

1 Kings part 1

Tonight we're entering into the 11th book of the bible 1 kings

- I. **Interesting info:** *The books of 1st Samuel, 2nd Samuel, 1st Kings and 2nd Kings – they were called – the 1st, the 2nd, the 3rd and 4th Books of the Kingdoms and were divided when 70 scholars got together and translated the Hebrew manuscripts to greek because that was the prevailing language*
- II. **Who wrote this book:** *The Bible is silent concerning the authorship of 1st Kings. **There are ancient traditions that claimed Jeremiah to be the author. And they say that he penned it just after the fall of Judah around 485 B.C.** And that would fit with the ministry of Jeremiah ministry, as his ministry continued up to the fall of Jerusalem at the hands of Babylon. What we do know for sure is that all of this book, regardless of the unknown author is all inspired by the Holy Spirit. 2nd Timothy 3:16 tells us that – “All of Scripture is breathed out by God.”*
- III. **Whats this book about?** - *The theme of all of the books of the kingdom is to highlight the importance of good and godly leadership*
- IV. **We're are going tonight?** - *We are just gonna cover the first 10 chapters where we get to look in one of the greatest kings in the history of Israel - Solomon And we're gonna cover 2 major moments in his life*
 - A. **Solomon's ascension to the throne - chapters 1-4**
 - B. **Solomon's greatest accomplishment - Chapters 5-10**

Chapters 1 - 4 Solomon's ascension

Summary: One of David's Son' "Adonijah" tries to seize the throne, But we come to find out that David's throne had already been promised to the son that he had with Basheeba...Solomon

- A. **Solomon** is one of the most prominent people in all the O.t scriptures, and next to Jesus the wisest man to walk this earth
- B. He wrote 3 books of the bible: Song of Solomon
 1. The Song of Solomon was written in the early part of Solomon's reign.
 2. Proverbs during his reign. It's believed to be before 1st Kings 11 that Solomon was busy about the work of penning Proverbs.
 3. It's believed that he penned the book of Ecclesiastes right after 1st Kings 11. And we'll see it's a turning point in the book. **In 1st Kings 11 God told Solomon – that He was going to tear the kingdom from him, that the kingdom would be divided**

*1 Kings 2:1–4 (ESV) ¹ When David's time to die drew near, he commanded Solomon his son, saying, ² "I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, and **show yourself a man,** ³ and **keep the charge of the Lord your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies,** as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn, ⁴ that the Lord may establish his word that he spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'*

Summary: I love David's final words to Solomon...He says' I'm gonna die, so be a man and follow God's commandments

- A. *David knew that it took courage in these times to Follow God and his commandments...Guess what? It still take courage today*
- B. *David wasn't perfect, But he had a heart to keep God's commandments, and this is what blessed His work...He was leaving the kingdom in the best condition it had ever been in. it was fully united*
- C. **Observation:** *I think all of us what to leave things better off then when we found it right? well David gives us the trick to doing that - You don't need to be overly gifted, or even perfect...Just be strong and obey God's commandments...and you'll leave things better then when you found it.*

*1 Kings 2:10–11 (ESV) ¹⁰ Then David slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David. ¹¹ And the time that David reigned over Israel was forty years. He reigned seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. ¹² **So Solomon sat on the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was firmly established.***

Summary: *So here's Solomon — young, totally inexperienced. The nation is in turmoil. It's been undermined by is older Adonijah. Sin is beginning to work its way into the heart of the nation. That is when God called Solomon to power.*

- A. **Just a reminder** - *Often times, God will call to the inconvenient, broken places, because those are the places that need the most help. So next time, you see a situation thats a bit of a train wreck, Open your ears because God might be calling you there*

So picture this...

So you're an Israelite; and you've only known life under King David. And then they put a crown on the head of a teenager. Now try to imagine you're Solomon! How are you going to step into your dad's sandals? well...the Holy Spirit tells us what Solomon did.

*1 Kings 3:4 (ESV) ⁴ And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. **Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.***

Summary - The burnt offering (as we learned in Leviticus) was completely consumed on the altar. And that offering completely consumed on the altar represented a life — fully consecrated, fully given to the Lord. But for Solomon, one wasn't enough How many did he bring? He brought 1,000 at a time! The sheer number of burnt offerings was Solomon's way of saying, **"I cannot do this job without you, God! I'm holding nothing back! I'm all yours!"**

A. Heres the take away: If your facing an issue that you don't know how to get around...Totally consecrate your life to the Lord. Hold nothing back. Say, "Lord, I'm all yours"

