

# 1 Kings 10:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Beside that he had of the merchantmen, and of the traffick of the spice merchants, and of all the kings of Arabia, and of the governors of the country.

## Analysis

**Beside that he had of the merchantmen, and of the traffick of the spice merchants, and of all the kings of Arabia, and of the governors of the country.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of queen of sheba and solomon's wealth, within the book's focus on Solomon's wisdom, temple building, and tragic apostasy.

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

## Historical Context

First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. Solomon's reign (c. 970-930 BCE) represented Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity.

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives

responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How did Solomon's disobedience to God's clear commands lead to his downfall, and what warnings does this provide?
2. What role do relationships and alliances play in either strengthening or compromising our faith?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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לְבִד	מְאֹנְשׁ	וּמְסֻמְן	רַ	הַפְּנִיר	יָם	וְמִסְמֵן	רַ	וְמִסְמֵן
H905	<b>Beside that he had of the merchantmen</b>	H582	H8446	<b>and of the traffick</b>	H4536			
of the spice merchants	H7402	H3605	<b>and of all the kings</b>	H4428	H6153	וְפִחְזֵד	בְּאַרְצָה	וְפִחְזֵד
						H6346	H776	
בְּאַרְצָה:								
<b>of the country</b>								

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