

## The Wisdom of Solomon

### 1 Kings 3, 11

- David is the 3<sup>rd</sup> King of Israel
- Solomon is the 2<sup>nd</sup> son born to David & Bathsheba
- David is old and cannot get warm – he knows his life is nearing the end
- Solomon has big shoes to fill as he leads God’s people

#### **1. Wisdom – 1 Kings 3:5-15**

- 5 – God appeared to Solomon in a dream (Joseph, Pharaoh, Pilate’s wife, Peter, ...)
- God asked something simple yet complex
- 6 – Solomon recounts God’s faithfulness
- 7 – claims as if a child; no knowledge
- 8 – referencing the promise to Abraham (Gen. 12:3, 15:5, etc.)
- 9 – Solomon asks for understanding
- 10 – God was pleased in Solomon’s actions
- 11 – God commends Solomon
- 12 – Solomon given a wise heart, different
- 13 – also given what he didn’t ask for
- 14 – caveat: follow after the Lord
- 15 – Solomon offered thankful sacrifices

#### **2. Application – 1 Kings 3:16-28**

- 16 – scene: acting as a Judge. 2 harlots
- 17-18 – both live together; both give birth
- 19 – other woman’s child died
- 20 – other woman swapped the children
- 21 – woman confused, starts to think about it
- 22 – case of “she said, she said”
- 23 – Solomon recounts story told
- 24 – Solomon asks for his sword

- 25 – solution: cut the child in half: ½ to each
- 26 – woman (her son) cannot stand that thought – offers to give child to other woman
- 27 – give the child to its mother
- 28 – all Israel heard and feared Solomon because God is with him!

### **3. Misapplication – 1 Kings 11:1-13**

- 1 – Solomon’s problem: he loved too many
- 2 – political marriages with forbidden people
- 3 – 700 wives, 300 concubines > turned heart
- 4 – old: wives turned him away from God
- 5 – Solomon went after idols instead of God!
- 6 – Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord
- 7 – Solomon built worship places
- 8 – Solomon did this for all ‘strange’ wives
- 9 – God is not pleased at all
- 10 – blatantly went against God’s command
- 11 – the kingdom will be taken from him
- 12 – not from you but your son (for David)
- 13 – not take the whole kingdom > Rehoboam > Divided Kingdom

### **Lessons:**

1. Ask God for what you need not want.
2. Don’t try to take things that are not yours.
3. Don’t let **ANYONE or ANYTHING** take your heart from God.

### **Solomon’s own advice: Ecclesiastes**

1:1 – everything is vanity

12:13 – man’s job: Fear God, Keep Commands

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*a PowerPoint accompanies this lesson online*

September 16, 2020 PM Wood Church of Christ – preached on Facebook