

*July 20, 2025*

# Wishing “Well”

Lessons From  
Solomon’s Life













# Could Solomon have done better?





# 1 Kings 3:5-15



“So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.”

1 Kings 3:9 NIV





Give me the gift of a  
listening heart.

Solomon

“ quote fancy





Good and Evil  
( *tov* and *ra* )







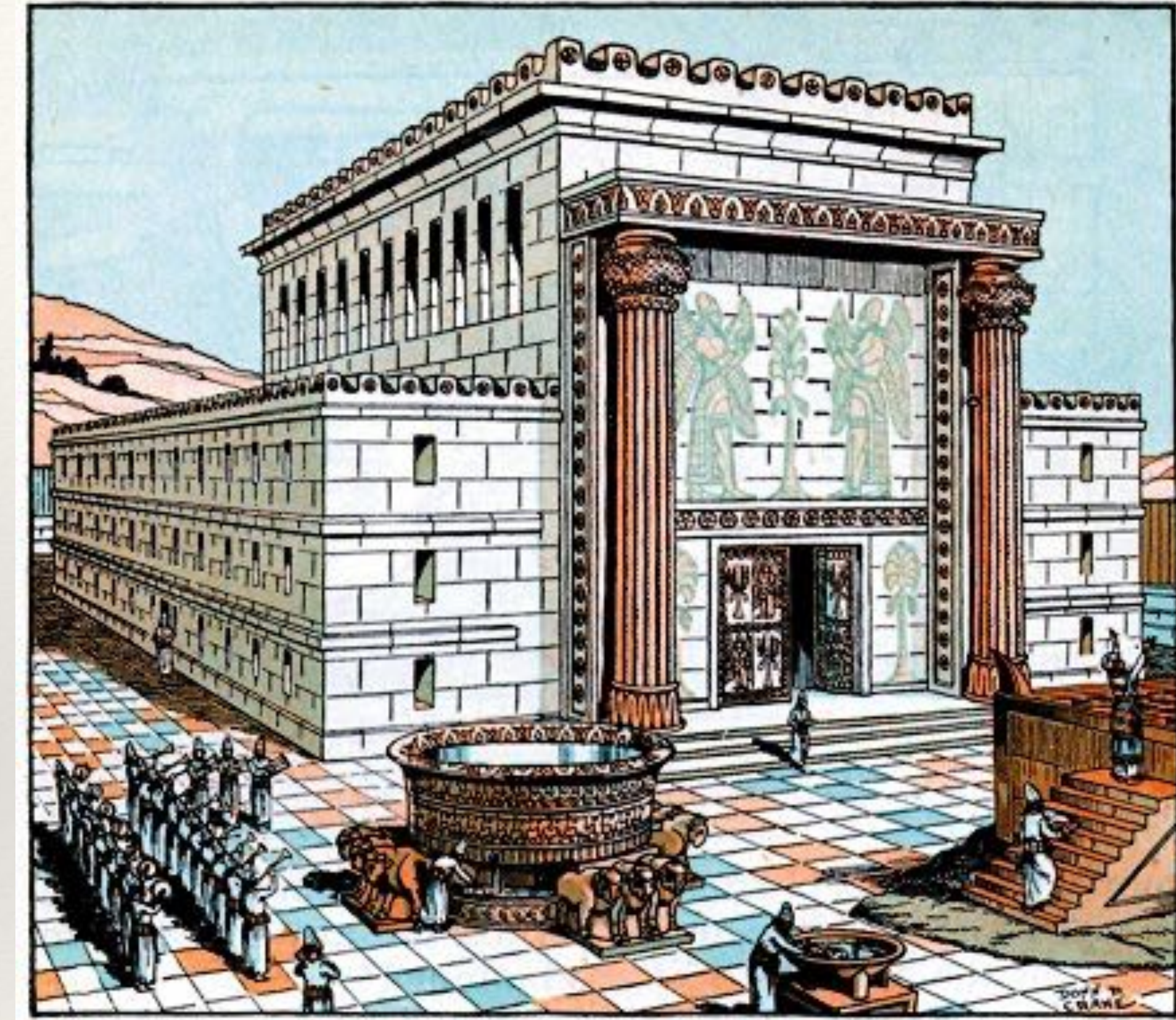
## 1 Kings 6:1-2 NLT

It was in midspring, in the month of Ziv, during the fourth year of Solomon's reign, that he began to construct the Temple of the LORD.

