

Loving Hearts & Working Hands



Lesson 13

A Wise King is Foolish

Theme: Faith — Following God our whole life

Memory Verses

“David said to Solomon, ‘Be strong, therefore, and show yourself a man. And keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways ... according to what is written in the law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn.’”

1 Kings 2:2-3

Daily Bible Readings

- 1 1 Kings 9:1-19
- 2 1 Kings 10:1-13
- 3 1 Kings 10:14-21, 24-25
- 4 1 Kings 11:1-5, 9-13
- 5 1 Kings 11:26, 29-43

God richly blessed Solomon. To help Solomon, God directed him how to think and live and warned him of many dangers. What Solomon needed to do was clear. He needed to walk before God with a heart set on doing God’s will. He knew if he turned away from following God and served other gods, he and the nation he ruled would suffer. The magnificent temple he built for God would be smashed to pieces.

1 Kings 9:1-19

Circle the dots of all correct answers.

God told Solomon:

- to walk before Him with his whole heart.
- to build the temple bigger and bigger.
- to keep His commandments.
- turning away from God would hurt all Israel.



David had warned Solomon. Solomon repeated the warnings in prayer. God warned Solomon more than once. All these warnings show that while Solomon seemed to “have it all,” he had difficult decisions to make.

Solomon's Wealth

Solomon used his wisdom and riches to increase Israel. Solomon built many buildings and cities. He built a fleet of ships which he used to import and export

products. Solomon made Israel a rich and growing nation.

But think about it a minute. All this building, buying, selling, and trading required workers. This was good for Israel's economy,

1 Kings 10:14-21, 24-25

List some of the things required to build and do business as Solomon did:

1 Kings 10:1-13

Who all did the Queen of Sheba think was blessed?

Choose all correct answers.

- Solomon's men
- Solomon's servants
- Solomon's wives
- The priests
- The Lord

Was Solomon's wisdom and wealth more or less than the Queen of Sheba had heard about?



but it required greater protection. Operating Solomon's palace required money and time, and maintaining an army required manpower. Many years before when Israel demanded a king to be like the nations around them, God warned them that this would happen.

Riches and power come with a price. People can easily focus on money and what it will buy, and forget about things that money cannot buy. Solomon had tremendous wisdom and wealth, but he started forgetting God. This was not wise because Solomon also forgot the consequence this would bring to him and his nation.

Solomon's Weakness and Sin

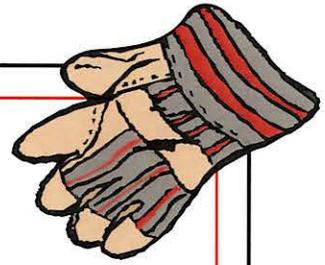
Kings in ancient times would often marry women from other places to bond nations together. Solomon had 700 wives, plus 300 other women who were close to him. Many of these women were from foreign lands and served other gods.

1 Kings 11:1-5, 9-13

What did Solomon do wrong in his old age?

What action would God take because of Solomon's sins?

- destroy Solomon and his family
- tear most of the kingdom away from Solomon
- destroy his foreign wives



Little by little, Solomon's foreign wives turned his heart from the Lord. Solomon began worshiping false gods. God was angry with

1 Kings 11:26, 29-43

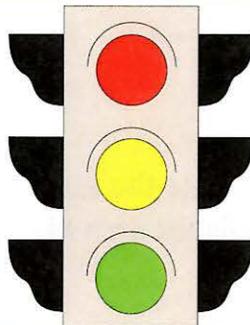
For whose sake did God keep part of the kingdom and the city of Jerusalem for Solomon?

Solomon. He had warned Solomon more than once not to go after other gods, but Solomon did anyway. As the result, God would take the kingdom away from Solomon and give it to another. Because of His promise to David,

God would not tear away all the kingdom. He would leave a small part of it for Solomon's son to rule. Solomon's mighty empire would be broken; the united kingdom of Israel would divide.

Solomon had the chance to be a great king, even greater than his father David. But Solomon did not follow God. He did not give a loving heart and working hands completely to God. Don't make Solomon's mistake!

When my parents warn me over and over again about something, I stop listening to them.

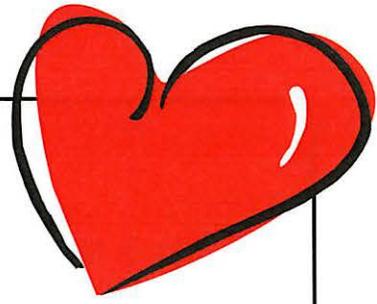


Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — always

Yellow — sometimes

Green — never



Think About It ...

In the box below, tell about a time when you were warned about the danger of doing something and you did it anyway.

What were the consequences?



Working Hard on Bible Facts

Which book of the Old Testament is about a Jewish queen rescuing her people?

When your teacher asks, be able to put in order the major stages of Bible history:

- Promise to Abraham
- Slavery in Egypt
- Law at Mount Sinai
- Wilderness Wanderings
- Living in the Promised Land
- Punished by Captivity
- Salvation in Jesus Christ

On a map inside the back cover, locate the kingdoms of Assyria, Babylon, and Persia. Be prepared to find these places on a blank map in class.