

MAY 29TH 2005: OVERVIEW OF 1 KINGS:

SOLOMON: FROM RICHES TO RAGS—SPIRITUALLY

I guess it would be true to say....that King Solomon is most known for his **wisdom**
Even non-church people.....will.....use the saying ->he has the wisdom of.....

This wisdom was God's special gift.....

And it used was by God in Solomon...to make Israel a strong.....

But unfortunately Solomon over many years.....gained very little from it....

because He turned away.....& took his eyes off God

Hebrews chapter 1 and verse 1.....gives this strong warning to believers in Jesus
...v1 *"We must pay more careful attention therefore, to what we have heard,
so that we do not drift away."*

(**The Greek word** ...used to describe a boat drifting away from.....knot was slowly...
and the power of the current....moving it from where it was meant to be.....

Solomon in the end paid little attention to the wisdom.....

and consequently when tempted...drifted away down the path of spiritual ruin)

LET ME QUICKLY WALK YOU THRO HIS LIFE

- His birth and beginning→2 Sam 12:24-25 .Jedidiah.... "loved by God"
- Elevation to kingship even though Adonijah was the oldest son (chapt 1).
- His alliance in his 4th year with Pharoah and his marriage. What God said about him in chapter 3:2-3.
- His first one to one contact with God (chapt 3:4-15) & Gift of Wisdom.
- His display of wisdom over the baby of the prostitute (chpt 3).
- His powers of Administration—wealth—wisdom in his 4th year (chpt 4).
- He begins to build the Temple in his 4th year but note comment about his palace in chapter 7 verse 1.
- Solomon dedicates the Temple in the 11th year of his reign (chpt 8).
- His second one to one contact with God (chpt 9) contains a promise and a warning.
- Visit of the Queen of Sheba in chapter 10 being the height of Solomon's power and influence.
- His love of many foreign wives who led him away from the Lord (chpt 11:3-4)

- The anger of the Lord against Solomon. Chapter 11:9-10.
- God raises up adversaries against Solomon. Chapter 11:14ff.
- Solomon's death. Chapter 11:41-43.

Solomon had it all

He was loved by God and his people

He had this special gift of wisdom and he wrote.....

.and God favoured him by dwelling in the house

He was revered as great and wise by rulers of other Nations

But he finished his life out of favour with God.....With God raising up adversaries....

WHAT WENT WRONG ??

It seemed to me that he just drifted into that place

Where God no longer came first in his life

We see the signs of this happening.....began to build the Temple

He started to build himself a house.....

and as great as the Temple...house was greater-----We read in 10:18 throne

In 10:24 we read.....seems to have gone to his head

Then in the next chapter.....find how his love for many foreign.....

11:2-4.....

Then in v6.....

Solomon drifted into that position.....where pleasing God became second

To pleasing himself

And its something every believer needs to guard against constantly

(I remember.....Strong Christian background----Used their business well

tempted towards women and power.....)

Those same temptations....plagued Solomon.....still around today

But we can drift away from God.....even if we don't give in to such big...

And like Solomon.....we are often esp prone.....Things are going well

→ we start thinking about our feelings more than Gods

Our comfort more than the extension of His Kingdom

Putting Our wealth.....our position.....our reputation before our service for Him.

I came across this rhyme.....amusing.....but with some truth
P57 A box of delights.

Solomon slowly got away.....from fellowship with God...His people
Because he lost his focus ...He forgot who was in charge

WHO he was living for

If you are a believer.....then can you truly say that Jesus is in charge
Not just of your earthly goods
Or your earthly occupation

But of your relationships
Your attitudes
Your feelings towards other people

IS HE TRULY YOUR VISION>>>>>>THE ONE YOU LOOK TO FOR DIRECTION
AS WELL AS YOUR LORD.