

# 1 Kings 7:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;

## Analysis

---

### **And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;**

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

---

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

---

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

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

## Study Questions

---

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

---

וְאֶת־	הַיָּם־:	וְאֶת־	דָּ	וְאֶת־	רֶ	הַבָּקָר־	שְׁנַיִם	וְאֶת־	רֶ	וְאֶת־	הַיָּם־:
H853	sea	H853	And one	H853	oxen	and twelve	H6240	H8478	sea	H3220	
	H3220		H259		H1241	H8147					

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)