

# King Solomon's Stupidity

## I. Solomon Was Very Blessed

- **1 Kings 10:23-24** – <sup>23</sup> So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. <sup>24</sup> Now all the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart.
  - King Solomon was greater and more blessed than anyone on the earth, before or since.
  - King Solomon was visited twice by God. Once where God granted Him wisdom, once where God re-established the Davidic Covenant, plus he witnessed the glory of the Lord filling the temple.
  - Solomon was accustomed to hearing God's voice, experiencing His power, His blessing, experiencing His power, and he wrote things that are now part of the Bible.
  - Solomon was given the wisdom of God.

But having the wisdom of God and using the wisdom of God are two separate matters

## II. Solomon Got Stupid

- **1 Kings 11:6-11** – <sup>6</sup> Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the Lord, as *did* his father David. <sup>7</sup> Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that *is* east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. <sup>8</sup> And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods. <sup>9</sup> So the Lord became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, <sup>10</sup> and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the Lord had commanded. <sup>11</sup> Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant."
  - Solomon did evil.
  - But this is next level evil. It even says "his heart had turned from the Lord God"
  - How do you go from such a place of nearness to God to building places of worship to other gods?

You don't just wake up one day and start worshiping a different god. Not after what Solomon has experienced.

### III. How do you go from extreme blessing to cursing?

- **1 Kings 10:28-29** – Also Solomon had horses imported from Egypt and Keveh; the king's merchants bought them in Keveh at the *current* price. <sup>29</sup> Now a chariot that was imported from Egypt cost six hundred *shekels* of silver, and a horse one hundred and fifty; and thus, through their agents, they exported *them* to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria.
- Solomon began to multiply his horses.
  - This probably felt very innocent. What could possibly be harmful about a king obtaining horses and chariots?
  - **Deuteronomy 17:15-16** - <sup>15</sup> you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; *one* from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who *is* not your brother. <sup>16</sup> But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.'
  - **Psalms 20:7** Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.
- Solomon began to surround himself with ungodly people
  - **1 Kings 11:1-3** – But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, *and* Hittites— <sup>2</sup> from the nations of whom the Lord had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. <sup>3</sup> And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.
    - King Solomon had many women.
    - **Deuteronomy 17:17** - Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.

**Solomon forgot to do the things he already knew to do**  
**Solomon surrounded himself with ungodly people**

#### IV. How did Solomon forget that God was the source of his blessings?

- Time.
  - **1 Kings 11:4** - For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as *was* the heart of his father David.
- Taking things for granted
  - Disobedient in the small leads to disobedient in the large.
  - **Luke 16:10** He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.
  - **Song of Solomon 2:15** Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines, For our vines have tender grapes.
- Pride
  - thought that he accomplished where God accomplished.
  - **2 Corinthians 12:9-10** And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
- Listening to people around him and appeasing those who are not godly
  - **Psalms 1:1-2** Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; <sup>2</sup> But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

#### V. What about us? How do we keep near God?

1. Do we stay faithful in all the ways we know how to. i.e. – God gives us a conviction 5 years ago; do we still honor that conviction? (us and rated R movies)
2. What about being thankful for things God gave us that are more difficult now i.e. – job, marriage, families, opportunities?
3. Do we ever give ourselves too much credit? Do we remember how to lean on God?
  - a. (**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.)

4. Do we surround ourselves with Godly people who influence us for good?
  - a. **1 Corinthians 15:33** Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."
5. When a prayer is answered, do we remember to thank God? Even if it is not in our time, or in our way?

The best way to keep near to God is to remember His promises, keep in a relationship with Him (praying, meditating, reading His Word), and being in fellowship with believers who are also pursuing God.

**Philippians 3:7-15** But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. <sup>8</sup>Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; <sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, <sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.