

The Life of Solomon Morning Devotionals

Devotional 1

- *Read: 2 Samuel 12:1-25*

Loved By the Lord

Solomon was only one of King David's many sons. His mother's name was Bathsheba.

Shortly after Bathsheba's first child died of an illness given by the Lord for David's sin, she had a second son. The Lord encouraged David and Bathsheba to name him 'Jedidiah' which means "loved by the Lord".

Something to think about :

David's sin had a devastating impact on his life. However, God's love for David didn't change. Our sin will have a negative effect on our lives.

"Can a man scoop fire in his lap without his clothes being burned?" Proverbs 6:27

Question for Thought:

Is there a sin in your life today that you are not repenting of because you don't see its consequences? That sin will burn you, and is doing harm to your life even now whether you see it or not.

What sins do you feel have effected your life in the past?

In what ways do you feel these specific sins have effected your life?

Scripture for Today's Meditation:

1 John 1:5-10

Song for the day- 'Mighty to Save' by Michael W. Smith

Today's Prayer-

Go outside for a prayer walk and confess yours sins to God. Praise him for his marvelous grace.

Devotional 2

- *Read 1Kings 1:1-31*

Exalt the Lord

- *“Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled and he who humbles himself will be exalted” Matt 23:12*

1 Kings 1:5-6-About that time David’s son Adonijah whose mother was Haggith, began boasting, “I will make myself king.” So he provided himself with chariots and charioteers and recruited 50 men to run in front of him. Now his father, King David, had never disciplined him at any time, even by asking, “Why are you doing that?” Adonijah had been born next after Absalom and he was very handsome.

Adonijah exalted himself.

He boasted about himself and persuaded people to follow him rather than earning their respect.

Sometimes we can be tempted to lift ourselves up when we don’t feel the acceptance of others. We want to plead our case to others like Adonijah did in order to gain their respect.

Question for thought:

Can you think of a person or persons in your life who you feel has a low opinion of you?

How does this type of ‘people pleasing’ affect you?

Consider these following Scriptures:

Ps 37:34 - “Wait for the LORD and keep His way, And He will exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.”

*Ps 99:5 - “Exalt the LORD our God And worship at His footstool; Holy is He. “
Ps 99:9- “Exalt the LORD our God And worship at His holy hill, For holy is the
LORD our God.”*

Jas 4:10- “Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.”

*1Pe 5:6Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may
exalt you at the proper time*

*We should not let other people’s opinions dominate our thoughts. Our thoughts
should be fixed to please one person...Jesus.*

*Hebrews 12:1-2- “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of
witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down,
especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the
race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the
champion who initiates and perfects our faith.”*

Song for the Day ‘Oh Praise Him’ by David Crowder Band

*Today’s prayer- Find a tranquil place to sit down and meditate on your life.
Examine yourself in order to see if there is anyone that you are living to please
more than Jesus. Pray for your heart to be focused on pleasing the Lord rather
than on others.*

Devotional 3

- *Read 1 Kings 1:28-58*

'Long live King Solomon!'

God's plan was for Solomon to be appointed the next King of Israel.

Although Adonijah tried to force himself into that position, his efforts were useless because men cannot thwart God's plans.

Re-read verses 32- 35

Something to think about-

David had Solomon ride on his own mule which signified David's approval of him. The king had him ride through the town to a public place, the Gihon Spring, where many people would have gathered. Here the priest and the prophet appointed him in the name of the Lord; and thereby passing the kingship to him. They also blew the ram's horn which was sometimes used to transport the oil. The oil in this case was oil that came from the tabernacle and was used to appoint priests and kings.

Just as God had appointed Solomon king he appoints those people to be his royal priesthood through Jesus.

1 Peter 2:9- "But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession." NLT

John 15:16-"You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name." NLT

John 15:19- "The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you." NLT

Just as God chose Solomon to be king of Israel, God has handpicked you to know him and to be an ambassador for Christ.

