

Text: II Chronicles 1:1-12

Solomon

Some facts about him:

- He was the son of king David - I Kings 2:1

***I Kings 2:1

1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

- One of his wisest judgements is recorded regarding two women arguing over a dead baby and a living baby - I Kings 3:25,26

***I Kings 3:25-26

25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other. 26 Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto

*** II Chronicles 1:1-12

1 And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the Lord his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly. 2 Then Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every governor in all Israel, the chief of the fathers. 3 So Solomon, and all the congregation with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon; for there was the tabernacle of the congregation of God, which Moses the servant of the Lord had made in the wilderness. 4 But the ark of God had David brought up from Kirjathjearim to the place which David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem. 5 Moreover the brasen altar, that Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the Lord: and Solomon and the congregation sought unto it. 6 And Solomon went up thither to the brasen altar before the Lord, which was at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it. 7 In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee. 8 And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead. 9 Now, O Lord God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. 10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great? 11 And

the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

- He was the wisest, wealthiest and most popular king in Israel – I Kings 10:23;

***I Kings 10:23;
23 So king Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom.

- He built the Temple of the Lord – I Kings 6:14

***I Kings 6:14
14 So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

- Towards the end of his life he had 300 wives and 1,000 concubines – I Kings 11:3

***I Kings 11:3

God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king: 12 Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Lord asked Solomon what would he want as the new king of Israel – the Lord offered him wealth, long life, and peace from his enemies. But Solomon only asked the Lord for a understanding heart to judge the people righteously.

The Lord blessed Solomon because he lived right, obeyed the commandments of the Lord, and walked in the paths of the Lord! – I Kings 3:1-15

***I Kings 3:1-15

1 And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the wall of Jerusalem round about. 2 Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the Lord, until those days. 3 And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places. 4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar. 5 In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. 6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he

3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. 7 And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. 8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. 9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? 10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; 12 Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. 13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. 14 And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days. 15 And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.

Because of his testimony to the Lord, the Lord allowed him to become great - Let's look at seven things about Solomon's life that gives particular information about his achievements through the Lord.

-Solomon the builder – I Kings 9:15 – he completed the Temple that father wanted to build

(I Chronicles 28:3), which was perfectly designed that no tool was used to build it. I Kings 6:7. It used until king Nebuchadnezzar destroyed it (II Kings 25:1).

***I Kings 9:15

15 And this is the reason of the levy which king Solomon raised; for to build the house of the Lord, and his own house, and Millo, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer.

***I Chronicles 28:3

3 But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build an house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood.

***I Kings 6:7

7 And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.

***II Kings 25:1

1 And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about.

-Solomon the governor – I Kings 4:21 – he reigned from the river to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt (roughly 800 miles from the north to south.

***I Kings 4:21

21 And Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt: they brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life.

-Solomon the leader – I Kings 4:2-6 – he had an administrative ability to lead the Israelites. He set up a selective group of key people to help him out, and met on a regular basis, which was three priest, two secretaries, a historiographer, a commander-in-chief of the army, a general overseer of all the other officers, a private counselor, a steward and a tax collector:

***I Kings 4:2-6

2 And these were the princes which he had; Azariah the son of Zadok the priest, 3 Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder. 4 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the host: and Zadok and Abiathar were the priests: 5 And Azariah the son of Nathan was over the officers: and Zabud the son of Nathan was principal officer, and the king's friend: 6 And Ahishar was over the household: and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the tribute.

- He divided the territory into 12 districts.
- He then appointed a governor over each of the districts that would directly answer to him.

-Solomon the financial genius – I Kings 10:14-21
He had: Gold-666 talents (roughly 66,600 lbs) and all the spices of Arabia. During this time period Israel was being blessed and financially set with no worries or debt. Even during the visit of the queen of Sheba she said concerning king Solomon, “I came and mine eyes had seen it; and behold, the half was not told me”. I Kings 10:7

***I Kings 10:14-21

14 Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred threescore and six talents of gold, 15 Beside that he had of the merchantmen, and of the traffick of the spice merchants, and of all the kings of Arabia, and of the governors of the country. 16 And king

Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold: six hundred shekels of gold went to one target. 17 And he made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three pound of gold went to one shield: and the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon. 18 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the best gold. 19 The throne had six steps, and the top of the throne was round behind: and there were stays on either side on the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the stays. 20 And twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other upon the six steps: there was not the like made in any kingdom. 21 And all king Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver: it was nothing accounted of in the days of Solomon.

****I Kings 10:7*

7 Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.

-Solomon the educator – I Kings 4:33,34 – people would come from all over just to hear him speak of the things concerning nature (ie, trees, animals, creeping things, and fish). Matter of fact, the book of Proverbs he uses these descriptions of the natural world to illustrate spiritual truths (ie. Proverbs 6:6; 14:4; 30:24-28)

****I Kings 4:33-34*

33 And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes. 34 And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

****Proverbs 6:6;*

6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

***Proverbs 14:4;

4 Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.

***Proverbs 30:24-28

24 There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise: 25 The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer; 26 The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks; 27 The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands; 28 The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces.

-Solomon the military leader – I Kings 9:26,27; 10:26 – he had navy ships and he had 40,000 horses and chariots. Even though this was a time of peace, he knew that the greatness asset of peace is a strong military.

***I Kings 9:26-27;

26 And king Solomon made a navy of ships in Eziongeber, which is beside Eloth, on the shore of the Red sea, in the land of Edom. 27 And Hiram sent in the navy his servants, shipmen that had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

***I Kings 10:26

26 And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he bestowed in the cities for chariots, and with the king at Jerusalem.

-Solomon the author – I Kings 4:32 – wow, he spoke 3,000 proverbs and 1,000 songs, he also wrote the book of Proverbs, Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes and there is a good possibility that he wrote Psalms 72 and 127. He did all this under the

inspiration of the Lord – II Timothy 3:16

***I Kings 4:32

32 And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

***II Timothy 3:16

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

So you may ask, “Why did God bless him so much”? Because God said he would, because of the pureness of his heart – I Kings 3:1-10

***I Kings 3:1-10

1 And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the wall of Jerusalem round about. 2 Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the Lord, until those days. 3 And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places. 4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar. 5 In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. 6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. 7 And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. 8 And thy servant is in

the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. 9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? 10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

I. LESSONS FROM SOLOMON'S LIFE



Solomon reminds us to seek wisdom from the Lord and to follow it in our lives – Ecclesiastes 2:9, James 1:5

***Ecclesiastes 2:9,

9 So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.

***James 1:5

5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.



Solomon teaches us to set our goals high and never underestimate what the Lord can do through us in our lives – Some may say that Solomon was special. No the only thing that was special about Solomon was that he was humble and willing to please the Lord. Because of that the Lord blessed him – Psalms 37:3-6;

***Psalms 37:3-6

3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. 4 Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. 5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. 6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy

judgment as the noonday.



Solomon teaches us that true success is a gift from the Lord in our live – So many times we think that success is evil and wrong. No the Lord promised His people a land of milk and honey! But because of imposters and fakes who use the Lord's name for financial gain, we tend to back away from God's blessings to us!! Joshua 1L7; I Kings 2:3; Proverbs 16:3; James1:17

***Joshua 1:7;

7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest.

***I Kings 2:3;

3 And keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

***Proverbs 16:3;

3 Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

***James1:17

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Conclusion:



Wisdom and wealth are only blessings if they

HONOR GOD!

