

# 2 Chronicles 9:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels that bare spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

## Analysis

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**And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels that bare spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Solomon's reign, specifically focusing on International recognition of God's blessing. 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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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

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

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

## 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 Queen of Sheba and Solomon's Wealth point forward to Christ as the ultimate fulfillment?

## Interlinear Text

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וּמַלְכַּת **And when the queen** שָׁבָא **of Sheba** שָׁמְעָה **heard** אֶת <sup>H854</sup> שֵׁמֶעַ **of the fame** שְׁלֹמֹה **Solomon**  
H4436 H7614 H8085 H8088 H8010

וַתָּבֹא **and when she was come** לְנִסּוֹת **to prove** אֶת <sup>H853</sup> שְׁלֹמֹה **Solomon** בְּחִידוֹת **with hard questions**  
H935 H5254 H8010 H2420

בְּשִׁמְיָם **spices** וְנִשְׂאֵי יָם **that bare** וּגְמָלִים **and camels** מְאֹד **with a very** כְּבִדָּה **great** בְּחַיְלָם **company** בִּירוּשָׁלַם **at Jerusalem**  
H1314 H5375 H1581 H3966 H3515 H2428 H3389

אֶל **and when she was come** וַתָּבֹא **and when she was come** וְיָקְרָה **and precious** וְאֶבֶן **stones** לְרַב **in abundance** וְזָהָב **and gold**  
H413 H935 H3368 H68 H7230 H2091

עִם **Solomon** הִיא **she** אָשְׁרָה **she communed** כָּל **all** אֶת **with** עַמּוֹ **of her** וּתְדַבֵּר **she communed** שְׁלֹמֹה **Solomon**  
H5973 H1961 H834 H3605 H853 H5973 H1696 H8010

לְבָרָהּ:

**with him of all that was in her heart**  
H3824

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 12:42** (Parallel theme): The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

**Luke 11:31** (Parallel theme): The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

**Genesis 10:7** (Parallel theme): And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtecha: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

**2 Chronicles 9:9** (Parallel theme): And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon.

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