**10**Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to test him with hard questions. **2**She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. **3**And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her. **4**And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, **5**the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the Lord, there was no more breath in her.

**6**And she said to the king, “The report was true that I heard in my own land of your words and of your wisdom, **7**but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I heard. **8**Happy are your men! Happy are your servants, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! **9**Blessed be the Lord your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the Lord loved Israel forever, he has made you king, that you may execute justice and righteousness.” **10**Then she gave the king 120 talents[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+kings+10&version=ESV#fen-ESV-9090a)] of gold, and a very great quantity of spices and precious stones. Never again came such an abundance of spices as these that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

**11**Moreover, the fleet of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, brought from Ophir a very great amount of almug wood and precious stones.**12**And the king made of the almug wood supports for the house of theLord and for the king's house, also lyres and harps for the singers. No such almug wood has come or been seen to this day.

**13**And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all that she desired, whatever she asked besides what was given her by the bounty of King Solomon. So she turned and went back to her own land with her servants.

**1 KINGS 10:1-13 GUIDING QUESTIONS**

Who are the characters, and what do they do/say? What are their motivations? What does the narrator say about them?

Solomon

Sheba

God

**How does what we’ve learned in this course affect our understanding of the text?**

1. Them and then before us and now
   1. Considering that the original audience for this text is God’s people post-exile, what is the author’s aim or purpose for a passage like this? What does the author hope that this audience takes away from this information considering their situation?
2. In what ways does this text prefigure or point to Christ?
3. OT Story: The OT is the story of

The one true Creator God

* who called the family of Abraham to be his remedy
* for the defilement that came into the world through the sin of Adam and Eve.

God rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt in fulfillment of this plan

* establishing them as a theocracy
* for the sake of displaying his existence and character
* to the rest of the world.

God

* sent his blessings and curses upon Israel in order to pursue that purpose.
* never desisted from that purpose, even in the face of the most grievous unfaithfulness

1. Covenant Membership theme:
   1. God offers his grace to his people (forgiveness of sins, shaping of their lives to reflect his own glory, & part to play in bringing light to the Gentiles)
   2. God’s people responsible to believe the promises and grow in obedience

What other elements of the story stand out to you? Repetition? Context? Setting elements?

Ultimate questions:

1. What do we learn about God?
2. What connection do we see to the Gospel?
3. How are we to respond?