

Solomon's Falling Away

1 Kings 3:5-15





**I. Responds Poorly To His
Encouragement And Warnings**

A. Solomon Understood God's Promises

- **Let us review several circumstances:**
 - **Solomon was anointed / *Kgs.1:28-53***
 - **David encourages him / *Kgs.2:3-4***
 - **Fire consumes sacrifices *2 Chron.7:1***
 - **Cloud fills the temple / *Kgs.8:6-11***
 - **After Solomon completes the dedicational service God spoke to him again / *Kgs. 9:6-9***

A. Solomon Understood God's Promises

B. Many Today Know God's Word

- Many raised in “Christian homes” know of God's blessings and warnings *2 Cor.5:10-11*
- Some 2nd and 3rd generation saints don't always appreciate being taught God's Truth
- Certain ones feel that they were “cheated out of all the fun” *Lk.15:12-13*
- Like Solomon, if they become “unfaithful” there will be no excuses *Rev.20:11-12*

A circular gold coin, likely a historical artifact, featuring a profile of a man with a beard and a large, textured, circular emblem on his chest. The coin is set against a black background. The man's profile is on the right side, facing right. The emblem on his chest is a large, circular, textured design, possibly representing a religious or royal symbol. The coin has a warm, golden-brown hue.

II. Solomon Ultimately Rejects God's Grestest Blesings

A. The Power of Unspeakable Wealth

- God gives unsurpassed riches / *Kgs.3:8-13*

13 “And I have also given you what you have not asked: **both riches and honor**, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.”
I Kgs.3

- Silver was as street stones / *Kgs.10:27*
- Ivory and gold throne / *Kgs.10:18-20*
- Gold drinking vessels / *Kgs.10:21*

A. The Power of Unspeakable Wealth

- Because of prosperity he lost his humility and embraces idolatry / *Kgs.11:9-11*

11 Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, “Because you have done this, **and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant”**

- Riches often creates an unrealistic spirit of independence *Matt.19:23-25*

A. The Power of Unspeakable Wealth

B. Success Is Not The Abundance of Things

- We can't take it with us! / *Tim.6:6-7*

6 Now **godliness with contentment** is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, **and it is certain we can carry nothing out.** *I Tim.6*

“And he shall take nothing from his labor which he may carry away in his hand”

- The wise man says that earthly riches do not satisfy the inner man *Ecc.2:1-11*

A. The Power of Unspeakable Wealth

B. Success Is Not The Abundance of Things

- Man was made by God for God *Ecc.12:13*

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. *I Tim.6*

A. The Power of Unspeakable Wealth

B. Success Is Not The Abundance of Things

- People honor God most by sharing their wealth with their fellowman / *Tim.6:17-19*

17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, **nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God**, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

18 Let them do good, **that they be rich in good works**, ready to give, willing to share, / *Tim.6*

- We may lay hold on eternal life / *Tim.6:19*

A man with a long, dark beard and hair, wearing a grey, textured robe, is seated and reading a large, unrolled scroll. He is positioned in the foreground, with a rustic, stone-walled background. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting an indoor or sheltered outdoor setting. The overall tone is historical and contemplative.

III. His Defection Was Gradual

A. Solomon Fell Away Slowly

- **Solomon was faithful for the 1st half of his reign serving God Fervently / *Kgs.6-8***
 - **The king continues building and producing things from his riches / *Kgs.9:15-10:23***
 - **He violated The Lord's law by multiplying wives, horses, and riches *Deut.17:15-17***
 - **As Solomon ages he turns to the most disgusting immoral idolatry / *Kgs.11:9-10***

A. Solomon Fell Away Slowly

B. Saints Must Beware of Gradual Apostasy

- It begins when Bible study wanes *Jn.8:32*

17 And whatever you do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. *Col.3*

13 Watch, **stand fast in the faith**, be brave, be strong.

14 Let all that you do be done with love / *Cor.16*

- We must operate in Jesus' name *Acts 2:38*

A. Solomon Fell Away Slowly

B. Saints Must Beware of Gradual Apostasy

- **Two Great dangers face older saints**

1 Overconfidence

- At the beginning of Solomon years his heart was like a little child's / *Kgs.3:7*

- Later though Solomon knew God's Will, he trusted more in his own wisdom *Jn.7:45-52*

A. Solomon Fell Away Slowly

B. Saints Must Beware of Gradual Apostasy

- **Two Great dangers face older saints**

1 Overconfidence

2 Loss of Zeal And Intensity

- Instead of strength age might bring fear, being ashamed, or a wavering faith

- A high IQ does not exonerate us from violating God's teachings *Lk.6:46*

Solomon's Apostasy

21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, **than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.**

22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit**,” and “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”**

2 Pet.2