

**The Kings of Judah**  
**Solomon: His Failures**  
**Lesson V**  
*Written: February 16, 1986*

1. SOLOMON HAD ADVANTAGE AND BEGAN LIFE WELL.

11. THE END OF SOLOMON'S LIFE WAS A FAILURE.

111. WHAT WERE THE CAUSES OF HIS FAILURE?

1. Deuteronomy 17:14-20

A note the negatives.

a. vs 16 he shall not...

b. vs 17 neither shall he...

**Verse 14** When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that *are* about me; **Verse 15** Thou shalt in any wise set *him* king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: *one* from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which *is* not thy brother. **Verse 16** But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way. **Verse 17** Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold. **Verse 18** And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of *that which is* before the priests the Levites: **Verse 19** And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: **Verse 20** That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, *to* the right hand, or *to* the left: to the end that he may prolong *his* days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

Although these are negative statements they are plain and positive. There is a great deal of talk about "negative thinking and negative preaching", today. We have been brain-washed into accepting "the power of positive thinking." We are being told it is wrong to say "don't" to a child. because that is being "negative" and it will hinder the child's development! If your child takes a saw and starts to cut off the legs of the table, don't say "don't" because you may hinder him from becoming a great carpenter some day. If a child throws paint on the wall, don't say "don't" don't you realize he is on his way to becoming a great artist? And when you go to church what-ever-you-do, don't tell people that they are sinners. That is "negative" preaching and you will destroy their "self-esteem." On "60 minutes T.V. program" February. 1,1986, there was an interview with a U.S.A. Judge.

Page 1 of 8

When she sentences drunk-drivers, she demands that after the first offence, when the offender drives a car, a sticker must be placed on the bumper of the car which warns everyone else on the road that the driver has been charged and convicted for drunk driving. The program interviewed such an offender who claimed that the sticker violates "human rights" because it destroys his self-image and self-esteem." Well, my comment, perhaps that is the purpose! But of course, I am sure that there is more sympathy for the drunk driver than for that Judge. Will the day come when "positive thinkers" will demand that criminals should not be sent to prison because it only destroys their self-image? Surely, sane people can see that there are times when one must be positively negative in order to be positively positive. SOLOMON you are a King: Don't multiply horses from Egypt. Don't multiply wives. Don't greatly multiply unto yourself gold and silver. If you do, you will get yourself into trouble. That was the warning.

- b. The positives      Deuteronomy 17:18 write a copy of the law.  
Deuteronomy 17:19 read it daily. learn and keep it  
Deuteronomy 17:20 the promised results.

And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of *that which is* before the priests the Levites:  
Deuteronomy 17:18

And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:  
Deuteronomy 17:19

That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, *to the right hand, or to the left:* to the end that he may prolong *his* days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.  
Deuteronomy 17:20

We know that Solomon did what he was told not to do. He multiplied horses from Egypt .He gathered much silver and gold and he multiplied wives to himself. And it seems evident ,he did these things because he neglected to do what he was told to do. Now let me try bring this up to date. Solomon, get your own Bible. That is so easy for us to do. Most of us have many Bibles in our homes. But would you have one if you had had to write out your own copy?

1. Solomon keep that Bible with you. It is not enough to own it. Treasure it. I do not think that any of us appreciate our Bibles as we should or could. When our Kings or Queens are crowned; they are given a Bible. And at that moment hear the words: "The most valuable thing this world affords." If your house caught fire, what would be the FIRST thing you would think about saving?
2. 3. Solomon ,read your Bible daily. Don't miss a day for if you read it daily you will learn to fear the Lord. That is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge. If I were to ask what is the most important thing in a believers life, I would receive many answers. But I believe from the teaching of this Book, that the fear of the Lord or reverence for God is most important. Learn to fear and you learn to keep; reverence produces obedience. Why then are we not obedient? Because we do not reverence God as we should.

3. Vs. 20 Solomon if you read this Book your heart will not be "lifted up". In other words you will not become proud. Proud men do not know the Book. And pride goeth before a fall. Finally, a full knowledge an obedient knowledge of this book will keep you from going to the right and it will keep you from going to the left. It will keep you in the center of the road. It will keep from extremes. It will keep you on the right track. Solomon did not do what he was instructed to do. And we are amazed at what he finally did. And I am personally amazed at what I read that people are saying today, and what they are accepting. Men accept what they accept because they have neglected the Bible.

2. 1 Kings 3:1 The first step in Solomon's disobedience. cf. Isaiah 31:1

And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall of Jerusalem round about.

1 Kings 3:1

Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because *they are* many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

Isaiah 31:1

In Scripture Egypt is always a type of this world. And as we have seen, Solomon's backsliddings began by his neglect of the Word of God. But now we observe here is another step of disobedience. He makes affinity with Egypt and no-doubt for convenience sake, marries

Pharaoh's daughter. He has gone to Egypt for help. Most Church Denominations begin well. Most local Churches begin well. Most Bible schools begin well. Most, if not all, Christians begin the Christian life well. But what happens? To remain popular, to appease the crowd, there is a tendency to conform to the world. We make affinity and marriages with the world and rather than changing the world about us, the world begins to change us. Woe when all men speak well of us. That is when we begin our backsliddings. There is always the danger of loving the praise of men MORE than the praise of God. John 12:43 There is the danger of pleasing men and thereby ceasing to be the servants Christ.(Galatians 1:10) Read also Jeremiah 17:5 ,7.

