



**COMING UP ...** FEB 2 NO CLASS (Super Bowl) FEB 9 Song of Solomon FEB 16 Proverbs FEB 23 1 Kings 5-9

### 1 KINGS 2:13—4:34

Following David's death, Solomon (age 20) has been appointed and anointed king of Israel

David was a soldier; Solomon is a scholar

David made war; Solomon will make peace

The kingdom has been boiling for years

Absalom and Adonijah's treachery

It's God's timing for new leadership

It's God's timing for a fresh start

**LESSON THEME:** Time for a new start

### Purging The Kingdom (2:12-46)

Adonijah is executed (vv. 13-25)

A usurper

Abiathar is deposed and exiled (vv. 26-27)

A traitor

Joab is executed (vv. 28-35)

A murderer

Shimei is executed (vv. 36-46)

A rebel

### Keeping Versus Making Peace

#### KEEPING PEACE

Based on feelings

Honors others over God

Gives others what they ask for

Sidesteps the truth

Trusts its own schemes

Seems to work

May be—relatively speaking—less “costly”

#### MAKING PEACE (JAS 3:17-18)

Based on facts

Honors God over others

Gives others what they need

Speaks the truth in love

Trusts God's Word and ways

Sure to work

May be—relatively speaking—more “costly”

### Following The Lord (Ch. 3)

Solomon's request (vv. 1-9)

An “understanding” heart; a “hearing” heart

The Lord's response (vv. 10-14)

God gives His best to those who want what He wants for them – and more besides (Matt 6:33)

Solomon's reply (v. 15)

He worships God for His grace and generosity

He bows the knee afresh to the Lord

The people are in awe of Solomon (vv. 16-28)

### Serving The People (Ch. 4)

Solomon's advisors (vv. 1-6)

Wisdom delegates to others who're qualified

The twelve districts (vv. 7-19)

(see "Redistricting Under Solomon" map, p. 4)

The result (vv. 20-34)

Peace and security

Prosperity

Fame

## Summary

Solomon *purged* the kingdom of pretend kings, traitors, murderers and rebels

He removed division and brought peace

Solomon asked God for wisdom that he might both lead and *follow* well

His greatest ask of God was to hear *Him* well

Solomon *served* the people with wisdom

He served God's people

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## *Application:* Time for a new start?

### An Undivided Heart

Is your heart divided?

Who are the enemies and traitors that need to be purged from "mansoul?"

What will you do *specifically* in order to exile or execute them through the Spirit's power?

Or are you still content to coddle these rebels and traitors who can never be reformed?

A new day, a new start, an *undivided* heart

### A Hearing Heart

What's more important: a list or relationship?

How do you approach God in prayer?

Do you approach Him with humility?

Based on His promises and/or His character?

Do you ask Him for what you know He wants to give you? (e.g. Jas 1:5; Ps 119:33-40)

Do you come only to speak ... or also to listen?

A new day, a new start, a *hearing* heart

### A Servant's Heart

Who are you serving right now: self or others?

God will equip you for where He's called you to serve (e.g. our S.H.A.P.E. Class)

Who will you serve in 2020?

See our website for opportunities

Specifically, what will your next steps look like?

Who? How? When?

A new day, a new start, a *servant's* heart

### To Be Like Jesus

Do you need an *undivided* heart ... as He had?

Do you need a *hearing* heart ... as He had?

Do you need a *servant's* heart ... as He had?

Then go to Jesus ... (Matt 11:28-30)

"Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

FOR NEXT TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

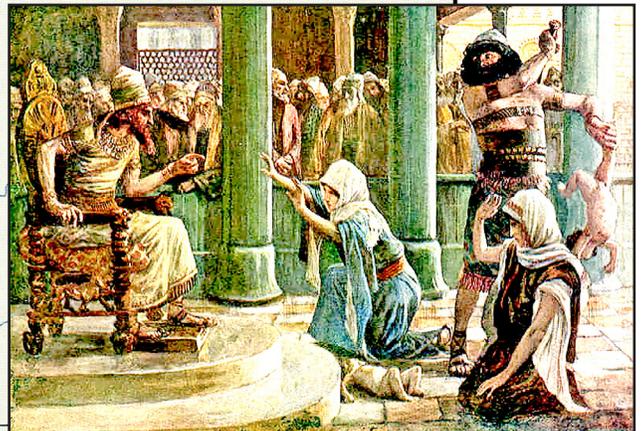
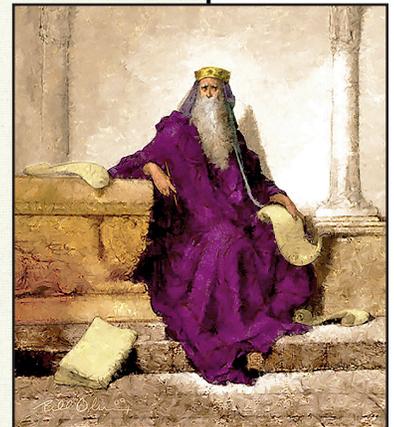
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# THE KINGDOM OF DAVID AND SOLOMON

