

IMPACT

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A Weekly Publication of the Metropolitan Bible Baptist Ekklesia Containing Life-Changing Sunday School Lessons and BMA's Preaching Materials

Our Memory Verse

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:*
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.*
—1 Kings 3:7, 9-10—



STRAIGHT FROM THE BELOVED PASTOR'S HEART

LESSONS ON THE LIFE OF SOLOMON Lesson No. 36 SOLOMON—GOD'S MAN OF WISDOM "GOD'S APPEARANCE AND SOLOMON'S REQUEST" 1 KINGS 3

We cannot overestimate the influence Solomon had on this world. The kingdom of Solomon set the pattern that kings of the earth would follow for centuries to come. Solomon's wealth and wisdom were and remain the envy of human governments. However, Solomon was not a perfect man. In many ways he and his father David were opposites. Solomon had great wisdom, but little spirituality. David often made unwise decisions, but his heart always sought after God. It is good also to note that the throne of Israel is referred through the ages as the throne of David, not the throne of Solomon. In this lesson, we will learn about the beginning of the kingdom of Solomon.

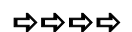
A. God Appears to Solomon (1 Kings 3:4-5). The record of Solomon's reign begins with two violations:

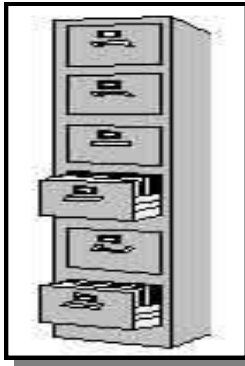
1. He married the daughter of Pharaoh. While we are not told who this woman was, we know that based on the law given to them by God, they are not to marry someone who were idolatrous. Solomon ignored the warning. The marriage was made out of political expediency, not because of love.

2. He offered in the high places of Gibeon. Although he loved the Lord and walked in the statutes of David, Solomon sacrificed and burned incense in high places. God had given a specific place and manner of making a sacrifice to him. It is possible to do a good thing in a bad way. For in fact, Solomon's heart "was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father (1 Kings 11:4)." Solomon should have offered first his heart before offering his sacrifices as taught by the law to the people of Israel.

Despite these, God still used him to accomplish His will. Solomon is an example of God using less than perfect people to accomplish His purposes. God appeared to Solomon and asked him a great and consequential question. God was in effect offering Solomon a blank check. Here we find that God can provide anything, and even beyond anything that we can ask or think (Eph. 3:20).

B. Solomon Makes a Request (1 Kings 3:6-9). Solomon recalled the history of the kingdom of his father David, the relationship David has with God, and how God had been the power behind David's success as king. He acknowledged the fact that he became king only because it was God that made him one in his father's place.





The **BMA** **ARCHIVES**

Dr. Benny M. Abante's
PREACHING MATERIALS

**NOTHING SHALL OUR MOUTH SPEAK
BUT THE BLESSING OF THE WORD
AND THE GLORY OF GOD.**



**THROUGH THE BIBLE
IN A YEAR**

CHAPTERS TO READ THIS WEEK:

NOVEMBER 06	HEB 10:19-25
NOVEMBER 07	JER 17:5-10
NOVEMBER 08	PSALM 102:18-28
NOVEMBER 09	ISAIAH 49:1-6
NOVEMBER 10	JOHN 4:7-15
NOVEMBER 11	PSALM 32:1-7
NOVEMBER 12	DEUT 6:1-9

To memorize one (1) verse in every chapter, tokens shall be awarded to those who can recite all memory verses after every book.

Contd. from p. 1

1. He knew he had a great and important job to do, and he knew he was not prepared to do it (v. 7).
2. He knew the greatness of the nation of Israel and that to lead as king was very important (v.8).
3. He asked for understanding and judgment (v.9).

It is interesting to note that Solomon did not ask for righteousness. Righteousness can only come through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. The sacrifices Solomon made were designed to teach him that only the shedding of blood can take away our sins. The sacrifices of the Old Testament were designed to point to the great sacrifice Jesus would make for everyone.

Right at the very start, Solomon missed out on the more fundamental need for a righteous heart, one that David his father had. It is possible to have great wisdom, and yet lack righteousness of heart. This led to Solomon's downfall in years to come.

Yet Solomon's example teaches us that inner qualities were more important to bring about outward success. We often notice only the external parts of success and desire them, without realizing that it is in strengthening the inner man that truly

determines our success or failure in living.

-To be continued next Sunday.

—BP's Messages/David Robinson, Through the Bible 11.06.16



Matthew Henry's Commentary: 1 Kings 3:1-4

We are here told concerning Solomon,

Something that was unquestionably good, for which he is to be praised and in which he is to be imitated. 1. He loved the Lord, 1 Kgs. 3:3. Particular notice was taken of God's love to him, 2 Sam. 12:24. He had his name from it: **Jedidiah—beloved of the Lord**. And here we find he returned that love, as John, the beloved disciple, was most full of love. Solomon was a wise man, a rich man; yet the brightest encomium of him is that which is the character of all the saints, even the poorest, He loved the Lord, so the Chaldee; all that love God love his worship, love to hear from him and speak to him, and so to have communion with him. 2. He walked in the statutes of David his father, that is, in the statutes that David gave him, 1 Kgs. 2:2, 3; 1 Chron. 28:9, 10 (his dying father's charge was sacred, and as a law to him), or in God's statutes, which David his father walked in before him; he kept close to God's ordinances, carefully observed them and diligently attended them. Those that truly love God will make conscience of walking in his statutes. 3. He was very free and generous in what he did for the honour of God. When he offered sacrifice he offered like a king, in some proportion to his great wealth, a thousand burnt-offerings, 1 Kgs. 3:4. Where God sows plentifully he expects to reap accordingly; and those that truly love God and his worship will not grudge the expenses of their religion.