The Temple that King Solomon built for the LORD was 90 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 45 feet high.

## 1 Kings 6:38 NLT

The entire building was completed in every detail by mid-autumn, in the month of Bul, during the eleventh year of his reign. So it took seven years to build the Temple.

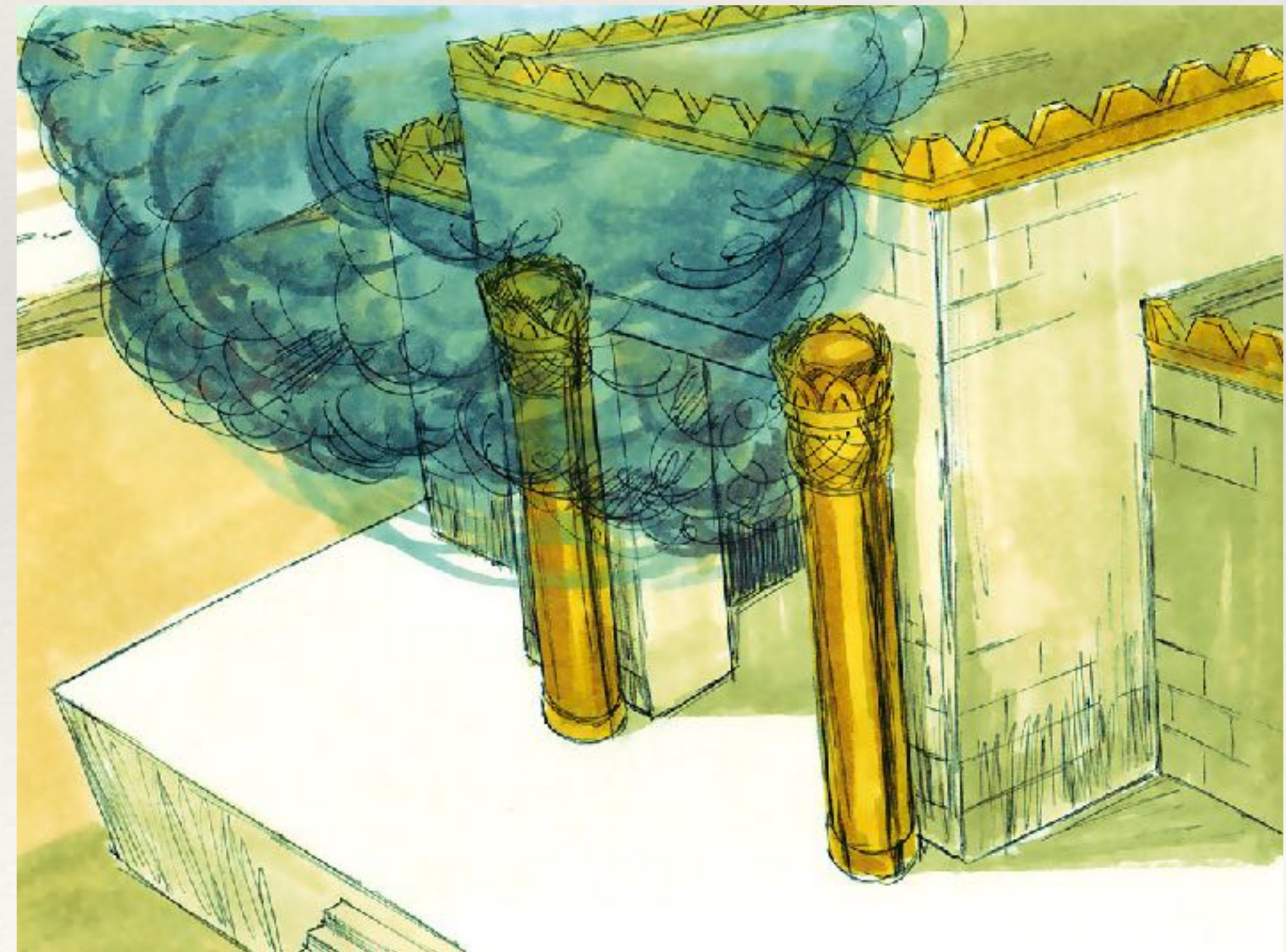




1 Kings 8:6, 10 NLT

Then the priests carried the Ark of the LORD's Covenant into the inner sanctuary of the Temple—the Most Holy Place—and placed it beneath the wings of the cherubim.

