


Solomon Becomes Wealthy




It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God--that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

1 Corinthians 1:30,

Bible Study:  1 Kings 10:14-11:13; Deuteronomy 17:14-20, Ecclesiastes 2, James 3:13-17. Consider how Solomon only found meaninglessness in his pursuit of acquiring “the desires of the heart of man.”(Ecc 2) And YET in the end wound up NOT acting on the very wisdom he penned Ecc 12:13 that the whole duty of humanity is to Fear God and follow His commands which would have replaced the meaninglessness with fullness and wholeness of True Life and Love.

The gospel in the story:

 Many elements of the gospel are portrayed in the life of Solomon. The building and dedicating of the Temple, were testament of God’s faithfulness to fulfilling His promises, and also our relationship to God through **His presence and prayer**. Then Solomon’s choice to turn away from God portrays the sin nature of all of our hearts which causes us to be rebellious toward God. The good news (gospel) is that though David’s son Solomon ultimately turned from God, that David’s greater (future) Son, Jesus, who would BE the ANSWER to the question Solomon raised “will God indeed dwell on earth?” Jesus live a perfect life that we could not, then died in our place to allow us to be restored to God, and not only know wisdom in theory, but experience it by the power of the Presence of Christ in us!

Application:

Head: **What did we learn?**

- Q: Who was Solomon? A: David’s son, and (third) king of Israel
- Q: What was Solomon known for? A: His wisdom, his overseeing of the construction of the first temple in Jerusalem, and ultimately his turning away from God.
- Q: What was the significance of the temple? A: God’s presence would be there, and it would be a house of prayer
- Q: What warning does Solomon receive from God. A: Not to turn aside from following God.
- Q: How does Solomon’s life end? A: He disobeyed God and pursued wealth and pleasure, and ultimately the false gods of his foreign wives.

Heart : **Memory verse**

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Hands: **How does this affect the way I live?**

Solomon’s wisdom was not enough to save him from his own selfish heart. He became more interested in the gifts God gave him than God Himself!

Read and discuss Proverbs 3:5-8.

Home: **How does this affect my household?**

In pursuing wealth and pleasure, Solomon de-throned God as head of the household. As a result, Solomon’s household had no firm foundation, and crumbled. So God de-throned Solomon and his descendants from the thrown of Israel.

Read and discuss Proverbs 3:33.

Heaven: **How does this help us share our faith?**

Read Proverbs 19:17. Discuss how that applies to sharing the Good News of Jesus to your friends, neighbors and co-workers **through material and spiritual generosity**