

1 KINGS 4 vs 1

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The Bible is so interesting; even the Old Testament. Remember: when reading the 1st and 2nd Chronicles... we read history and events recorded from the perspective of the 2 tribes of the **Southern Kingdom**, the House of **Judah**;

The administration of Solomon,

¹ So King Solomon was king over all Israel.

² And these were his officers; Azariah the son of Zadok the priest,

³ Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, secretaries; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the court recorder.

⁴ And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in charge of the army: and Zadok and Abiathar priests:

⁵ And Azariah the son of Nathan in charge of the deputies: and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal officer, and the king's friend / advisor to the king:

⁶ And Ahishar was over the household / in charge of the palace: and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the tribute / over the forced labor of foreigners living among Israel and Judah.

⁷ And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, who provided food supplies for the king and his household: each man was assigned his month of the year to provide provisions.

⁸ And these are their names: Ben-Hur, in the hill country of Ephraim:

⁹ Ben-deker, in Makaz, and in Shaalbim, and Beth-shemesh, and Elon-beth-hanan:

¹⁰ Ben-hesed, in Arubboth; to him belonged Socoh and all the land of Hephher:

¹¹ Ben-Abinadab, in all the region of Dor; Taphath the daughter of Solomon was his wife:

¹² Baana the son of Ahilud; to him belonged Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth-shean, which is by Zar-ethan beneath Jezreel, from Beth-shean to Abel-meholah, as far as the other side of Jokmeam:

¹³ Ben-geber, in Ramoth-gilead; to him belonged the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead; to him also belonged the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty great cities with walls and bronze bars:

¹⁴ Ahinadab the son of Iddo had Mahanaim:



1 KINGS 4 vs 1

¹⁵ Ahimaaz was in Naphtali; he also took Basemath the daughter of Solomon for his wife:

¹⁶ Baana the son of Hushai was in Asher and in Bealoth:

¹⁷ Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar:

¹⁸ Shimei the son of Ela, in Benjamin:

¹⁹ Geber the son of Uri was in the land of Gilead, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan; and he was the only officer who was in that region.

²⁰ **Judah** and **Israel** were many, as numerous as the sand on the seashore, they were eating and drinking, and rejoicing.

²¹ And Solomon reigned over all the kingdoms from the river Euphrates to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt: they brought tributes, and served Solomon all the days of his life.

²² And Solomon's provision for one day was 150 bushels of fine flour, and 300 bushels of meal / estimates suggest there were 4000 – 5000 people daily needing provision,

²³ 10 fattened oxen, and 20 oxen out of the pastures, and 100 sheep, beside deer, and gazelles, and roebucks, and pen-fed poultry.

²⁴ For he had dominion over everything west of the Euphrates River, from Tiphseh to Gaza, over all the kings west of the River: and peace was on all his surrounding borders.

²⁵ And **Judah** and **Israel** dwelt safely, each man under his own vine and his own fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba / from north to south, all the days of Solomon.

²⁶ And Solomon had 40,000 stalls of horses for his chariots, and 12,000 horsemen.

²⁷ And each of those officers provided food for a month for king Solomon, and for all who came to King Solomon's table: they lacked nothing.

²⁸ Each man brought the barley and also the straw for the chariot horses and dromedaries to the place where the officers were, each man according to his assignment.

²⁹ And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding / very great discernment and a great insightful heart, as vast as the sand that is along the sea shore.

³⁰ And the wisdom of Solomon excelled the wisdom of all the people of the East, and greater than all the wisdom of Egypt.

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³¹ For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: / all the 4 great sons of Zara, distant relatives; he was wiser than: Calcol – the 1st Ancient Irish King, Darda – Dardanus – the founder of Troy and the City States of Greece;

and his fame was known in all the surrounding nations.

³² And he spoke 3,000 proverbs: and his songs numbered 1,005 / so the book of Proverbs is only a very small collection of Solomon's wisdom; as for the songs, like father, like son, both were prolific writers; but only 2 songs of Solomon were included in the book of Psalms (72 and 127).

³³ And he spoke of trees, from the cedars in Lebanon even to the hyssop that clings to the wall: he spoke also of animals, and of the winged critters / not just the birds, but bugs and bees, and of creeping things, and fish.

³⁴ And people came from everywhere to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the then kings of the earth, who heard of his wisdom.

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