When the priests came out of the Holy Place, a thick cloud filled the Temple of the LORD. The priests could not continue their service because of the cloud, for the glorious presence of the LORD filled the Temple of the LORD.





1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-28 NLT

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the entire community of Israel. He lifted his hands toward heaven, and he prayed,

“O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in all of heaven above or on the earth below. You keep your covenant and show unfailing love to all who walk before you in wholehearted devotion.

But will God really live on earth? Why, even the highest heavens cannot contain you. How much less this Temple I have built!

Nevertheless, listen to my prayer and my plea, O LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is making to you today.







## 2 Chronicles 9:1-2, 5, 8 NLT

When the queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's fame, she came to Jerusalem to test him with hard questions. She arrived with a large group of attendants and a great caravan of camels loaded with spices, large quantities of gold, and precious jewels. When she met with Solomon, she talked with him about everything she had on her mind. Solomon had answers for all her questions; nothing was too hard for him to explain to her.

She exclaimed to the king, "Everything I heard in my country about your achievements and wisdom is true!

Praise the LORD your God, who delights in you and has placed you on the throne as king to rule for him. Because God loves Israel and desires this kingdom to last forever, he has made you king over them so you can rule with justice and righteousness."







Psalms 72:1-2, 8-11, 15, 17 NIV

Endow the king with your justice, O God,  
the royal son with your righteousness.  
May he judge your people in righteousness,  
your afflicted ones with justice.

May he rule from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.  
May the desert tribes bow before him  
and his enemies lick the dust.  
May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores  
bring tribute to him.



THE QUEEN OF SHEBAS VISIT TO SOLOMON.



May the kings of Sheba and Seba  
present him gifts.

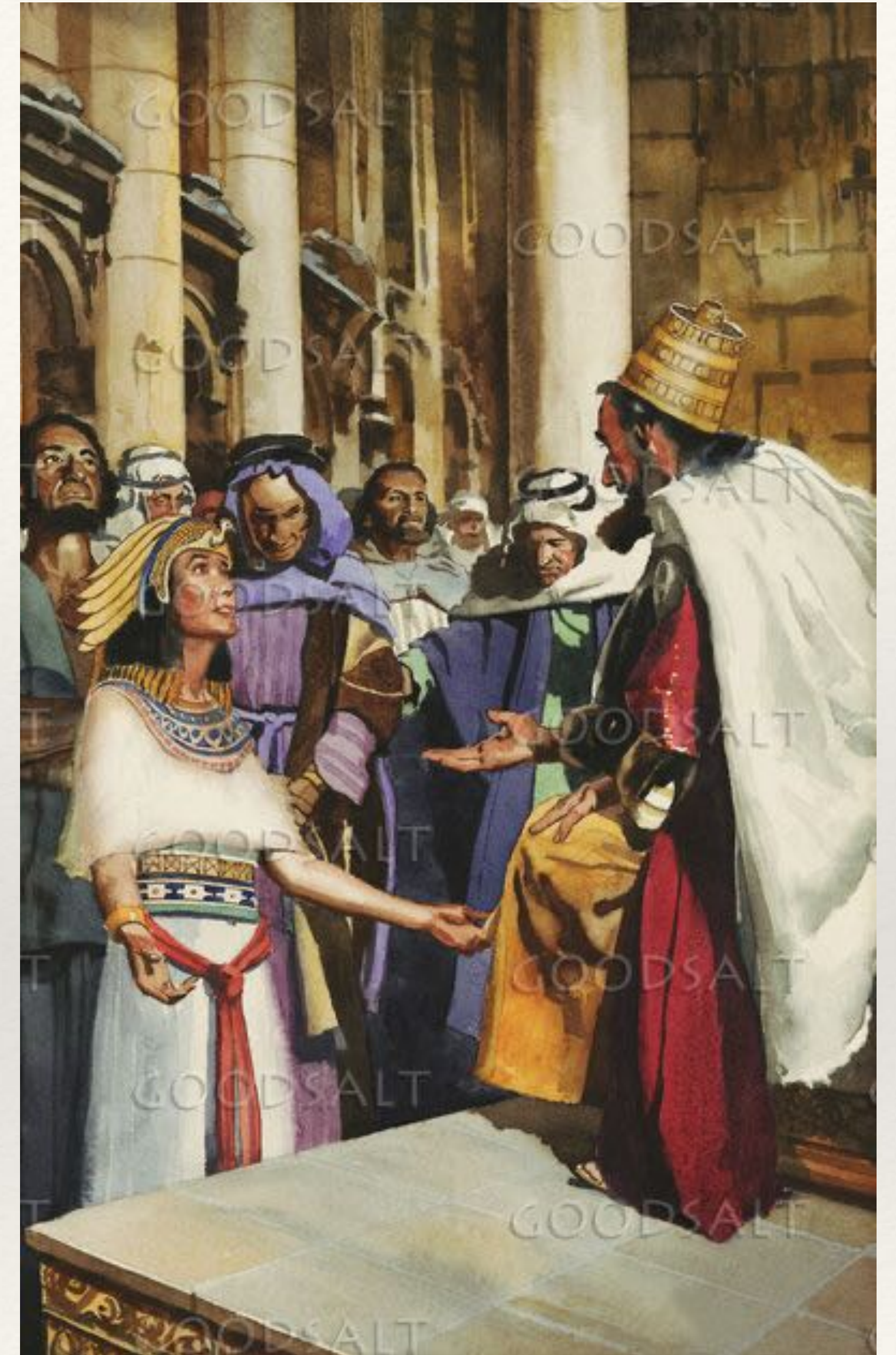
May all kings bow down to him  
and all nations serve him.

