

**The Kings of Judah**  
**Solomon: His Special Gifts**  
**Lesson II**  
*Written: January 26, 1986*

1. SOLOMON HAD ADVANTAGE AND BEGAN WELL.

1. It was an advantage to have David as his father.
2. It was an advantage for him to have Bathsheba as his mother.
3. He was at an advantage being chosen as King

A first lesson: "Some people are born into homes with good parents and that gives advantage to them. As a direct result, those children find good positions in this life. But as Christians, we must always remember "to whom much has been given, much shall be required". The judgment will be less severe for children who have not had godly parents and good positions than it will be for children who have had all the advantages. It is a sobering thing to think about sons and daughters who have had a goodly, godly upbringing, who then turn and serve the Devil. I repeat the words of Scripture: "To whom much is given of him shall much be required".

4. Solomon, at the beginning, loved the Lord. a. 1 Kings 3:3 b. This is the test of discipleship. John 21:15-17, 1 John 2:15, 2 Timothy 4:10 . Does not 1 John 2:15 teach us that our love for the world manifests our lack of love for the Father? Or to put that another way; we manifest our measure of love for the Father by the measure of our love for the things of the world.? When I read this verse I don't feel very spiritual! The word "world" in 1 John 2:15 is "kosmos" or "world-system." I do believe that most of us have no problem with the first part of the verse. How can any believer love the ungodly world-system with all its deceit and ungodliness? But we do have a problem with the second part, "the things of the world." This was the problem that Demas had in, 2 Timothy 4:10 "Demas hath forsaken me having loved this present world. Notice, not the evil, just the present world. Perhaps, like us things were too easy for him. I am sure that the believers in Lebanon and other fighting areas of the world are not loving their present. Matthew 13:22 Jesus said: There are those who receive the word, and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word and that one becomes unfruitful. All listed in that verse is involved in "loving the things that are in the world." And as a result, we start laying up treasures on earth and forgetting or neglecting to lay up for ourselves, treasures in Heaven. It is a good thing to love the Lord. It is a good thing to REALLY love the Lord. And the history of a genuine pentecostal experience has been that it made "great lovers of Jesus". When we are not great lovers of Jesus we have become backslidden pentecostals!

And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

1 Kings 3:3

So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

John 21:15-17

Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15

For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

2 Timothy 4:10

He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

Matthew 13:22

c. Solomon proved his love:

a) by his walk. 1 Kings 3:3 cf 1 Kings 2:1-3.

b) and by his sacrifices. 1 Kings 3:4

And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

1 Kings 3:3

Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying, I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man; And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

1 Kings 2:1-3

5. The Lord appeared unto Solomon.

a. 1 Kings 3:5 2 Chronicles. 1:7 These were two high days in Solomon's life. We all have had our special days. Yet these experiences did not keep Solomon from backsliding.

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

1 Kings 3:5

In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

2 Chronicles. 1:7

6. Solomon asked to be made a blessing.

a. 1 Kings 3:7-11 His request pleased the Lord.

b. 2 Chronicles. 1:10 he asked for wisdom. Proverbs. 4:5

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And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I *am but* a little child: I know not *how* to go out or come in. And thy servant *is* in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. 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? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

1 Kings 3:7-11

Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, *that is so great*?

2 Chronicles. 1:10

Get wisdom, get understanding: forget *it* not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Proverbs. 4:5

7. Solomon was given SPECIAL gifts.

a. 1 Kings 3:11-13 the gift of wisdom

b. 2 Chronicles. 1:1,12

c. 1 Kings 4:29-34

Thank God for gifted song-writers etc. But gifts did not make him spiritual nor did gifts keep him spiritual. Gifted men may be carnal men. Solomon had a gift, a special gift from God, that enabled him to write his songs. I am persuaded that you must have a gift to be an artist. Some "art" being produced today, in my opinion, is not "art" as we once understood the word, because the producer of the art is not an artist! Some hymns and songs we endure singing today do not qualify to be called such, because those who write the lyrics are not gifted poets, and those who write the music are not gifted musicians. To be able to do certain things well, abilities and gifts given only by God are absolutely necessary. Surely, we are all aware of the fact that some people cannot sing simply because they do not have the God-given ability to do so. If we can endure to the end, through some of the "stuff" called music today, we certainly will be saved! Vernon Mc Gee said: "I insist that music which does not lift you into the presence of God is not music for the church. There is a great deal of music in the church which definitely does not prepare anyone for worship. I have discovered in my ministry and conference work that many times a musical number given by the choir or a soloist before the message is absolutely devastating and destructive to the giving out of the Word of God."

And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

1 Kings 3:11-13

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**Verse 1** And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God *was* with him, and magnified him exceedingly. **Verse 12** Wisdom and knowledge *is* granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that *have been* before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like.

2 Chronicles. 1:1,12

And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore. And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about. And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five. And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

1 Kings 4:29-34

d. It is God who gives gifts to men. a) Ephesians 4:8-11, b) Romans 12:3-8 c) 1 Corinthians 4:7 Ecclesiastes 6:2, d) 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Ephesians 4:8-11

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

Romans 12:3-8

For who maketh thee to differ *from another*? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive *it*, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received *it*?

1 Corinthians 4:7

A man to whom God hath given riches, wealth, and honour, so that he wanteth nothing for his soul of all that he desireth, yet God giveth him not power to eat thereof, but a stranger eateth it: this *is* vanity, and it *is* an evil disease.

Ecclesiastes 6:2

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

8. Solomon was given opportunity to prove his gift.

a. 1 Kings 3:16-18 what wisdom!

b. Proverbs. 18:16

Then came there two women, *that were* harlots, unto the king, and stood before him. And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house. And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we *were* together; *there was* no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house.

1 Kings 3:16-18

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Proverbs. 18:16

Perhaps a good deal should be said here. If one has a gift from God others will know it and acknowledge it I have known men who think they have been called to preach but NO ONE

else thinks so. Such an one should think again. In 1 Samuel. 3:20, it is written of Samuel: "all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord." . It seems that others knew it before Samuel did. I can testify: Others knew that I was to be a preacher long before I knew it. And for me Proverbs 18:16 has been a real experience. I have not had to pry doors open in order to exercise my gift that God has given me; room has always been made for it. Proverbs 25:14 "Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain." Perhaps that could be interpreted to mean, He becomes a "wind-bag."

I quote A.W.Smith:

"A gift is a ministry of the indwelling Holy Ghost. Natural gifts have a tremendous hinderance because they cause puff-up-ness. In no sense is a gift in service assisted by the believer. A gift is a manifestation of the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:7.

And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel *was* established *to be* a prophet of the LORD.

1 Samuel. 3:20

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.  
Proverbs 18:16

Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift *is like* clouds and wind without rain.  
Proverbs 25:14

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.  
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