

### #18 King Solomon | June 10, 2018

#### Two Important Events in Solomon's Reign

- Solomon receives wisdom – 1 Kings 3:4-14
  - v. 4 - Though this could be construed as a good thing, it is likely outside of the realm and location of what God had prescribed in the Law. God is *condescending* to Solomon.
  - vv.5-9 - This request is rare, except for anyone who feels the weight of leadership. While Solomon's humility of request is commendable, it is also the result of the unbelievable burden that had been placed on him.
  - vv. 10-13 - Did God give this wisdom to Solomon? Compare 1 Kings 4:29-34, 10:23-24, Ecclesiastes 1:16, Matthew 12:42.
  - v. 14 - Solomon only lived to be approximately 60 years old, which is not considered old-age in any environment. In Solomon's later years, he began to allow his many wives to influence the Kingdom religiously.
  - An illustration of his wisdom is found in 1 Kings 3:15-28.
- Solomon builds the Temple – 1 Kings 6
  - v. 1 - This is one of the most important chronological notes in the Bible. It tells us-
    - The Exodus is "year 1" for the nation.
    - The Conquest took place in years 40-47.
    - The Period of Theocracy under the Judges was approx. years 48-400.
    - The Monarchy was approx. years 400-480 (up to Solomon's fourth year.
  - vv. 2-3 - This is a relatively small building. If a cubit is 18 inches, then the building itself was 90 feet x 30 feet (and 90 feet tall). For its size, it was tremendously expensive and without equal in influence.
  - vv. 4-10 - This is enough detail to have a general idea, but not enough to reconstruct the building. However, the detail is not necessary for the construction of the next Temple.
  - vv. 11-13 - Note carefully that this is not a condition upon the promise of David. Rather, it is a condition upon Solomon as to whether the promise would be fulfilled to Solomon.

- The glory of the Lord filled the Temple upon its dedication (1 Chron. 7:1-3).
- The glory of the Lord remained until the days of Ezekiel (Ezek. 8:4, 9:3, 10:18-19, 11:22-23).

#### Solomon's glory | 1 Kings 10

- The Queen of Sheba is the most well-known example of Solomon's glory – 1 Kings 10:1-9
- Jesus mentions Solomon's glory in the Sermon on the Mount – Matthew 6:29
- Solomon's reign extended to the Euphrates river, and included much of what is today known as Syria and Jordan.

#### Things You May Not Know

- Solomon was not the oldest son of David. Adonijah was the oldest, but David promised Bathsheba that Solomon would be king.
- Solomon was the son of Bathsheba (but not the son born out of her affair with King David).
- Solomon wrote most of the Proverbs and all of Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon.
- The Song of Solomon is an allegory that depicts Christ and his love for the land of Israel, which is to be His bride.

#### How Should We Analyze King Solomon?

- Some truths about Solomon:
  - He was a politician through and through.
  - He was a visionary through and through.
  - He was often consumed by his vision, and the politics to achieve them.
- We should recognize that it is possible to learn from a man who becomes flawed in his passions, motivations, and directions.
  - 1 Kings 3:3 shows how Solomon was a "mixed-up" man.
  - What a shame it would be to ignore the lessons of Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, and Song of Solomon because the man with the pen did not live up to our standards.
- To know everything about Solomon and yet miss One greater than Solomon would be shameful – Matthew 12:42.