For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

John 12:43

For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

Galatians 1:10

**verse 5** Thus saith the LORD; Cursed *be* the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. **verse 7** Blessed *is* the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

Page 3 of 8

3. 1 Kings 3:3 Solomon sacrificed in the High places.

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

The verse states, "Solomon loved the Lord, only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places." Here is a second indication that something is not right with Solomon. Joseph Parker says: "The two parts are wide asunder as far as the east is from the west. In which part of the verse did Solomon die?" (end quote) Alas, we know the answer. Here at the beginning of his reign, Solomon reveals his double-mindedness. James. 1:8 states plainly double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. It will show up someday. 2 Kings 17:32-33 read it. So people served the Lord AND they feared the Lord AND... Judges 17:3 A woman in Israel, "I had wholly dedicated the silver to the Lord to make a graven image"

Ezekiel 8:16 In the temple at Jerusalem the prophet saw 25 men in the temple, mind you, worshipping the sun. They had put no difference between the holy and profane, between the clean and unclean. Today, I turn on the T.V. and see bumps and grinds that go with the world's music, the sounds, the noise, the vain repetition then often go to church and hear and see the same thing. There is no difference. What the world does the church does! Matthew 6:24 Jesus said, "ye cannot serve God AND...you fill in the blank. You serve God OR, and this that began early in Solomon's life finally produced the evil fruit. He began by mixing the holy and the profane and ended serving nothing but idols.

A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.

James. 1:8

So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places. They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

2 Kings 17:32-33

And when he had restored the eleven hundred *shekels* of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

Judges 17:3

And he brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, *were* about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east.

Ezekiel 8:16

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:24

2. Eccl. 2: 1-10 Solomon set his heart on pleasures and possessions. cf. 2 Chronicles. 1:12. The Lord had given riches but he wanted more. There is no sin in being rich. And there is no sin in being poor. Riches do not make a man great; poverty does not make a man "little." Luke 12:15 Jesus said: "a man's life does not consist in the abundance of things which he possesses." James 2:5 tells us that God hath chosen the poor of this world who are rich in faith (Let that sink in) James 2:6 says, "yet we despise the poor." Solomon had riches enough. He did not need more. Yet he wanted more. And that became a sin. Proverbs 23:4 "Labour not to be rich" It does not say we are not to labour. But the motive is not to become rich. Psalm 62:10 "if riches increase set not your heart upon them". Ecclesiastes. 5:10 "He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver." Ecclesiastes 4:8 "neither is his eye satisfied with riches." 1 Timothy 6:5-11 The words are most sobering. In vs 9 but they that WILL be rich. It does not say they who ARE rich but all one needs to fall, is the will to be rich. Think about that when you are tempted to buy lottery tickets!

I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity. I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it? I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life. I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards: I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits: I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees: I got me servants and maidens, and had servants born in my house; also I had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me: I gathered me also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings and of the provinces: I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, as musical instruments, and that of all sorts. So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me. And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

Eccl. 2: 1-10

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. 1:12

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Luke 12:15

Page 5 of 8

Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

James 2:5

But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?

James 2:6

Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

Proverbs 23:4

Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart *upon them*.

Psalms 62:10

He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this *is* also vanity.

Ecclesiastes. 5:10

There is one *alone*, and *there is* not a second; yea, he hath neither child nor brother: yet *is there* no end of all his labour; neither is his eye satisfied with riches; neither *saith he*, For whom do I labour, and bereave my soul of good? This *is* also vanity, yea, it *is* a sore travail.

Ecclesiastes 4:8

**Verse 5** Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. **Verse 6** But godliness with contentment is great gain. **Verse 7** For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. **Verse 8** And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. **Verse 9** But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. **Verse 10** For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. **Verse 11** But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

1 Timothy 6:5-11

5. 1 Kings 11:1 Married strange, that is Gentile women.

- a. 1 Kings 11:2,3 they turned his heart
- b. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 a warning.
- c. 1 Corinthians 7:39 only in the Lord.
- d. Hebrews 13:4 a promise.

But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, *and* Hittites;

1 Kings 11:1

Page 6 of 8

Of the nations *concerning* which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: *for* surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

1 Kings 11:2,3

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:39

Marriage *is* honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Hebrews 13:4

#### 1V THE CONCLUSION OF SOLOMON'S LIFE

1. 1 Kings 11:4 his heart was not right.
2. 1 kings 11:6 he was doing evil
3. 1 Kings 11:9 the Lord was displeased with him.
4. 1 kings 11:14 the Lord sent adversary's against him
5. 1 Kings 11:40 Solomon had murder in his heart.
6. Ecclesiastes 2:17-18 he hated life. What a tragic end.. What a sorrowful end. Life can be so easy if we keep the rules, the simple rules. Life can be very hard when we break the rules.

For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, *that* his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as *was* the heart of David his father.

1 Kings 11:4

And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as *did* David his father.

1 Kings 11:6

And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,

1 Kings 11:9

And the LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he *was* of the king's seed in Edom.

1 Kings 11:14

Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

1 Kings 11:40

Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun *is* grievous unto me: for all *is* vanity and vexation of spirit. Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me.

Ecclesiastes 2:17-18

Page 8 of 8