

## King Solomon

*Luke 12:27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

1. Solomon had to overcome rebellions before establishing a fabulous reign (1 Kings 1:1 - 2:46)
  - a. Adonijah, David's oldest living son, Solomon's half brother (1 Kings 1:8-11, 2:17, 25)
  - b. Abiathar the Priest is removed from his office (2:26-27)
  - c. Joab is executed for his part in Adonijah's rebellion and his previous crimes (1 Kings 2:28-34)
  - d. Shemei (1 Kings 2:36-46)
2. Solomon's Reign begins incredibly successful because of his humble request for wisdom 1 Kings 3:5-14  
In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. (6) And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great **mercy**, according as he walked before thee in **truth**, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of **heart** with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great **kindness**, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. (7) And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little **child**: I know not how to go out or come in. (8) And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. (9) Give therefore thy servant an **understanding** heart to judge thy people, that I may **discern** between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? (10) And the speech **pleased** the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. (11) And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself **long life**; neither hast asked **riches** for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine **enemies**; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; (12) Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. (13) And I have also given thee that which thou hast **not asked**, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. (14) And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my **commandments**, as thy father David did walk, then I will **lengthen** thy days.
3. Solomon Builds the Temple (1 Kings 5:2-5)  
1 Kings 8:21-24 And I have set there a place for the **ark**, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt. (22) And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven: (23) And he said, LORD God of Israel, there is **no God** like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart: (24) Who hast kept with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast **fulfilled** it with thine hand, as it is this day.
4. Solomon pens the proverbs instructing how to avoid sin and to fear God through wisdom and knowledge  
Proverbs 1:1-4 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel; (2) To know **wisdom** and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; (3) To receive the instruction of wisdom, **justice**, and judgment, and equity; (4) To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man **knowledge** and **discretion**.
5. Solomon disobeys the law in Deut. 17:14-17 and heaps to himself gold and silver, horses, and women.
6. Solomon pens the book of Ecclesiastes regretting his mistakes and admonishing believers not to make the same mistakes (Ecc 12:1-2)  
Ecc 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear** God, and **keep** his commandments: for this is the **whole** duty of man. (14) For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be **evil**.

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