



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Solomon-Wise But Didn't Finish Well (1Kings 11:9)

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King David had united Israel and Judah into one of the more powerful nations in the region. This included most of the land God promised to Abraham and his decedents (Genesis 12:7). This elderly king, realizing that he was near death, ordered Zadok the priest to anoint Solomon as successor to the throne. This might seem an unlikely appointment. Solomon was not David's oldest (2Samuel 3:5). He was the second son born to Bathsheba, the product of what started as an immoral union. What have you seen God do in your or another's dramatic rise in stature?

INTRODUCTION

Solomon was twenty years old when he became king in 921 B.C. This was not without challenge! David prevented the first coup by initiating a quick coronation ceremony for Solomon. The new king foiled the next veiled coup by banishing all involved (1 Kings 2). **How have you seen loyalty being tested?**

DAVID'S CHARGE TO SOLOMON

1 Chronicles 28:9 "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father. Serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you forever. (NASB)

David hosted an assembly of his leaders from all of Israel. He stood before the thousands, sharing his charge to Solomon and to the people. David had planned to build a house for the ark and a temple for worship. God told David, **"You shall not build a house for My name because you are a man of war and have shed blood."** **"Your son Solomon is the one who shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him to be a son to Me, and I will be a father to him. I will establish his kingdom forever if he resolutely performs My commandments and My ordinances, as is done now."** (28:6). David set aside much of the resources to build as well as all his personal wealth. This encouraged the people to give, amassing nearly 1,000 tons of gold and silver. **What do you treasure that is consecrated to the LORD?**

SOLOMON PRAYS FOR WISDOM

2 Chronicles 1:7-10 That night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon answered, "You have been very kind to my father David, and you have made me king in his place. Now, LORD God, may your promise to my father David come true. You have made me king of a people who are as many as the dust of the earth. Now give me wisdom and knowledge so I can lead these people in the right way because no one can rule them without your help." (NCV)

The LORD expressed His pleasure that Solomon did not ask for personal gain, but for wisdom to lead. The LORD answered, **"Therefore wisdom and knowledge will be given you. I will also give you more wealth, riches, and honor than any king who has lived before you or any who will live after you."** Please reflect on your prayer request of God at this time of your life.

SOLOMON ANGERS THE LORD

1 Kings 11:9-10 Then the LORD was angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice., and had commanded him concerning this matter. (NRSV)

Solomon married foreign women, many for political gain, the 700 princesses, daughters of other kings. These and concubines turned him toward idol worship. This included Molech and Chemosh, deities that required child sacrifice. Adversaries arose; the kingdom was shaken. God spoke to Solomon, telling him that for David's sake, He would not tear the kingdom from him but from his son. Solomon soon died and his son, Jeroboam became king. He was hostile to the people and the kingdom was broken up his first year. **What small sins have you seen impact good leaders?**

A PRAYER

Almighty God, please give me insight over small things in my life. Help me gain more of your favor. In Jesus name, Amen!