

# 2 Chronicles 2:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Solomon numbered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred.

## Analysis

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**And Solomon numbered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Solomon's reign, specifically focusing on Mobilizing resources for God's house. The Chronicler presents Solomon's faithfulness in temple building and worship as paradigmatic for post-exilic Israel. Unlike the Kings account which includes Solomon's failures, Chronicles emphasizes his positive example during his faithful years.

Theologically, the passage demonstrates that wholehearted seeking of God results in His manifest blessing and presence. The temple construction and dedication represent the climax of God's dwelling with Israel, foreshadowing the incarnation when God would dwell among humanity in Christ. The elaborate preparations and careful adherence to divine pattern emphasize that worship must occur on God's terms.

Cross-references to the tabernacle (Exodus 25-40), Davidic covenant (2 Samuel 7, 1 Chronicles 17), and Messianic prophecies illuminate how Solomon's temple points toward Christ as the true meeting place between God and humanity. The

material glory of Solomon's kingdom anticipates the greater glory of the Messianic age.

## Historical Context

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The reign of Solomon (970-930 BCE) represents Israel's golden age of peace and prosperity. The temple construction began in Solomon's fourth year (966 BCE), exactly 480 years after the Exodus according to 1 Kings 6:1. The Chronicler writes from a post-exilic perspective (450-400 BCE), emphasizing themes relevant to the restored community: temple worship, Levitical service, and covenant faithfulness.

Archaeological evidence confirms Solomon's extensive building projects and international trade relationships. The temple's design incorporated Phoenician architectural elements, evidenced by parallel structures discovered in Syria and Lebanon. Solomon's alliance with Hiram of Tyre provided both materials (Lebanese cedar) and craftsmen for the construction.

The post-exilic audience, having returned from Babylonian captivity to rebuild the temple, needed encouragement that God's presence and blessing could be restored through faithful worship. The Chronicler presents Solomon's reign as paradigmatic—when leaders and people seek God wholeheartedly, He dwells among them and prospers them.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse deepen understanding of God's presence as the source of true blessing and success?
2. What does this passage teach about the importance of following God's prescribed patterns in worship and service?

3. How does Solomon's example in Preparation for Temple Building point forward to Christ as the ultimate fulfillment?

## Interlinear Text

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סָפַר ׀	וְשֹׁלֹמֹה ה	כָּל	הָעָמָשׁ יִם	הַגִּירִים	אֲשֶׁר
had numbered	And Solomon	H3605	H376	H1616	H834
H5608	H8010				
בָּא רֶץ	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	אַחֲרַי	הַסֵּפֶר	אֲשֶׁר	סָפַר ׀
that were in the land	of Israel	after	the numbering	H834	had numbered
H776	H3478	H310	H5610		H5608
וְדָוִד י	אָבִיו	וּמָצְאוּ	מֵאוֹת:	וְחִמְשִׁים	
wherewith David	his father	them and they were found	an hundred	and fifty	
H1732	H1	H4672	H3967	H2572	
יִם	וּשְׁלֹשֶׁת	אֲלָפִי יִם	וְשֵׁשׁ	מֵאוֹת:	
thousand	and three	thousand	and six	an hundred	
H505	H7969	H505	H8337	H3967	

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Chronicles 22:2** (References David): And David commanded to gather together the strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God.