of Ephraim;
 2. Ben-Deker, in Makaz, Shaalbim, Beth Shemesh, and Elon Beth Hanan;
 3. Ben-Hesed, in Arubboth; to him belonged Sochoh and all the land of Hepher;
 4. Ben-Abinadab, in all the regions of Dor; he had Taphath the daughter of Solomon as wife;

5. Baana the son of Ahilud, in Taanach, Megiddo, and all Beth Shean, which is beside Zaretan below Jezreel, from Beth Shean to Abel Meholah, as far as the other side of Jokneam;
6. Ben-Geber, in Ramoth Gilead; to him belonged the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, in Gilead; to him also belonged the region of Argob in Bashan — sixty large cities with walls and bronze gate-bars;
7. Ahinadab the son of Iddo, in Mahanaim;
8. Ahimaaz, in Naphtali; he also took Basemath the daughter of Solomon as wife;
9. Baanah the son of Hushai, in Asher and Aloth;
10. Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar;
11. Shimei the son of Elah, in Benjamin;
12. Geber the son of Uri, in the land of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan. He was the only governor who was in the land.

[\[1 Kings 4:8-19\]](#)

- ✧ The order represents the month of the year in which each governor made provision for the king and his household.
- ✧ The reference in verse 19 that he was the only Governor who was in the land indicates that Geber the son of Uri was the only Governor in the land of Gilead, the land taken from Og king of Bashan and Sihon King of the Amorites under Moses and given to the two and half tribes of Israel east of the Jordan River except for the area specified for Ben-Geber and Ahinadab.