

The Glory of the Kingdom

1 Kings 4

CHAPTER 4

1 And king Solomon was king over all Israel. **2** And these are the princes whom he had: Azariah the son of Zadok was priest; **3** Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, chronicler; **4** and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the host; and Zadok and Abiathar were priests; **5** and Azariah the son of Nathan was over the superintendents; and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal officer, the king's friend; **6** and Ahishar was over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the levy-service. **7** And Solomon had twelve superintendents over all Israel; and they provided food for the king and his household: each man his month in the year had to make provision. **8** And these are their names: Ben-Hur, in mount Ephraim. **9** Ben-Deker in Makaz, and in Shaalbim, and Beth-shemesh, and Elon-Beth-hanan. **10** Ben-Hesed, in Arubboth; he had Sochoh, and all the land of Hephher. **11** Ben-Abinadab had all the upland of Dor; Taphath the daughter of Solomon was his wife. **12** Baana the son of Ahilud had Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth-shean, which is by Zaretan beneath Jizreel, from Beth-shean to Abel-Meholah, as far as beyond Jokneam. **13** Ben-Geber, in Ramoth-Gilead; he had the villages of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead; he had the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty great cities with walls and bars of bronze. **14** Ahinadab the son of Iddo, at Mahanaim. **15** Ahimaaz, in Nephtali; he also took Basmath the daughter of Solomon as wife. **16** Baanah the son of Hushai, in Asher and in Aloth. **17** Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar. **18** Shimei the son of Ela, in Benjamin. **19** Geber the son of Uri, in the land of Gilead, the land of Sihon the king of the Amorites, and of Og the king of Bashan; and *he* was the only superintendent that was in the land. **20** Judah and Israel were many, as the sand which is by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking and making merry. **21** And Solomon ruled over all kingdoms from the river to the land of the Philistines, and as far as the border of Egypt: they brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life. **22** And Solomon's provision for one day was thirty measures of fine flour, and sixty measures of meal, **23** ten fatted oxen, and twenty oxen out of the pastures, and a hundred sheep, besides harts, and gazelles, and fallow-deer, and fatted fowl. **24** For he had dominion over all on this side the river, from Tiphseh as far as Gazah, over all the kings on this side the river; and he had peace on all sides round about. **25** And Judah and Israel dwelt safely,

every man under his vine and under his fig-tree, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all the days of Solomon. **26** And Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen. **27** And those officers provided food for king Solomon, and for all who came to king Solomon's table, every man in his month: they let nothing be wanting. **28** And the barley, and the straw for the horses and coursers, they brought to the place where *the superintendents* were, every man according to his charge. **29** And God gave Solomon wisdom and very great understanding and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea-shore. **30** And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the sons of the east, and all the wisdom of Egypt. **31** For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the nations round about. **32** And he spoke three thousand proverbs; and his songs were a thousand and five. **33** And he spoke of the trees, from the cedar-tree that is on Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of cattle, and of fowls, and of creeping things, and of fishes. **34** And there came of all peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.