

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4xQlVomRkg&t=91s>

Summary of Solomon's Gold Series:

Part 1: Where is Ophir? Philippines? Sheba, Tarshish, Havilah

There is a land mentioned in the Bible called "Ophir," from which Solomon imported gold and other resources for the building of the Temple. This land is mentioned in Job, Psalms, and Isaiah besides in I Kings and I Chronicles with the building of the Temple.

Job 22:24 if you lay gold in the dust, and gold of **Ophir** among the stones of the torrent-bed,

Job 28:16 It cannot be valued in the gold of **Ophir**, in precious onyx or sapphire.

Psalms 45:9 daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of **Ophir**.

Isaiah 13:12 I will make people more rare than fine gold, and mankind than the gold of **Ophir**.

I Kings 9:28 And they went to **Ophir** and brought from there gold, 420 talents, and they brought it to King Solomon.

I Kings 10:11 Moreover, the fleet of Hiram, which brought gold from **Ophir**, brought from **Ophir** a very great amount of almuq wood and precious stones.

I Kings 22:48 Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to **Ophir** for gold, but they did not go, for the ships were wrecked at Ezion-geber.

I Chronicles 29:4 "3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, for overlaying the walls of the house."

To locate this land, we start with a shard found at a dig, Tell Qasile, which is where modern-day Tel Aviv is located. On this shard, written in Hebrew, an inscription reads "Gold of Ophir to [or 'for'] Beth-horon 30 shekels." This confirms the existence of Ophir and Beth-horon, a city built by Solomon according to Chronicles 8:5.

We also can conclude that Ophir is east of the building site of Solomon's temple because he built a navy ships to go to Ophir to get the gold. There would have been no need to build a new navy to go west to get the gold as there were many ships going to and fro westward in the Mediterranean Sea at that time. Since Ezion-geber is on the Red Sea, Solomon must have wanted to send these ships eastward.

I Kings 9:26-28

"King Solomon built a fleet of ships at Ezion-geber, which is near Eloth on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. And Hiram sent with the fleet his servants, seamen who were familiar with the sea, together with the servants of Solomon. And they went to Ophir and brought from there gold, 420 talents, and they brought it to King Solomon."

Locating this place -- Ophir -- is helped by the names given in the Bible, in the Table of Nations in Genesis 10: Joktan, a great, great grandson of Noah, had many sons, of which there was

Ophir, Sheba and Havilah. [Note: Cush also had a son named, Sheba, and a son named Havilah--different persons.]

Genesis 10:26-30 "Joktan fathered ... Sheba, Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan. The territory in which they lived extended from Mesha in the direction of Sephar to the hill country of the east."

They moved eastward from the Tower of Babel to Mesha and eastward from there (from Iran).



II Chronicles 9:21 "For the king's ships went to Tarshish [Ophir] with the servants of Hiram [Hiram King of Tyre]. Once every three years the ships of Tarshish used to come bringing gold, silver, ivory, and apes and peacocks."

It was a 3 year round trip, with time to recoup, load, etc. before returning. So, a year's journey? Or a year and a half? from Ezion-geber on the Red Sea.

I Kings 22:48 "Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold: but they did not go, for the ships were wrecked at Ezion-geber."

Note: this is a hundred years after Solomon.

Tarshish (Tharshish), Havilah and Uphaz -- in Ophir

In the following verses, note the resources mentioned, just like Ophir. Note that it refers to "isles", which there are none in Spain where Tarshish was historically located. Note "from afar" -- a distant land.

Psalms 48:7 "By the east wind you shattered the ships of Tarshish."

Jeremiah 10:9 "Beaten silver is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz.

They are the work of the craftsman and of the hands of the goldsmith; their clothing is violet and purple; they are all the work of skilled men."

Daniel 10:5 "I lifted up mine eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist."

Ezekiel 27:12 "Tarshish did business with you because of your great wealth of every kind; silver, iron, tin, and lead they exchanged for your wares."

Isaiah 60:9 "For the coastlands shall hope for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful.

Ezekiel 38:13 "Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all its leaders will say to you, 'have you come to seize spoil? Have you assembled your hosts to carry off plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to seize great spoil?'"

II Chronicles 3:6 -7 "He adorned the house with settings of precious stones. The gold was gold of Parvaim. So he lined the house with gold -- its beams, its thresholds, its walls and its doors -- and he carved cherubim on the walls."

Parvaim - is a word meaning "the east, oriental regions" Smith's Bible Dictionary <https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionaries/smiths-bible-dictionary/parvaim.html>

Uphaz - fine gold, gold of Pison (the river that flowed from the river from Eden)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uphaz> "probably another name for Ophir"

<https://www.sheknows.com/baby-names/name/uphaz/>

Genesis 2:10-12 "A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. The name of the first is the Pishon [Pison]. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

Extra biblical source (Wikipedia, 2016): "Kitab al-Magall (Clementine literature) and the Cave of Treasures hold that in the early days after the Tower of Babylon, the children of Havilah, son of Joktan, built a city and kingdom, which was near to those of his brothers, Sheba and Ophir."

TimothySchwab: The Bible does not actually specify where Noah or Adam's generations actually lived before the flood and after the fall. Perhaps Adam moved to Havilah, land of resources. It makes sense and we will discuss this later. There's zero evidence that Adam lived in Israel nor anywhere near it. The land of Israel was chosen because of Abraham's righteousness not because of the landscape and the geography.

Solomon had Kings bringing him gold. Why did he have to build a navy and send ships all the way to Ophir? Because Ophir is God's original land of gold, Havilah, and we will prove this. Moses made sure to mention Havilah in Genesis as the only River from Eden defined by its resources -- the Pison. Adam and his generations knew this and so did Noah as they probably

lived there, rather than the desert. Remember we are stupid devolved humans next to Adam and Noah. Imagine what we learn in 900 plus years on this earth as they did. And Adam probably survived in the Garden even longer. We don't know.

Elishah, Kittim, Dodanim, Didan / Dedan -- ISLANDS

Also from the Table of Nations, we have information about resources from islands.

Genesis 10:4-5 "The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. From these the coastland peoples spread in their lands, each with his own language, by their clans, in their nations."

KJV: "And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. By these were the Isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; everyone after his tongue, after their families, in their nations."

Ezekiel 27:6, 7, 15 KJV " the company of the Ashurites have made thy benches of ivory, brought out of the isles of Chittim. Fine linen with brodered work from Egypt was that which thou spreadest forth to be thy sail; blue and purple from the isles of Elishah was that which covered thee. ... The men of Dedan were thy merchants; many isles were the merchandise of thine hand: they brought thee for a present horns of ivory and ebony."

Kittim is a town on the Island of Cyprus in the Mediterranean -- but why does Ezekiel refer to "the isles of Chittim"? He was one of the sons of Javan and likely settled near his brothers, Elishah, Tarshish and Dodanim -- in the east where Ophir is. According to Wikipedia, the whole island of Cyprus began to be known as Kittim and then it spread to mean all islands in the Mediterranean -- especially by the Hebrews and in the Hebrew bible. Was this a misdirection on the part of those who didn't want Ophir and the isles of the east to be included in their history?

Tyre