

Men in the Bible

Applying Truths from Their Lives to Today

Solomon

- Solomon's Parents (2 Sam. 12:24; 1 Chr. 3:5)
- Solomon's Wisdom (1 Kings 3:5-15, 4:29-34)
- Solomon's Task (2 Samuel 7:12-13; 1 Kings 6:1-38)
- Solomon's Wealth and Power (1 Kings 4:20-34)
- Solomon's Worship of God (1 Kings 8:1-66)
- Solomon's Pursuit (1 Kings 11:1-3; Eccl. 2:3-10)
- Solomon's Problem (1 Kings 11:4-13; Eccl. 1:1-2, 2:11)
- Solomon's Realization (Eccl. 12:1, 13-14)

★ Solomon wandered from being a MAN of God. For us to be **God's man**, we must fear God, obey Him in every walk of our life, and remember our accountability to Him.

Discussion Questions

1. Solomon pursued many things as a solution for happiness. What do men pursue today to find happiness but it only results in want?

In today's world and in times past, empty pursuits are the same. Men pursue power, wealth, pleasure, comfort, security, fame, possessions; i.e., anything to address their lusts. Solomon discovered that those pursuits only result in emptiness. Men must remember that true satisfaction is only found in a relationship with Jesus Christ (John 10:10)

2. Solomon clearly knew God's commands. Why did he stray from God's commands when he knew it was wrong? Do we take similar actions in our lives? Why?

There could be several reasons for Solomon's poor decisions. As his fame grew, he could have reflected on his greatness, become prideful, and continually drifted into more and more decadence. Another cause could have been his seeking of fulfillment. After building the temple, a huge task, Solomon may have sought some new task to pursue. With that empty feeling of nothing to "conquer", he may have pursued his desires instead of God.

In much the same way, we can drift from our relationship with God and begin to pursue temporary pleasures. We forget we need a daily walk with Him. We begin to focus on the wrong priorities. With this misplaced focus, we soon are in a state far from Him and with a dampened love for Him.

3. It seems that each of us and our families have continual conflict over pursuing things of today versus the ways of God. Why? How can we teach our families not to pursue other things as a solution for true happiness?

There are many temptations in the world today. Families need to see a father that leads by example; i.e., his priority each day is following Jesus. Have family devotions in your home. Have a faith that is real and visible each day. Guard your heart and avoid flirting with sin. Remember Matthew 6:33. Seek Him first and foremost each day.

4. Solomon's words in Ecclesiastes 12 are powerful. What does this final chapter say to you about how we need to live as men?

Remember Him. Fear God with reverence in your heart. Obey Him. Remember you are ultimately accountable to Him. Remember the legacy you want to leave as a man.

Commitment

Pray to God today. Repent of actions you may be taking that lead you away from Him. Remember what your priorities need to be. Commit to leading your family to seek God first.