



THE BOOK OF

# 1 KINGS



## Sermon Series Notes

### “Solomon the Wise Fool” (I Kings 1-11)

Danny Hodges – OT3551

Intro: II Samuel 12:24-25; Solomon means “peaceable”; Jedidiah means “loved by the Lord.” Solomon wrote most of the Proverbs, two Psalms (72 & 127), Ecclesiastes, & Song of Solomon.

Unfortunately I Kings opens with a reminder of King David’s failure as a father (see I Kings 1:5-6).

1:7-8 There is division among David’s leadership as to who should be the next king.

#### Chapter two

Solomon removes Abiathar from serving as priest, fulfilling a prophecy made about the line of Eli? (see 2:26-27; I Sam.2). He replaces him with Zadok. He also has Joab killed and replaces him with Benaiah. He has Shimei killed for violating the restrictions that had been placed upon his life. Read 2:46b.

#### Chapter three

Solomon’s reign starts off well, read 3:4-15; Solomon’s wisdom is seen right away, read 3:16-28.

Read 4:20-34

II Chron.9:23 King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. All the kings of the earth sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart.

Chapter five – Solomon makes preparation for building the temple. David had wanted to build the temple, but because he was a man of war, God chose Solomon to build it instead

(I Chron.28). God gave David the plans for the temple, David raised the funds for building the temple (I Chron.29), and he also provided the furnishings.

Read 6:7, 21-22, 30, 38

Read 7:51, 8:10-11, 22-24, 27-30, 54-63, 65-66; 9:1-9.

Like so many other stories, it would be wonderful if it ended here, but it does not. Sadly, Solomon's later years were bitter, not blessed. Read 11:9-14, 23, 26.

Read 11:42; This verse became very personal for me this morning, because it has been 40 years since I committed my life to Christ. Will I stay strong until the end? Only the Lord knows, but I pray so. I am extremely thankful I have remained faithful for these forty years.

What was it that caused Solomon, the wisest man that ever lived, to become so foolish and lose the blessing of God?

## **Compromise**

Compromise: Accepting a standard that is lower than desirable.

Read 3:2-3; During the days of the Judges the people of Israel began practicing the Canaanite custom of offering sacrifices on hilltops, believing that the closer they got to heaven, the more likely their prayers to their gods would be heard. Some might consider this a minor or even insignificant thing, but because it was tied to pagan practices, it should have been avoided. It also was a clear violation of Lev.17:1-5. God has always had a system for worship, and standards that must be adhered to. Even as far back as Cain & Abel, guidelines were set in place for acceptable and unacceptable offerings (see Gen.4:3-7).

The compromise of offering sacrifices and burning incense on the high places is the same as the compromise in Rev.2:14 & 20 (churches of Pergamum & Thyatira). This is how Satan was able to seduce the Israelites in Numbers 25:1-2.

What often happens is that we accept a standard less than desirable, then we seek to justify it. For example, wouldn't it be easy to justify offering sacrifices on the high places because no temple had been built to offer sacrifices? And doesn't it sound logical to get higher up, closer to heaven?

King Saul compromised, then attempted to justify it (see I Samuel 15:7-9, 18-23)

The Corinthians Christians compromised in their relationships with others. I Cor.15:33 Do not be misled. Bad company corrupts good character.

Compromise can come in all kinds of ways. People over the years have asked me about taking their tithe for special financial needs, and I always advise against it, because we should give by faith, trusting the Lord to take care of any shortfall or unforeseen financial needs. If we compromise by spending the money rather than honoring the Lord once, it becomes much easier to do so again, and again. If we are not careful, we may end up ceasing to honor the Lord with the firstfruits of our wealth.

As I was meditating on compromise late Tuesday evening, I realized that anything short of 100% commitment and surrender to the Lord is compromise; When I gave my life to Christ, I gave Him all of my life. The challenge is to continue to give Him all of my life. Jesus said we cannot be His disciples unless we take up our cross daily. This is the great challenge of the Christian life – it is do daily! We should take time off of work, we should take vacations, but we must never take time off from being a Christian.

The greatest way to guard against compromise is to surrender daily to the complete Lordship of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Violation of clear scriptural counsel**

Read 10:28-29

Deut.17:16 The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the Lord has told you, "You are not to go back that way again."

Read Deut.17:18-19

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

II John 4 It has given me great joy to hear that some of your children are walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us.

### **Materialism**

Deut.17:17...he must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

Love of money; I Timothy 6:10; see I Kings 10:14-15

Eccl.5:10 Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.

Solomon attempted to find satisfaction in something this world has to offer; He is the ultimate example of someone who tried EVERYTHING the world had to offer and was not satisfied.

### **Unholy alliances** (associations; agreements)

Read 3:1

Exodus 34:12, 15 Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land where you are going, or they will be a snare to you...Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land; for when they prostitute themselves to their gods and sacrifice to them, they will invite you and you will eat their sacrifices.

See II Cor.6:14-16

I would think twice about going into a business venture with an unbeliever.

Scriptural examples of other unholy alliances? Israel allying with other nations rather than trusting the Lord; Jehoshaphat's alliance with wicked King Ahab.

### **Romantic relationships** (out of the will of God)

Deut.17:a He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray.

11:1-4a Many romantic relationships out of the will of God, and in a very short period of time; Every time I read this, I cannot wrap my mind around how many women Solomon had - 1,000 women to satisfy his desire for intimacy, love. That's almost three different women available every single day of the year! But even with this, according to his testimony in the book of Ecclesiastes, he was not satisfied.

### CONCLUSION

Read Eccl.1:16-2:11; Col.2:1-3

Psalm 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