Questions for thought:

How are you doing as God's chosen instrument?

Are you putting more effort into being used by God or for trying to fit into this world?

Song for the Day- 'Amazing Grace' by Chris Tomlin

Today take at least 30 minutes of quiet time to journal. Journal about how you are doing as Christ's ambassador. Write down the areas of your life that you see yourself trying to fit in with the world. Write a prayer to God and ask him to help you to become more faithful to Him and less committed to the world.

Devotional 4

Read 1 Kings 2:1-12

‘Take courage and be a man.’

After reading this passage it is interesting to note what David wanted to tell his son Solomon before he died. These were his departing words. Departing words carry a more significant weight.

In verse 2, David charges Solomon to ‘take courage and be a man’.

What does it mean to ‘take courage and be a man?’

Consider these quotes:

“In wisdom and understanding, and in fortitude of mind, though so young a man; which were necessary for the government of so great a people, and to guard against the secret intrigues of some, and the open flatteries of others, and the fear of attempts against his person and government, and the temptations he might be liable to, to do wrong things.” John Gills Exposition

“Act like a rational being, and not like a brute; and remember, that he acts most like a man who is most devoted to his GOD.” Adam Clarke Commentary

Read the following verses and consider the importance of being men and women of courage:

1Sa 4:9 - “Take courage and be men, O Philistines, or you will become slaves to the Hebrews, as they have been slaves to you; therefore, be men and fight.”

Ps 27:14- Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.

Ps 31:24 - Be strong and let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the LORD.

Isa 35:4 - Say to those with anxious heart, "Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God will come with vengeance; The recompense of God will come, But He will save you."

Da 10:19 - He said, "O man of high esteem, do not be afraid. Peace be with you; take courage and be courageous!" Now as soon as he spoke to me, I received strength and said, "May my lord speak, for you have strengthened me."

Hag 2:4 - `But now take courage, Zerubbabel,' declares the LORD, `take courage also, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all you people of the land take courage,' declares the LORD, `and work; for I am with you,' declares the LORD of hosts.

Mt 9:2 - And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, "Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven."

Mt 9:22 - But Jesus turning and seeing her said, "Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well." At once the woman was made well.

Mt 14:27 - But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

Mr 6:50 - for they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid."

Joh 16:33 - "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

Ac 23:11 - I But on the night immediately following, the Lord stood at his side and said, "Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also."

Joshua 1:7- "Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go." NAS

Are you courageous? If not what is stopping you from being courageous? Take some time to write about some courageous things that you have done. If you're having a hard time remembering courageous acts, pray today to become a person of courage!

Song for the day: 'You are Holy' Michael W. Smith

Devotional 5

- *Read 1 Kings 4:20-34*

Solomon a Man of Wisdom and Prosperity

Never in the history of Israel had the land enjoyed so much peace and prosperity.

1 Kings 4: 20- "The people of Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand on the seashore. They were very contented, with plenty to eat and drink."NLT

*1 Kings 4:21- "Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates River in the north to the land of the Philistines and the border of Egypt in the south"
NLT*

Take a look on the next page at the map to see the area Solomon ruled. Find the Euphrates River and the River of Egypt. Never had this whole area lived in peace. And never has it since.

Consider all the blessings described here for Solomon:

