



# 1 KINGS

The Good, the Questionable, and the Ugly  
1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:1-10:29



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:1-9 ESV

<sup>1</sup> As soon as Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's house and all that Solomon desired to build, <sup>2</sup> the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. <sup>3</sup> And the LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea, which you have made before me. I have consecrated this house that you have built, by putting my name there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:1-9 ESV

<sup>4</sup> And as for you, if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and my rules, <sup>5</sup> then I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father, saying, ‘You shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.’ <sup>6</sup> But if you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and do not keep my commandments and my statutes that I have set before you,

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:1-9 ESV

but go and serve other gods and worship them, <sup>7</sup> then I will cut off Israel from the land that I have given them, and the house that I have consecrated for my name I will cast out of my sight, and Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples. <sup>8</sup> And this house will become a heap of ruins. Everyone passing by it will be astonished and will hiss, and they will say, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?' <sup>9</sup> Then they will say,

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:1-9 ESV

‘Because they abandoned the LORD their God who brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt and laid hold on other gods and worshiped them and served them. Therefore the LORD has brought all this disaster on them.’”



*“Solomon may be the king of Proverbs, but the warning that Israel herself might become the most powerful proverb of all is a sobering one.”*

**J. Gary Millar**

J Gary Millar, “1-2 Kings” in *ESV Expository Commentary Vol 3: 1 Samuel – 2 Chronicles*, ed. Iain M. Duguid, James M. Hamilton Jr., & Jay Sklar, (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2019), 587.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:1-13 ESV

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. <sup>3</sup> And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:1-13 ESV

<sup>4</sup> And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, <sup>5</sup> the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more breath in her. <sup>6</sup> And she said to the king, “The report was true that I heard in my own land of your words and of your wisdom, <sup>7</sup> but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:1-13 ESV

And behold, the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I heard. <sup>8</sup> Happy are your men! Happy are your servants, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! <sup>9</sup> Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD loved Israel forever, he has made you king, that you may execute justice and righteousness.” <sup>10</sup> Then she gave the king 120 talents of gold,

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:1-13 ESV

and a very great quantity of spices and precious stones. Never again came such an abundance of spices as these that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

<sup>11</sup> Moreover, the fleet of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, brought from Ophir a very great amount of almug wood and precious stones. <sup>12</sup> And the king made of the almug wood supports for the house of the LORD and for the king's house, also lyres and harps for the singers. No such almug wood has come or been seen to this day.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:1-13 ESV

<sup>13</sup> And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all that she desired, whatever she asked besides what was given her by the bounty of King Solomon. So she turned and went back to her own land with her servants.

# Matthew 12:42 ESV

“The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.”



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8:59-60 ESV

“Let these words of mine, with which I have pleaded before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires,<sup>60</sup> that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other.”

## Isaiah 2:1-4 ESV

“It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, <sup>3</sup> and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.



# Isaiah 2:1-4 ESV

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.”



# Revelation 7:9-10 ESV

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:14-22 ESV

<sup>14</sup> Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold, <sup>15</sup> besides that which came from the explorers and from the business of the merchants, and from all the kings of the west and from the governors of the land. <sup>16</sup> King Solomon made 200 large shields of beaten gold; 600 shekels of gold went into each shield. <sup>17</sup> And he made 300 shields of beaten gold; three minas of gold went into each shield. And the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:14-22 ESV

<sup>18</sup> The king also made a great ivory throne and overlaid it with the finest gold. <sup>19</sup> The throne had six steps, and the throne had a round top, and on each side of the seat were armrests and two lions standing beside the armrests, <sup>20</sup> while twelve lions stood there, one on each end of a step on the six steps. The like of it was never made in any kingdom. <sup>21</sup> All King Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were of pure gold.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 10:14-22 ESV

None were of silver; silver was not considered as anything in the days of Solomon. <sup>22</sup> For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish at sea with the fleet of Hiram. Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish used to come bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

# Deuteronomy 17:17 ESV

“...nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.”

*“Yes, Solomon has been granted spectacular wisdom and material blessing by God, but this level of decadence may be included to produce a growing disquiet in the reader.”*

**J. Gary Millar**

J Gary Millar, “1-2 Kings” in *ESV Expository Commentary Vol 3: 1 Samuel – 2 Chronicles*, ed. Iain M. Duguid, James M. Hamilton Jr., & Jay Sklar, (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2019), 596.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:15-28 ESV

<sup>15</sup> And this is the account of the forced labor that King Solomon drafted to build the house of the Lord and his own house and the Millo and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor and Megiddo and Gezer <sup>16</sup> (Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and captured Gezer and burned it with fire, and had killed the Canaanites who lived in the city, and had given it as dowry to his daughter, Solomon's wife; <sup>17</sup> so Solomon rebuilt Gezer) and Lower Beth-horon <sup>18</sup> and Baalath and Tamar in the wilderness,



# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:15-28 ESV

in the land of Judah, <sup>19</sup> and all the store cities that Solomon had, and the cities for his chariots, and the cities for his horsemen, and whatever Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion. <sup>20</sup> All the people who were left of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who were not of the people of Israel— <sup>21</sup> their descendants who were left after them in the land, whom the people of Israel were unable to devote to destruction—





# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:15-28 ESV

these Solomon drafted to be slaves, and so they are to this day. <sup>22</sup> But of the people of Israel Solomon made no slaves. They were the soldiers, they were his officials, his commanders, his captains, his chariot commanders and his horsemen. <sup>23</sup> These were the chief officers who were over Solomon's work: 550 who had charge of the people who carried on the work. <sup>24</sup> But Pharaoh's daughter went up from the city of David to her own house that Solomon had built for her. Then he built the Millo.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:15-28 ESV

<sup>25</sup> Three times a year Solomon used to offer up burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar that he built to the LORD, making offerings with it before the LORD. So he finished the house. <sup>26</sup> King Solomon built a fleet of ships at Ezion-geber, which is near Eloth on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. <sup>27</sup> And Hiram sent with the fleet his servants, seamen who were familiar with the sea, together with the servants of Solomon.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 9:15-28 ESV

<sup>28</sup> And they went to Ophir and brought from there gold, 420 talents, and they brought it to King Solomon.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 8:9 ESV

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”