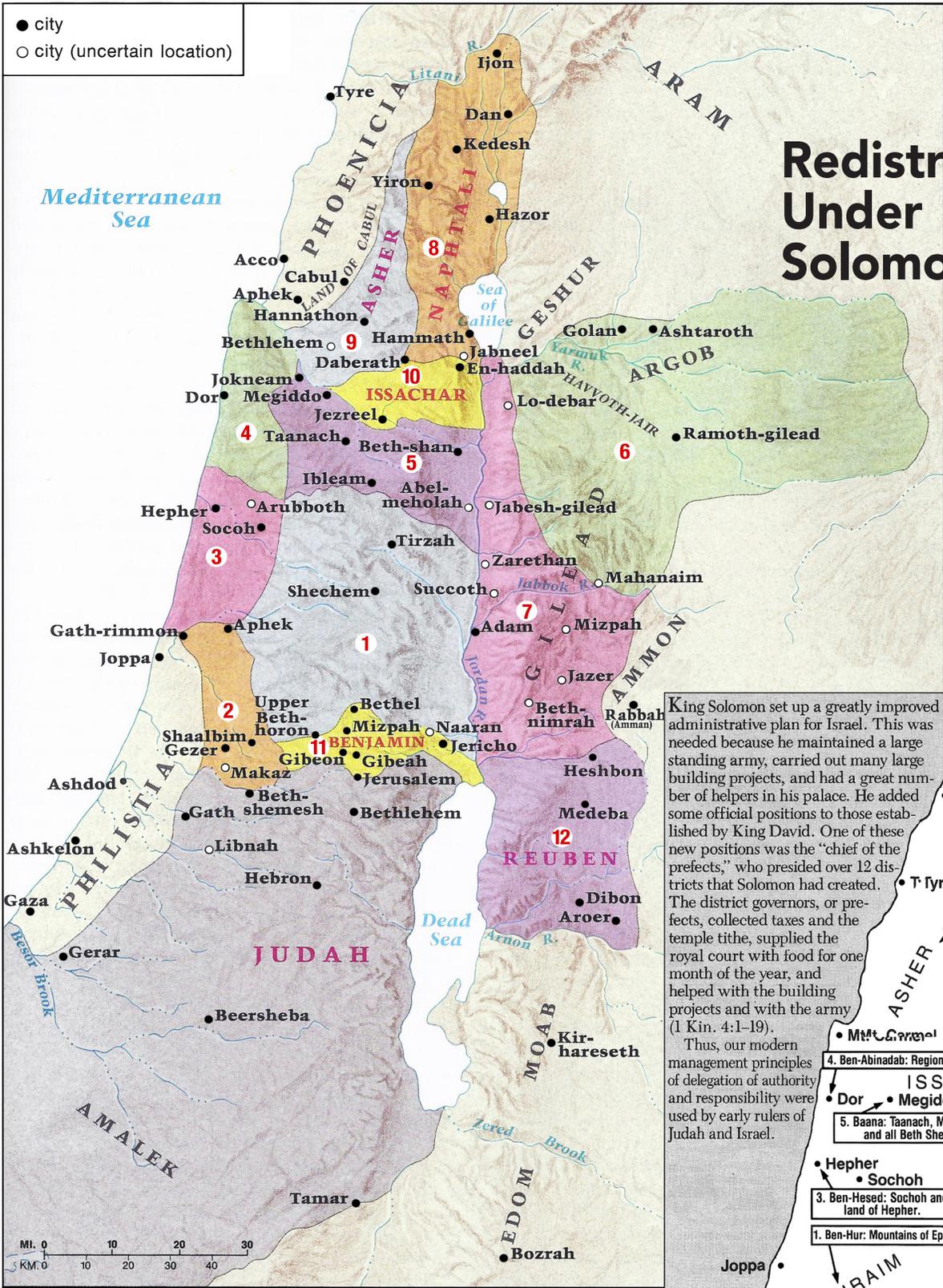


"Solomon, King of Israel" by Gustave Dore



"The Wisdom of Solomon" by James Tissot

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○ city (uncertain location)

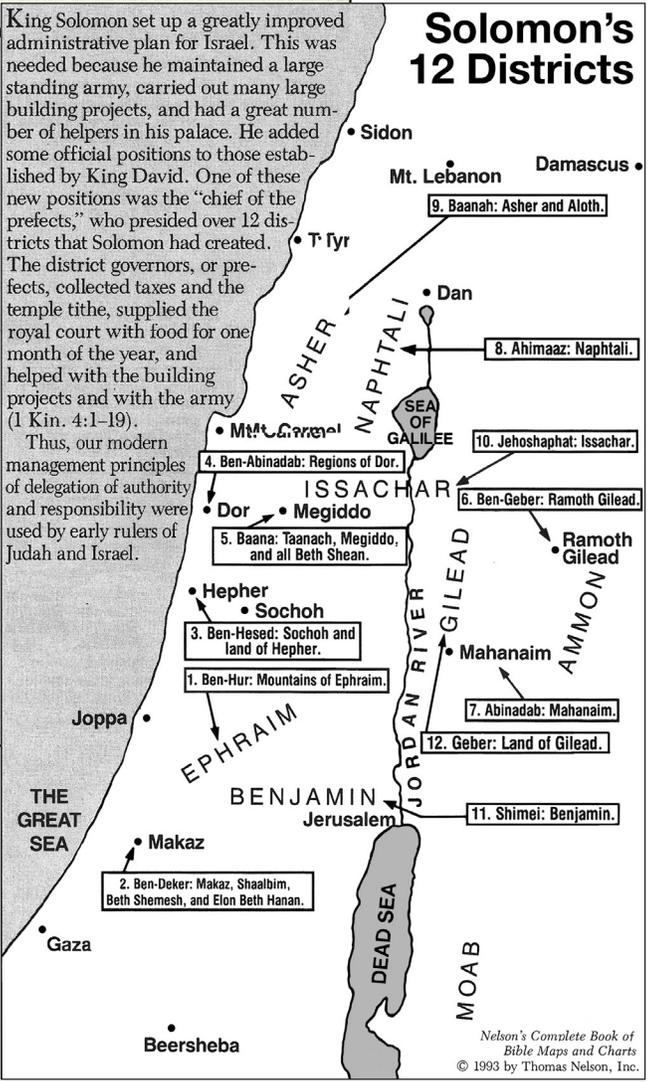


# Redistricting Under Solomon

King Solomon set up a greatly improved administrative plan for Israel. This was needed because he maintained a large standing army, carried out many large building projects, and had a great number of helpers in his palace. He added some official positions to those established by King David. One of these new positions was the "chief of the prefects," who presided over 12 districts that Solomon had created. The district governors, or prefects, collected taxes and the temple tithe, supplied the royal court with food for one month of the year, and helped with the building projects and with the army (1 Kin. 4:1-19).

Thus, our modern management principles of delegation of authority and responsibility were used by early rulers of Judah and Israel.

## Solomon's 12 Districts



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