Amazing amounts of food

Peace on all borders

Thousands upon thousands of horses

Wisdom, understanding, and knowledge as vast as the sands on the seashore

Fame

Composed 3,000 proverbs

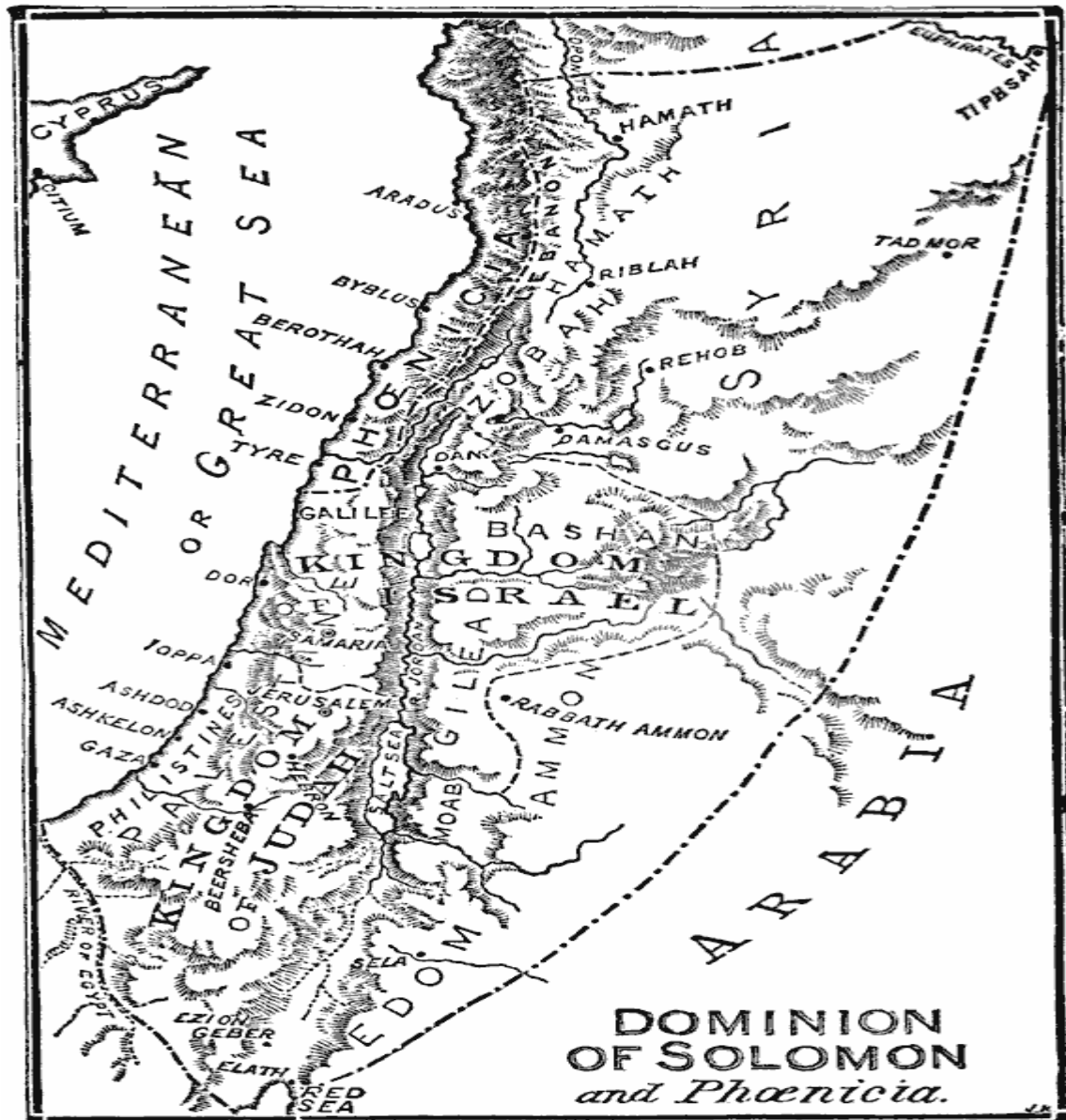
Wrote 1,005 Songs

Educated on all kinds of wildlife, plants, trees, fish

Would you consider yourself as prosperous? Take 20 minutes and make a list of blessings both big and small that you should be thankful for. Most of us will see that we are blessed with riches, food, and peace in great measures too.

Pray today to use your wealth and materials to advance the Kingdom.

Song for the day: God of Wonders by Third Day



Source: William Swinton, *Outlines of the World's History* (New York, NY: Ivison, Blakeman, and Company, 1874) 39
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