

The Book of SECOND CHRONICLES

Chapters 7 - 9

“Legacy: King Solomon and Yours”

Chapter 7- “His Mercy Endures Forever!”

(v1-3) Prayer & the glory of the LORD filled the Temple!

(Prayer and the glory of the LORD filled His people - Acts 2:1-21)

(v4-6) Worship that exalts the LORD (**Psalm 136**)

(v7-11) How to be joyful & glad of heart?

(v12-18) God’s promise of mercy!

> **Insight verse 14:** *If my people (God’s people); who are called by my name (shall we say “Christians”) will humble themselves (no more self-reliance); and pray and seek My face (relationship with God); and turn from their wicked ways (repentance – 1 John 1:4-2:2); then I will hear from heaven; and will forgive their sin (1 John 3:20-22) and heal their land (he will heal your heart). (Observation: Luke 18:9-14)*

(v19-22) What happens if Israel turns away from the LORD?

(New Testament: John 15:1-7)

Chapter 8- “Solomon’s Accomplishments”

(v1-6) Solomon’s building projects

(v7-10) Solomon’s labor force

(v11) Solomon marries outside Israel

(v12-15) Offerings & priestly duties

> **Sabbath** - The Sabbath is taught in many places, including Ex 16:22-30; 20:8-11; 23:12; 31:12-16; 34:21; 35:2-3; Lev 23:3; 26:2; Num 15:32-36; 28:9-10; Deut 5:12-15. The Hebrew word for Sabbath means "to cease or abstain." Two reasons are given for observing the Sabbath: Creation and Exodus. Ex 20:8-11 reminded the nation of Israel to remember that God rested on the seventh day (Gen 2:2). This grounds the observance of the Sabbath in the creation of the world. Deut 5:12-15 reminded Israel to remember its bondage years when there was no rest. This passage fixed the origin of the Sabbath in the bondage of the Hebrews in Egypt. The purpose of the Sabbath was twofold. It symbolized that the nation of Israel had been set apart by the Lord as His special people. The Sabbath was also a celebration of the fact that the land belonged to God. This is seen in His provision of a Sabbatical Year-one year out of every seven when the land should rest from cultivation in order to renew and replenish itself.

> **New Moons** - The references in the Bible to the New Moon celebration include Ex 40:2,17; Num 10:10; 28:1-10; 11:1-15:41; and Ps 104:19. The law specified that two bullocks, one ram seven lambs, and one kid were to be offered in connection with this celebration. Meal mixed with oil accompanied the offerings; a trumpet blast introduced this feast. The sins committed and not expiated during the previous month were covered by the offerings of the New Moon. Thus, sinners received atonement and were reconciled with the Lord.

> **Feast of Unleavened Bread** - This feast began on the 15th day of the month as a part of the larger celebration of Passover (Ex 13:3-10; Lev 23:6-8). Manual labor was strictly forbidden. Strangers and native-born people alike were punished if they failed to keep this holy day. A convocation began the feast. Only unleavened bread was to be eaten during this feast. Bread without leaven commemorated the haste with which Israel left Egypt. As the blood was drained from the sacrificial animal, so the life or the power of leaven was removed from the bread offered to God during this annual celebration.

> **Feast of Weeks** - Biblical references to the Feast of Weeks include Ex 23:16; 34:22; Lev 23:15-21; Num 28:26-31; Deut 16:9-12; and 2 Chron 8:13. This feast was observed early in the third month on the 50th day after the offering of the barley sheaf at the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It included a holy convocation with the usual restriction on manual labor. This feast was also known as the Feast of Harvest as well as Pentecost. The early Christian believers, who were gathered in Jerusalem for

observance of this feast, experienced the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in a miraculous way (Acts 2:1-4).

> **Feast of Tabernacles** - References to the Feast of Tabernacles in the Bible include Ex 23:16; 34:22; Lev 23:33-36,39-43; Num 29:12-32; Deut 16:13-16; Ezra 3:4; and Zech 14:16,18-19. This festival was observed on the 15th day of the seventh month to commemorate the wandering of Israel in the wilderness. Features of the celebration included a holy convocation on the first and eighth days, and the offering of many animal sacrifices. The Israelites were also commanded to live in booths made of palm and willow trees during the festival to commemorate their period of wilderness wandering when they lived in temporary shelters. This feast is also known as the Feast of Booths. (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

(v16-18) The well-ordered works of Solomon

Chapter 9- "Solomon's Wisdom & Glory"

(v1-12) King Solomon's wisdom tested by the Queen of Sheba

(SHEBA - A mountainous country in southwest Arabia (1 Kings 10:1-13), identified as the land of "the queen of the South" (Luke 11:31) who came to investigate Solomon's fame and wisdom. By means of its international trade and control of trade routes through its land, Sheba developed into a strong commercial power. Its trade specialties were perfumes and incense. Camel caravans followed routes northward across its dry regions, bearing their precious commodities for the royal courts of the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Thus the Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon may have been motivated also by her interest in trade and in the unhindered movement of her caravans into the large territory under Solomon's control.)

(v13-28) The glory days of Solomon

(v29-31) King Solomon reigned forty years

(As Paul Harvey says, "And now the rest of the story" - Solomon's frailty & folly- 1 Kings 11:1-8)

(FYI - New Testament: 2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1- O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open. You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open. Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.)