Long may he live!

May gold from Sheba be given him.

May his name endure forever;  
may it continue as long as the sun.

Then all nations will be blessed through him,  
and they will call him blessed.





## Matthew 12:42 NLT

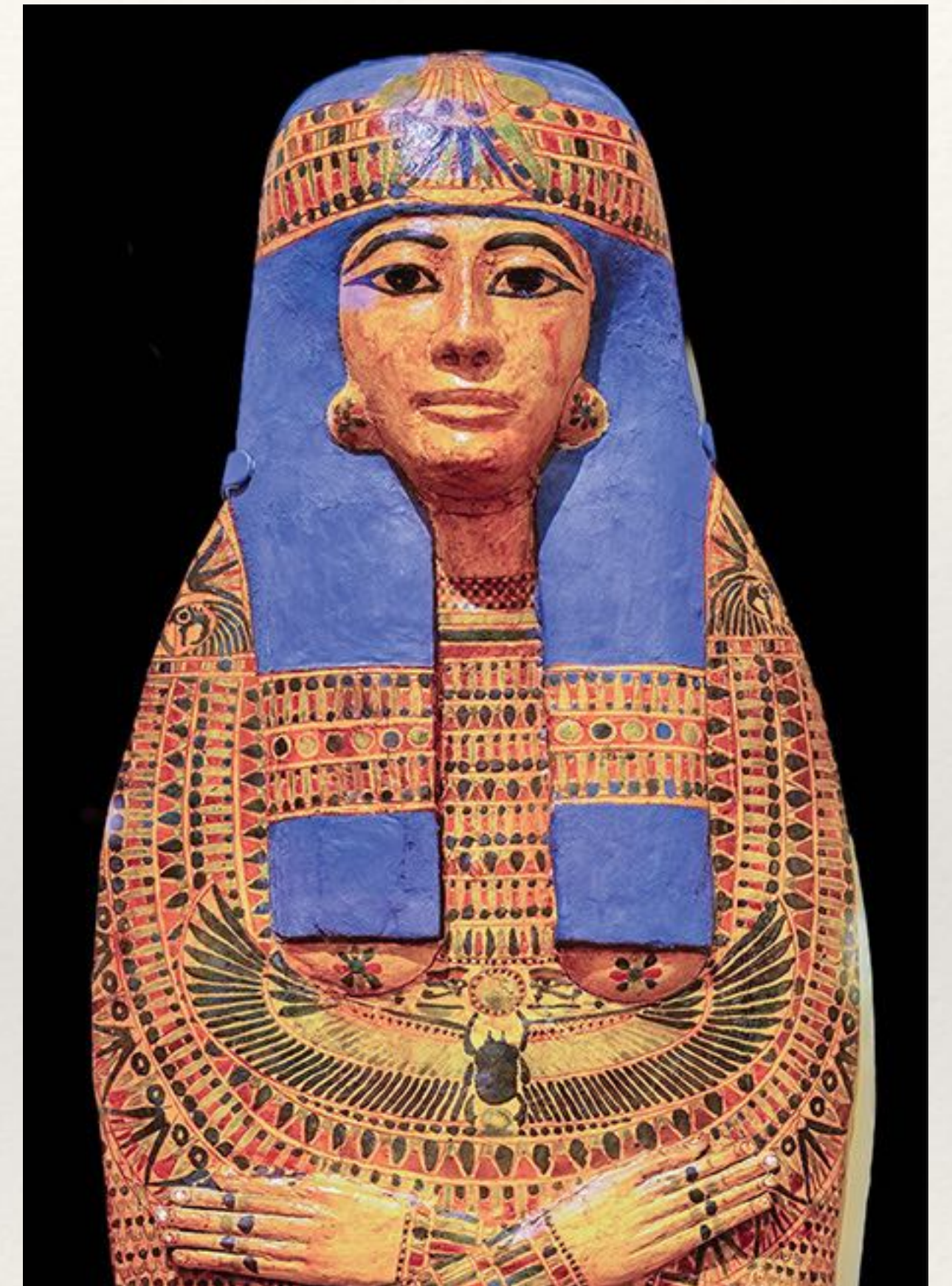
“The queen of Sheba will also stand up against this generation on judgment day and condemn it, for she came from a distant land to hear the wisdom of Solomon. Now someone greater than Solomon is here—but you refuse to listen.”