Solomon says, "God, I give myself to you." And look what happens

1 Kings 3:5 (ESV) ⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you."

Summary: Solomon could have asked for anything - He could have asked to be made into a great man of war like his Father, which was the mark of a king up to this point...or prosperity and honor...but look what He asks for

*1 Kings 3:9 (ESV) ⁹ Give your servant therefore an **understanding mind (Or literally, a hearing heart)** to govern your people, that I may **discern** between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"*

Summary: Solomon says "Lord, I need a receptive heart to you" - This is more precious then anything else...a receptive heart to God

A. Solomon says "God, give me a hearing heart to your wisdom...so that i can lead your people"

- B. **Question:** *what do you ask for when you speak to God? usually results...But Solomon desires relationship with God...May we be the same*

1 Kings 3:10–15 (ESV) ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴ And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵ And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream...

Question: *Have you ever had a dream; and you thought it was from the Lord? Here’s Solomon — he’s having this very vivid dream - wisdom and blessings and then the alarm goes off and he wakes up...how would he know that It was God who spoke?*

- A. **The answer to that question** — *Solomon, you’re going to have to walk it out — live every day trusting God to supply you with the wisdom you asked for*
- B. *The same goes with us...Whatever it is that God has spoken to you He’s spoken to you from His Word....He’s confirmed it in His Word... Other people have come alongside of you; they bear witness to this thing. And it really is God’s that talked to you....How are you going to know if it’s true - **You’re going to have walk by faith and watch Him do it, not try to make it happen, just trust in and follow Him***
- C. *At the end of this chapter is a demonstration of this new wisdom Solomon has...2 women and a baby*

1 Kings 3:28 (ESV) ²⁸ And all Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king, because they perceived that

*the wisdom of God was in him to do justice. ²⁹ And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, ³⁰ so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. ³¹ For he was wiser than all other men,...**mentions a few great and wise men...and his fame was in all the surrounding nations.** ³² **He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005...He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish.** ³⁴ **And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.***

Summary: *Solomon was wisest man who had ever lived...But Having insight into life does not guarantee that you're going to choose to do what is right...as we will see in the life of Solomon*

- A. *It's important for us to remember that knowledge alone will not guarantee obedience - Pastors all over the place who have spent their lives trafficking in the truths of God's word...yet have disqualified themselves from ministry now*
- B. *But It's also important for us to recognize to great power the has been given to us though Jesus that Solomon didn't have - The indwelling of the Holy Spirit that was provided for believer through the death and resurrection of Jesus christ*
 - 1. *Acts 1:8 (ESV) ⁸ But you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*
 - 2. *A brief summary of the features of the holy Spirit in the live of a believer...**write these references down***
 - 3. *The Spirit helps us speak when we are in precarious situations and need to bear witness (Mark 13:11)*

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4. *The Counselor teaches and reminds us of what we need to know and remember. (John 14–16)*
5. *The Spirit sets us free from the sins we cannot get rid of on our own. This is a lifelong process we entered into, in partnership with the Spirit, when we first believed (Rom. 8:2)*
6. *The Holy Spirit convicts people of sin. He does this both before we initially enter into right relationship with God and as we journey through this life as believers (John 16:7–11)*
7. *The Spirit brings us life and freedom. Where the Spirit is, there is freedom, not bondage or slavery. In our world that is plagued with death, this is a profound truth that points to real hope (2 Cor 3:17).*
8. *By the power of the Holy Spirit we abound with hope because our God is a God of hope, who fills His children with all joy and peace (Rom. 15:13).*
9. *Each of us is given a manifestation of the Spirit in our lives for the purpose of the common good. We all have something to offer because of what the Spirit gives to us (1 Cor. 12:7).*
10. *The fruit of being led by the Spirit of God includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These attitudes and actions will characterize our lives as we allow ourselves to be grown and molded by the Spirit. The Spirit is our sanctifier (Gal. 5:22–23)*

Chapters 5-10 Solomon's accomplishments

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Now, Chapters 9-10 speak about the work of the Land...but we will spend the majority of our time on looking at Solomon's Greatest achievement - the building of the temple

If you recall last week we saw David's desire to build a house for God in Samuel 7 And God essentially say's "No" Your son is gonna build my house...but because of this I will establish your throne forever and ever... that would happen through Jesus...but here we see what Solomon did

*1 Kings 6:1 (ESV) ¹ In the four hundred and eightieth year after the people of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, **he began to build the house of the Lord.***

Summary - Do you remember the tabernacle that was constructed by God's command in the book of exodus?

