

# Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

## Solomon's Officials and Blessings

- Solomon established administrative leadership over Israel [1 Kgs 4:1-19].
  - He appointed his chief officials [vv. 2-6]...
    - ✦ Azariah and Zadok – priest and high priest [vv. 2, 4]
    - ✦ Elihoreth and Ahijah – secretaries (scribes) [v. 3]
    - ✦ Jehoshaphat – recorder (record keeper) [v. 3]
    - ✦ Benaiah – commander of the army [v. 4]
    - ✦ Azariah (Nathan) – overseer of the governors [v. 5]
    - ✦ Zabud – personal adviser to the king [v. 5]
    - ✦ Ahishar – house manager of the palace [v. 6]
    - ✦ Adoniram – head of labor [v. 6]
  - He appointed his district governors [vv. 7-19]...
    - ✦ Ben-hur – Ephraim [v. 8]
    - ✦ Ben-deker – Shaalbim, Beth-shemesh, etc. [v. 9]
    - ✦ Ben-hesed – Arubboth [v. 10]
    - ✦ Ben-abinadab – Dor [v. 11]
    - ✦ Baana (Ahilud) – Taanach, Beth-shean, etc. [v. 12]
    - ✦ Ben-geber – Ramoth-gilead [v. 13]
    - ✦ Ahinadab – Mahanaim [v. 14]
    - ✦ Ahimaaz – Naphtali [v. 15]
    - ✦ Baana (Hushai) – Asher [v. 16]
    - ✦ Jehoshaphat – Issachar [v. 17]
    - ✦ Shimei – Benjamin [v. 18]
    - ✦ Gebur – Gilead (Gad) [v. 19]
- Solomon and all of Israel prospered while he was king [1 Kgs 4:20-28].
  - The people of Israel were numerous and lived in comfort and prosperity [v. 20].
  - Solomon's domain was quite extensive, and kings brought him tribute (taxes) [v. 21].
  - Solomon was well provided for which is another indication of the nation's prosperity [vv. 22-23].
  - Solomon's dominion over the region allowed Israel to enjoy peace and safety [vv. 24-25].
  - Solomon had many horses and horsemen indicating a strong and well supplied army [v. 26].
  - The governors supplied for Solomon and the military by faithfully paying their taxes [vv. 27-28].

- Solomon's God-given wisdom became known by many surrounding nations [1 Kgs 4:29-34].
  - Solomon had received great wisdom, discernment and intelligence from God [v. 29 cf. 1 Kgs 3:12].
  - His wisdom exceeded the well-known wise men of the day and was renowned in all the surrounding nations [vv. 30-31].
    - ✦ NOTE: Ethan the Ezrahite was the author of Psalm 89.
  - Solomon was prolific in his writings [v. 32].
    - ✦ Hundreds of his 3,000 proverbs are preserved in Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.
    - ✦ The Song of Solomon is one of his 1,005 songs.
  - Solomon's knowledge extended into the sciences of botany and zoology [v. 33].
  - People came from far and wide to hear the wisdom of Solomon [v. 34].
    - ✦ The statement "men from all peoples" is hyperbole.
    - ✦ Nonetheless, visitors came from many faraway places and Solomon openly welcomed them.
    - ✦ These kings understood that Solomon's wisdom had come from God [2 Chr 9:23].