1 Kings 3:1 NLT

Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and married one of his daughters. He brought her to live in the City of David until he could finish building his palace

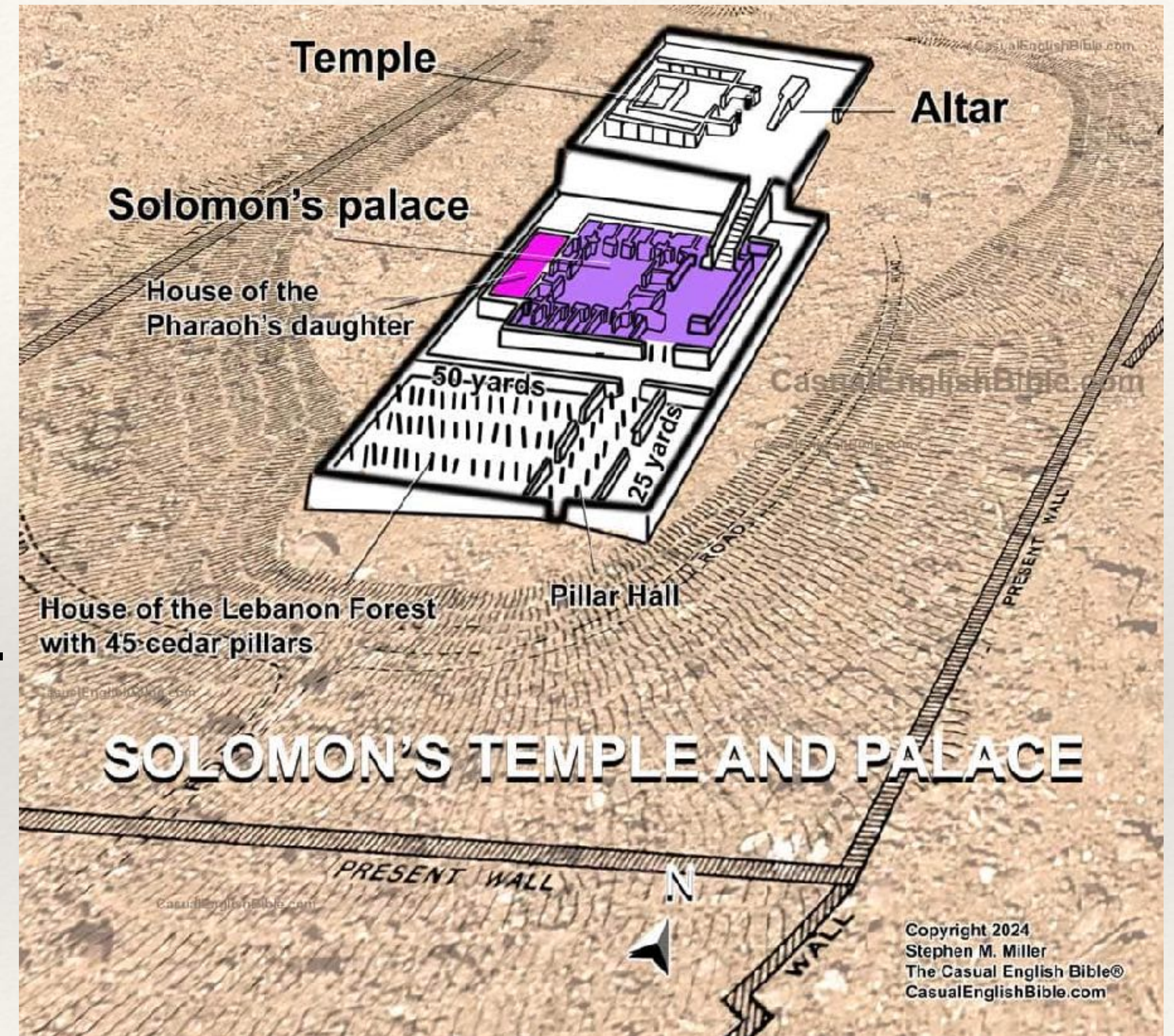




## 1 Kings 6:37-7:2

So it took seven years to build the Temple.

Solomon also built a palace for himself, and it took him thirteen years to complete the construction. One of Solomon's buildings was called the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon. It was 150 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.





