



Solomon asks for Wisdom

Scriptures: 1 Kings 1:3~ 3:15

The warrior king, David, has aged. Among many sons of David, Solomon would become the next king, God said. However, Adonijah, the fourth son of David, craved the throne and established his own army. When David came to know what was happening, he announced to the people of Israel that Solomon would be the next king.

"God has said that Solomon only would be the next king. And so today, I will certainly do this as God's promise."

In Gihon, Solomon was anointed the king of Israel in and the people of Israel celebrated and shouted, **"Long live King Solomon!"** Haughty Adonijah didn't give up trying to take the throne and at the end, faced death.



David summoned Solomon the new King and the people of Israel and said,
"You and your descendants must always faithfully obey the LORD. If you do, he will
always keep Israel strong."

David also charged Solomon and the people of Israel with the task of building the temple
according to God's commandment.

Solomon loved God and lived as he was taught by David.

One day, Solomon sacrificed a thousand times at the Shrine* in Gibeon.

That night God appeared to him in a dream.

"Solomon, ask for anything you want, and I will give it to you."

"I'm so young that I can't rule over the people of Israel.

Please make me wise to reign over your nation."

God was exceedingly pleased with Solomon's request.

Shrine* : a place of worship built up on a mountain



The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Proverbs 9:10)



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"Because you asked for wisdom instead of other things for yourself, I'll give you wealth that you didn't ask for in addition. There will be no greater and wiser king than you in this world. If you obey my commands, as your father David did, I'll let you live a long time."

Solomon woke up and thanked God.

God granted Solomon a great wisdom and wealth as promised.

Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the kings of other nations that many of them came to hear of Solomon's wisdom.





Today's Study

What is God's will?

1. Who did God say would become the next king after David? ()
A. Solomon B. Absalom C. Adonijah
2. Adonijah was very handsome and took the initiative in preparing himself a king. However, what was the reason for Solomon becoming the king instead of Adonijah? ()
A. David preferred Solomon over Adonijah
B. Solomon was stronger than Adonijah
C. God promised the throne to Solomon

We make many plans out of our own will. But everything will be done as God wills.

A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)

Solomon asks for wisdom



1. If you were Solomon, what would you have ask for?
.....

2. What did Solomon request from God?
.....

3. God gladly granted Solomon's request. Moreover, God added wealth and glory to Solomon which he didn't even ask for. Why? (Locate 1King 3:10 and write it below.)
.....

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you (Matthew 6:33)



Today's Lesson

Read the following prayer of Eric and answer the questions.



Eric's prayer

Lord, I don't like to go to school these days. Sam in my class hits me every time he sees me and makes fun of me, calling me names like "Big face." I hate him and sometimes wish that he would disappear. Lord, spank Sam for teasing me, please.

1. Would God answer Eric's prayer?

2. Why?

3. Write below the prayer that God accepts.

If we pray with an ill intention in our hearts, God will not listen. Before you pray, think whether your prayer matches God's will and give a prayer that accords God's will.

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (1John 5:14)



Illustration

* The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon for his wisdom

A rumor reached the ears of the Queen of Sheba, a faraway country, how wise Solomon was and she wanted to see it with her eyes. So she visited Jerusalem with her camels loaded with gifts of spices, jewels, and gold.

Solomon courteously welcomed the Queen of Sheba. He answered in ease every difficult question. Seeing his officials, the glorious temple built with gold, and the happy people, was good enough for her to believe that Solomon was indeed a wise and excellent king.

“Now I know the rumor is true. How lucky the people of Israel are to be so close to their King and hear his wisdom day and night!”

The queen gave King Solomon all the precious gifts she brought. In return, Solomon also gave the queen the gift of her choices.

The queen of Sheba came from a distant country just to hear Solomon's wisdom. How much more ought we try to hear the wise words of God?

Teacher

Parents