

## 1 Kings 4:20-34 Prosperity and Wisdom of Solomon's Reign

### Territory of Solomon's Kingdom [1 Kings 4:20-21]

20 Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and rejoicing. 21 So Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.

### Daily Provisions provided by the Governors [1 Kings 4:22-23]

22 Now Solomon's provision for one day was thirty kors of fine flour, sixty kors of meal, 23 ten fatted oxen, twenty oxen from the pastures, and one hundred sheep, besides deer, gazelles, roebucks, and fatted fowl.

### Dominion of Solomon's Kingdom

24 For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the River from Tiphshah even to Gaza, namely over all the kings on this side of the River; and he had peace on every side all around him. 25 And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, each man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan as far as Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.

### Solomon's Horses

26 Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen.

### Governors provided for the King [1 Kings 4:27-28]

27 And these governors, each man in his month, provided food for King Solomon and for all who came to King Solomon's table. There was no lack in their supply. 28 They also brought barley and straw to the proper place, for the horses and steeds, each man according to his charge.

### Wisdom of Solomon

29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 30 Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all men — than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations.

32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five. 33 Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish. 34 And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.

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Facts Revealed:

### Territory of Solomon's Kingdom [1 Kings 4:20-21]

✧ Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and rejoicing. [1 Kings 4:20]

◇ Fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham. [Genesis 22:15-17]

✧ So Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.

[1 Kings 4:21]

◇ God's promise of the extent of the land of Israel was here fulfilled. [Genesis 15:18, Deuteronomy 1:7, 11:24, Joshua 1:1-4]

### Daily Provisions provided by the Governors [1 Kings 4:22-23]

- ✧ Now Solomon's provision for one day was thirty kors of fine flour, sixty kors of meal, ten fatted oxen, twenty oxen from the pastures, and one hundred sheep, besides deer, gazelles, roebucks, and fatted fowl. [1 Kings 4:22-23]

### Dominion of Solomon's Kingdom and Peace [1 Kings 4:24-25]

- ✧ For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the River from Tiphshah even to Gaza, namely over all the kings on this side of the River; and he had peace on every side all around him. [1 Kings 4:24]
  - ◇ Tiphshah was on the west side of the ford of the Euphrates River, (The Euphrates Dam is located near this site) in north central Syria. Gaza then as now was the southern land of the Philistines near the border of Egypt.
  - ◇ This included most of the land God designated for Israel to possess. [Joshua 13:1-7]
- ✧ And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, each man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan as far as Beersheba, all the days of Solomon. [1 Kings 4:25]
  - ◇ This is the only time Israel has been fully at peace.
  - ◇ The final fulfillment of true peace on this earth will be during the thousand year reign of Messiah. [Isaiah 2:4, 11:6-9, 65:18-25, Hosea 2:18, Revelation 20:4-6]

### Solomon's horses [1 Kings 4:26]

- ✧ Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen. [1 Kings 4:26]
  - ◇ Solomon began to disobey the commandment God had given for kings of Israel, God had said to Moses regarding kings of Israel:  
He shall not multiply horses for himself. [Deuteronomy 17:16a]

#### Commandment regarding Kings of Israel: [Deuteronomy 17:14-20]

<sup>14</sup> "When you come to the land which the Lord your God is giving you, and possess it and dwell in it, and say, 'I will set a king over me like all the nations that are around me,' <sup>15</sup> you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. <sup>16</sup> But **he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses**, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' <sup>17</sup> **Neither shall he multiply wives for himself**, lest his heart turn away; **nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.**

<sup>18</sup> "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that **he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites.** <sup>19</sup> And it shall be with him, and **he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes,** <sup>20</sup> that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel [Deuteronomy 17:14-20] NKJV

### Governors provided for the King [1 Kings 4:27-28]

- ✧ And these governors, each man in his month, provided food for King Solomon and for all who came to King Solomon's table. There was no lack in their supply. They also brought barley and straw to the proper place, for the horses and steeds, each man according to his charge. [1 Kings 4:27-28]

✧ Governors listed by their month to bring provisions to King Solomon. [1 Kings 4:7-19]

### Wisdom of Solomon [1 Kings 4:29-33]

✧ And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men — than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. [1 Kings 4:29-31]

✧ He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five.

Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish. [1 Kings 4:32-33]

✧ But with all his wisdom, he was not wise enough to obey the commandments of God or to remain faithful to the end as David his father had done. [1 Kings 11:4]

### Visited by kings of the earth [1 Kings 4:34]

✧ And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.

✧ Fame and fortune are dangerous for a man, even one as wise as Solomon who failed in the end. [1 Kings 11:4]