**Temple**

**Altar**

**Solomon's palace**

House of the  
Pharaoh's daughter

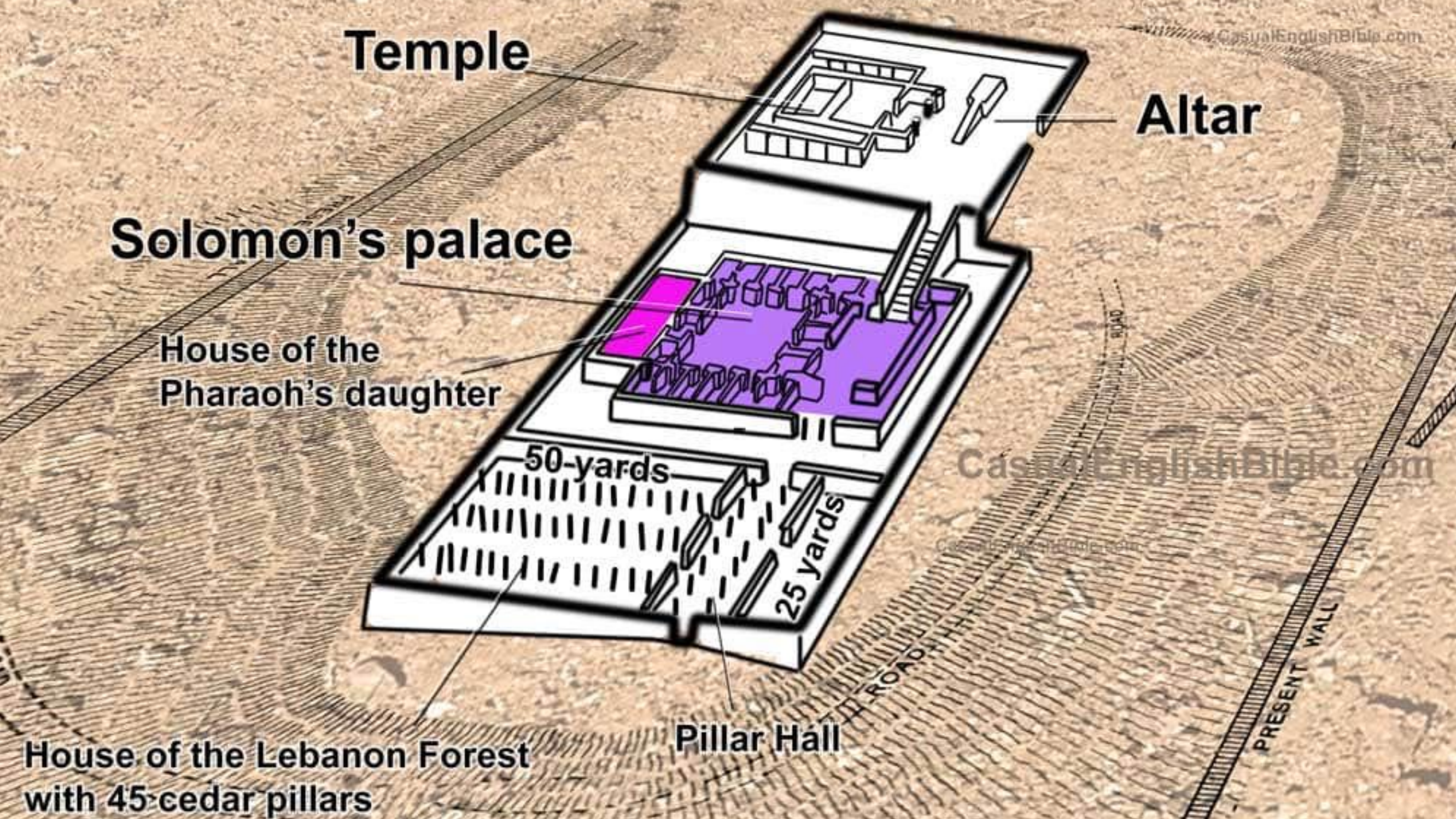
50-yards

25 yards

House of the Lebanon Forest  
with 45 cedar pillars

Pillar Hall

PRESENT WALL





# Deuteronomy 17:16-20 “The king **must**....

Deuteronomy references	do's and don'ts	Solomon's (in)actions	1 Kings references
Deut. 17:16	... not acquire great number of horses	accumulated 12,000 horses	1 Kings 10:26
Deut. 17:16	... not allow people to return to Egypt	traders acquired horses from Egypt	1 Kings 10:28
Deut. 17:17	... not marry many wives	700 royal wives 300 concubines	1 Kings 11:3
Deut. 17:17	... not accumulate silver and gold	666 talents of gold / yr silver as common as stones	1 Kings 10:14, 27
Deut. 17:18	... make himself a copy of the Torah (law)	no recorded action	
Deut. 17:19	... keep it with him and read it daily	no recorded action	



How to Read the Bible

# Jewish Meditation Literature



Psalm 1:2 Blessed is the one..  
..whose delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and who meditates on his law day and night.

2 Timothy 3:15 ..the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise...

Psalm 19:7 The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.



## 1 Kings 11:4-6, 11-13 NET

When Solomon became old, his wives shifted his allegiance to other gods; he was not wholeheartedly devoted to the LORD his God, as his father David had been. Solomon worshiped the Sidonian goddess Astarte and the detestable Ammonite god Milcom. Solomon did evil in the LORD's sight; he did not remain loyal to the LORD

So the LORD said to Solomon, "Because you insist on doing these things and have not kept the covenantal rules I gave you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant. However, for your father David's sake I will not do this while you are alive. I will tear it away from your son's hand instead. But I will not tear away the entire kingdom; I will leave your son one tribe for my servant David's sake and for the sake of my chosen city Jerusalem."