- A. Show Picture of Tabernacle** - It was to be the dwelling place for God, it was to be a place of worship...and every furnishing that filled the temple was filled with imagery and symbolism...
- B. Show Picture of Temple** - The temple was the permanent version of that
 - 1. The temple was built by: 30,000 Israelites - 150,000 Canaanites - artists - Craftsmen
 - 2. The Temple faced east and was built after the general plan of the Tabernacle...but twice the size - 90 feet long - 30 feet wide - 45 feet high
 - 3. This would become the national pride for Israel...and one of the wonders of the world at this time

Chapters 6-7 are all about the the building of the temple...

And then 1st Kings 8 recounts Solomon dedicating the temple...everything is set, but before the gates could open, the temples crown jewel had to be in it's rightful place...

*1st Kings 8:1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers' houses of the people of Israel, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. ² And all the men of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. ³ **And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. ⁴ And they brought up the ark of the Lord, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up.** ⁵ And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. ⁶ Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim...v.9 **There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the people of Israel,** when they came out of the land of Egypt.*

Summary: So here's the picture...The temple was the centerpiece of the nation. The Ark of the Covenant was the centerpiece of the Temple, The Law, was the centerpiece of the Ark of the Covenant...and get this - **Jesus would be the center piece to the Law** - *Matthew 5:17 (ESV) Jesus would say...¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to **fulfill them.***

- A. The Law spoke of the holy standard of God...they Only one who have ever kept this standard was Jesus
- B. The Ark of the covenant was where man would go to meet with God...has now been replaced by Jesus

C. **Here's the point:** *Jesus, the one and only place where the Holy God of the universe will meet with sinful man — God says, I will meet you there. And it was there that blood was sprinkled to atone for sin*

1. **Our take away** - *Jesus, the centerpiece of the Church, the centerpiece of worship — there is no point of church, there is no point of worship — without Jesus.*

*1 Kings 8:10–11 (ESV) ¹⁰ And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, ¹¹ so that the priests could not stand to minister **because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.***

Summary: *The concept of the glory of the Lord — that's a hard one to define. Some define it as **“the radiant outshining of His perfect character and presence”** And here the glory of God is manifested in a cloud. **“glory” — The basic meaning of the word is — to be heavy, or to be weighty. The weightiness of the Lord filled the structure that Solomon had built for the worship of the Lord...this moment wasn't just a tradition...it was about transcendence .***

D. **This reminds us** — *God shows up when we meet to worship Him.*

1. *In the margin of your Bible there in 1st Kings would you write 2nd Chronicles 5? It's a great cross reference for you...because it gives us more insight to what happened in this moment*
2. *2nd Chronicles 5:11 And when the priests came out of the Holy Place (for all the priests who were present had consecrated themselves, without regard to their divisions, ¹² and all the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, their sons and kinsmen, arrayed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps, and lyres, stood east of the altar with ¹³ 120 priests who were trumpeters; and it was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord), and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals*

*and other musical instruments, in praise to the Lord, “For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever,” the house, the house of the Lord, **was filled with a cloud, 14 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.**”*

3. **How awesome!** *The temple was seven years in the making. And before they opened it up for the people, they brought the Ark of the Covenant into the Holy of Holies. And when they come out this band starts playing their hearts out. The people are celebrating and worshipping the Lord. And God shows up.*
4. **Now here’s the picture** — *When we, the redeemed, gather to worship our redeemer, and we make Him the center of our attention — He shows up...He speaks to us...He works in our lives, in our hearts*
5. *Guys, I want to encourage you — When we ask the question “Why have you come? I pray your answer will always be...To worship Jesus*

And in response to all of this Solomon stood up before the people. He raised his arms. And then he dropped to his knees. And he began to pray. And he said something to this effect — “God, there is no God like you! God, we built you this temple. But the heavens and the heavens of heavens can’t contain you. This is just a touch of who you are. You’re so glorious. And yet, Lord, it pleases you to manifest your presence to us in this place! And then he began to intercede for the people

Conclusion:

*These are the highlights of King Solomon’s life...I wish this book would have ended this way...but by chapter 10 we start to see a shift in Solomon life...In chapter 10, we don’t see a humble and desperate King...we Solomon - **Confident - surrounded by an excess of riches - with a***

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taste for foreign women... *This reminds me of 1 John 2:16 (ESV) ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.*

As great of a king as Solomon was...He was just a flawed man who would eventually succumb to the Pull of the World

Thats what Makes Jesus a better king - He was tempted by satan:

- A. Lust of the flesh (bread)*
- B. Pride of life (If your the Son of God...Throw yourself down)*
- C. Lust of the eyes (All the kingdoms of the world...if you bow)*
- D. Yet Jesus endured temptation...didn't succumb to the Paul of the World...endured the cross to save fro himself a people***

App:The kings of this world will always fail...Jesus won't...bow to Jesus