



Wisdom that is Out of this World

1Kings 3:5-15

Learning From The Life Of Solomon

- In all your getting, get wisdom
- Earthly things cannot satisfy
- Marriage is important, but God always comes first

Learning From The Life Of Solomon

- The life of Solomon was one of great accomplishment and great tragedy.
- Solomon was the son of David by Bathsheba. God told David that Solomon would be king and build the temple
 - 1Chron. 22:9-11 - “Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. 10 He shall build a house for My name, and he shall be My son, and I will be his Father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever. 11 Now, my son, may the LORD be with you; and may you prosper, and build the house of the LORD your God, as He has said to you.”

Learning From The Life Of Solomon

- Solomon's life began with great purpose. However, Solomon also married multiple wives and was lead into idolatry
 - 1Kings 11:1, 3 - “But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites... 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.”

Learning From The Life Of Solomon

- The book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon's crowning work, ends with the summation of human existence
 - Ecc. 12:13-14 - "This is the end of the matter; all hath been said: fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole of man. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (ASV)

Learning From The Life Of Solomon

- Solomon was able to serve God in spite of his failures
 - 1Kings 4:29-34 - “And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 30 Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all men—than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. 32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five. 33 Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish. 34 And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.”

In All Your Getting, Get Wisdom

- Solomon began with asking for wisdom from God
 - 1Kings 3:5-11
- In addition to wisdom, God gave Solomon power, wealth, and prosperity. He lacked nothing
 - 1Kings 3:12-13 - “Behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. 13 And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.”

In All Your Getting, Get Wisdom

- Proverbs uses the word wisdom 53 times
 - Prov. 1:2-7
- Wisdom is personified
 - Prov. 1:20-33
- One who has wisdom is happy
 - Prov. 3:13 - “Happy is the man who finds wisdom,
And the man who gains understanding;”

In All Your Getting, Get Wisdom

- Among all the things that we get in this life, wisdom should be among the most important
 - Prov. 4:7 - “Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.”
- Wisdom begins with proper respect for God
 - Prov. 9:10 - “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

In All Your Getting, Get Wisdom

- Wisdom is more valuable than any earthy thing
 - Prov. 16:16 - “How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.”
- Wisdom is not to be neglected
 - Prov. 23:23 - “Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.”
- How does one obtain wisdom?
 - James 1:5 - “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Solomon would know both by inspiration and experience.
- Solomon was incredibly wealthy
 - 1Kings 10:10-27 - “14 The weight of gold that came to Solomon yearly was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold... (\$805,625,568.00)... 27 The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Power: 1400 chariots, 1200 horsemen
 - 1Kings 10:26 - “And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen; he had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Relationships; 700 wives, 300 concubines
 - 1Kings 11:3
- Peace
 - 1Kings 4:24 - “For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the River from Tiphseh even to Gaza, namely over all the kings on this side of the River; and he had peace on every side all around him.”
- He had it all
 - 1Kings 3:11-13

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- The world has always seen the abundance of possessions as necessary for happiness. Solomon had it all and called it an empty waste of time
 - Ecc. 1:2, 12-14 - “Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; Vanity of vanities, all is vanity... 12 I, the Preacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. 13 And I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome task God has given to the sons of man, by which they may be exercised. 14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- He learned that even having an abundance of wisdom did not save him or make him happy
 - Ecc. 1:16-18 - “I communed with my heart, saying, Look, I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge. 17 And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind. 18 For in much wisdom is much grief, And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Having fun and pursuing a good time does not make one happy
 - Ecc. 2:1-2 - “I said in my heart, Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure; but surely, this also was vanity. 2 I said of laughter-Madness!; and of mirth, What does it accomplish?”
- Food and drink does not make one happy
 - Ecc. 2:3 - “I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Houses and property do not bring happiness
 - Ecc. 2:4, 10-11 - “I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards... 10 Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor. 11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Wealth does not make one happy
 - Ecc. 5:10 - “He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; Nor he who loves abundance, with increase. This also is vanity.”
- Even life itself does not give happiness
 - Ecc. 4:1-3 - “Then I returned and considered all the oppression that is done under the sun: And look! The tears of the oppressed, But they have no comforter-On the side of their oppressors there is power, But they have no comforter. 2 Therefore I praised the dead who were already dead, More than the living who are still alive. 3 Yet, better than both is he who has never existed, Who has not seen the evil work that is done under the sun.”

Material Possessions Cannot Satisfy

- Solomon is saying, “I've done it all and there is only one thing that is unbroken and upon which you can build your life”
 - Ecc. 12:13 - “This is the end of the matter; all hath been said: fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole of man. ”
- We would do well to heed the example of Solomon in understanding that everything in this life is broken, fallen, temporary, and in the long term, vanity

Marriage Is Important, But God Always Comes First

- In marriage, Solomon had great prophetic success and great personal failure. God inspired Solomon to communicate the joy and love of a good marriage in the Song of Solomon
 - Song 2:4 - “He brought me to the banqueting house, And his banner over me was love”
 - Song 5:16 - “His mouth is most sweet, Yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, And this is my friend”
 - Song 8:7 - “Many waters cannot quench love, Nor can the floods drown it.”

Marriage Is Important, But God Always Comes First

- Proverbs is an abundant source of wisdom in marriage
 - Prov. 5:18 - “Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth.”
 - Prov. 18:22 - “He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD.”
 - Prov. 19:14 - “Houses and riches are an inheritance from fathers, But a prudent wife is from the LORD.”
 - Prov. 31:10 - “Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.”

Marriage Is Important, But God Always Comes First

- Solomon failed to apply this wisdom in his own life and allowed his wives to influence his relationship with God.
- He disobeyed God in his choice of life mate (Gen. 2:24)
 - 1Kings 11:1-3 - “But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites- 2 from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods. Solomon clung to these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.”

Marriage Is Important, But God Always Comes First

- He disobeyed God by allowing the women to draw him into idolatry
 - 1Kings 11:4-13
- We would do well to heed Solomon's wisdom in marriage, but do not follow his example with our mate

Wisdom that is Out of this World

- “The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool.” (William Shakespeare, As You Like It)
- 1Cor. 10:12 - “Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”
- Rom. 11:20 - “...Do not be haughty, but fear.”
- Psalm 62:9 - “Surely men of low degree are empty, Men of high degree are vanity; If they are weighed on the scales, They are altogether lighter than vapor.”

Wisdom that is Out of this World

- Nothing in this life in this world under the sun is more important than the soul housed in your body. Your life after this world depends on your pursuit of the salvation of your soul today
 - Ecc. 12:13 - “This is the end of the matter; all hath been said: fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole of man.”
 - Mark 8:36-37 - “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? 37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”