# Could Solomon have done better?





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1 Chronicles 28:9 NLT

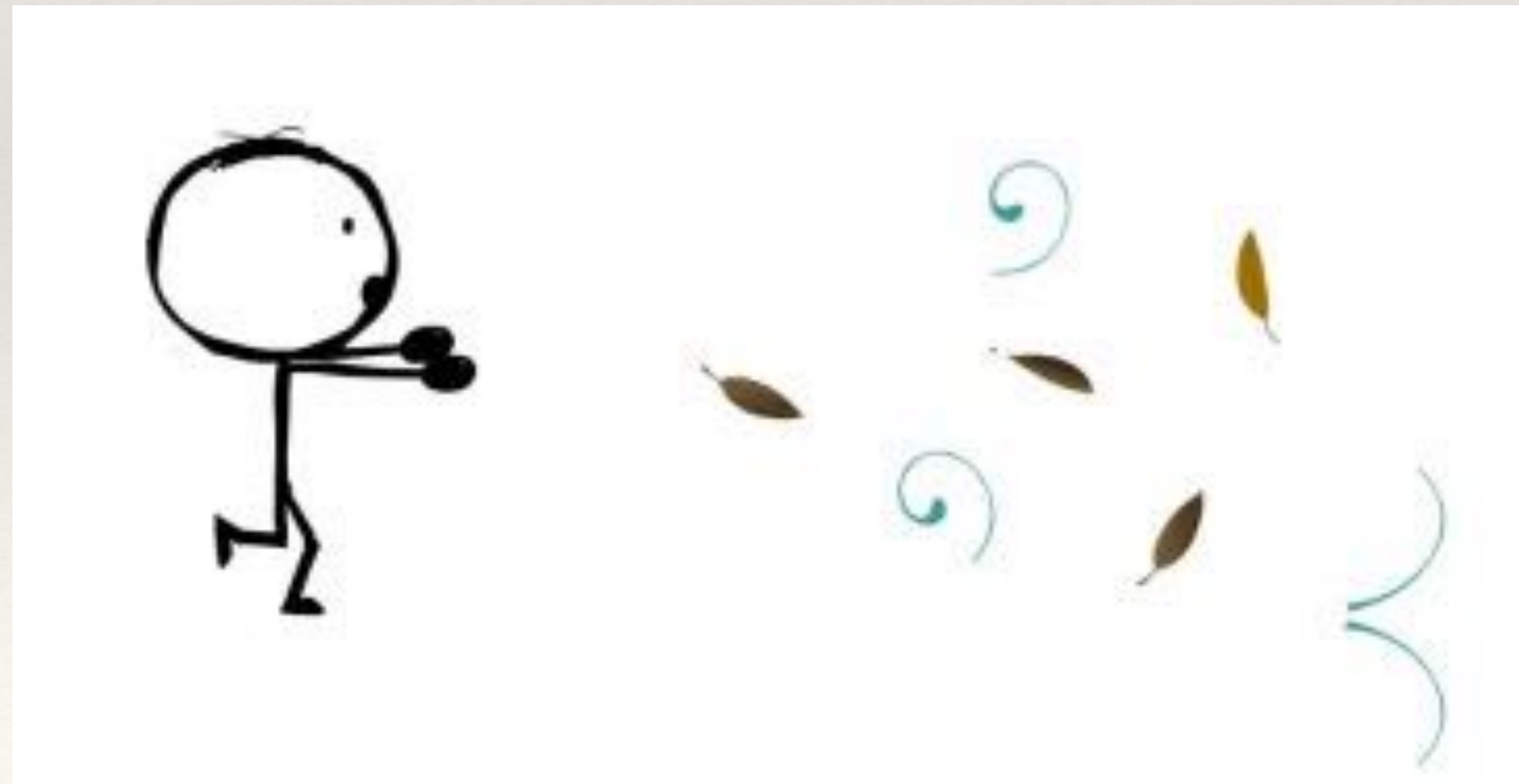
“And Solomon, my son, learn to **know** the God of your ancestors **intimately**. Worship and serve him with your whole heart and a willing mind. For the LORD sees every heart and knows every plan and thought. If you seek him, you will find him.



## Ecclesiastes 1:16-18 NLT

I said to myself, “Look, I am wiser than any of the kings who ruled in Jerusalem before me. I have greater wisdom and knowledge than any of them.” So I set out to learn everything from wisdom to madness and folly. But I learned firsthand that pursuing all this is like chasing the wind.

The greater my wisdom, the greater my grief.  
To increase knowledge only increases sorrow.





## Psalm 27:4 NIV

One thing I **ask** from the LORD,  
this only do I **seek**:  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD  
and to **seek** him in his temple.

