

# 1 Kings 7:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And above were costly stones, after the measures of hewed stones, and cedars.

## Analysis

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**And above were costly stones, after the measures of hewed stones, and cedars.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of temple furnishings and Solomon's palace, 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

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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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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does the temple as God's dwelling place help us understand Christ's incarnation and the church as God's temple today?
2. What does Solomon's prayer and dedication teach about approaching God in worship and prayer?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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וּמִלַּמַּעַלָּה	אֲבָנֵי יָם	יָקָר וְזֶה	כְּמִדָּה וְזֶה	גִּזְיֹת
And above	stones	were costly	after the measures	of hewed stones
H4605	H68	H3368	H4060	H1496

  

וְאַרְזֵי
and cedars
H730