

Biblical Economics – 11 (Solomon and Egypt)

Old Babylonian Empire, c. 1894 to c. 1595.

Hammurabi, 1782-1750 — the period of Abraham's departure towards Egypt

Hittite Empire, **Suppiluliuma I** (c. 1350-1322), Mursili II (c. 1321-1295);
corresponds to the period of the Israelite Conquest



Egyptian Empire at its greatest extent: Amenhotep III, ninth pharaoh of the Eighteenth Dynasty; June 1388 to December 1351/1350



Reign of Solomon, 961-922

Egypt: Psusennes II, 967-943, last pharaoh of XXI Dynasty

1 Kings 3¹ Now Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and married Pharaoh's daughter; then he brought her to the City of David until he had finished building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the wall all around Jerusalem.

1 Kings 4¹ So King Solomon was king over all Israel. ² And these were his officials: Azariah the son of Zadok, the priest; ³ Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, scribes (סֹפְרִים); Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the archivist (הַמְזִכִּיר); ⁴ Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, over the army; Zadok and Abiathar, the priests; ⁵ Azariah the son of Nathan, over the officers; Zabud the son of Nathan, a priest and the king's confidant (כֹּהֵן יָרֵעָה הַמְלִיךָ); ⁶ Ahishar, over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda, over the labor force.

2 Samuel 8¹⁵ So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people. ¹⁶ Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was archivist (מְזַכֵּיר) ¹⁷ Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were the priests; Seraiah was the scribe (סוֹפֵר); ¹⁸ Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were ministers of the court (אֲלָרְחַי).

1 Kings 4³⁰ Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. ³¹ For he was wiser than all men—than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. ³² He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five. ³³ Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish. ³⁴ And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.

1 Kings 11¹⁴ Now the Lord raised up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was a descendant of the king in Edom. . . . ¹⁷ . . . Hadad fled to go to Egypt . . .

²³ And God raised up another adversary against him, Rezon the son of Eliadah, who had fled from his lord, Hadadezer king of Zobah. . . . ²⁶ Then Solomon's servant, Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite from Zereda, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, also rebelled against the king. . . . ⁴⁰ Solomon therefore sought to kill Jeroboam. But Jeroboam arose and fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

Egypt: Shishak (Shoshenq I), 943-922, founder of the XXII Dynasty