

1 Kings 10:14-29 Solomon's Splendor

14The weight of the gold that Solomon received yearly was 666 talents
666 talents = about 23 metric tons
1 metric tons today is worth \$30mil
Therefore, 23 tons = \$690mil

15not including the revenues from merchants and traders and from all the Arabian kings and the governors of the land. 16King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold; six hundred bekas of gold went into each shield

six hundred bekas = about 3.5 kilograms
1 kg = AUD\$38,000 today
Therefore each shield = $\$38000 \times 3.5 = \$133,000$

17He also made three hundred small shields of hammered gold, with three minas (about 1.7 kilograms) of gold in each shield. The king put them in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon. 18Then the king made a great throne inlaid with ivory and overlaid with fine gold. 19The throne had six steps, and its back had a rounded top. On both sides of the seat were armrests, with a lion standing beside each of them. 20Twelve lions stood on the six steps, one at either end of each step. Nothing like it had ever been made for any other kingdom. 21All King Solomon's goblets were gold, and all the household articles in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. Nothing was made of silver, because silver was considered of little value in Solomon's days. 22The king had a fleet of trading ships at sea along with the ships of Hiram. Once every three years it returned, carrying gold, silver and ivory, and apes and baboons. 23King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. 24The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart. 25Year after year, everyone who came brought a gift—articles of silver and gold, robes, weapons and spices, and horses and mules. 26Solomon accumulated chariots and horses; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses, which he kept in the chariot cities and also with him in Jerusalem. 27The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as plentiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foothills. 28Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and from Kue—the royal merchants purchased them from Kue. 29They imported a chariot from Egypt for six hundred shekels (about 1.7 kilograms) of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty (about 1.7 kilograms). They also exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and of the Arameans.