

SOLOMON

Bible Text: 1 Kings 3:5-28; 4:29-34; 5:10-12; 6:12-13; 7

Lesson Focus: God's covenant with David was extended to King Solomon who ushered in Israel's golden age and built the Jerusalem temple.

Big Question: Why did God keep supporting those on-again/off-again believers?

Key Words: TEMPLE, PROMISE, WISDOM

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] Solomon, the child of Bathsheba and David, succeeded David as king (1 Kings 2:12).
-] Solomon is remembered for his wisdom and for building the Jerusalem temple (1 Kings 4:29-30).
-] Solomon's massive building project included not only the temple but also two palaces for the king and queen and an armory for soldiers (1 Kings 7:1, 8).
-] Solomon's lust for personal and political power would eventually turn him away from God.
-] The temple was the primary and holiest center for Jewish worship.
-] The construction, and later the destruction, of the temple was a very big deal to the Jews.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] What do you think it meant for Solomon to have *everything*?
-] What would having *everything* look like for you?
-] Is it possible to be faithful to God while living a life of excess? Why or why not?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 112: Solomon's Temple

-] Why do you think people in Solomon's day and believers today put so much money and energy into their buildings?
-] What is the importance of a building to your community of believers?
-] What role does the building play in your congregation's identity and common life?
-] Is your congregation defined by its building?

Here We Stand Student Book page 214: How to Identify and Avoid Evil

-] What kind of evil do you see in the world today?
-] What kind of evil tempts political leaders?
-] What kind of evil tempts you?

LIFE CONNECTION

Solomon asked God for wisdom and was granted a wise and discerning mind. For what will you ask God? Make a short list on a piece of paper and tape it to your mirror, dresser, or some other place where you will see it every day. Include asking for those things in your ongoing conversations with God.

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Word Scramble

Answer the questions below to help you unscramble the words.

1. OOLSNMO
2. NKGSI
3. WSIOMD
4. EMESLRAUJ
5. 8C5B7E
6. CLAPSAE
7. EPTMLE
8. WEPRO

1. Who was King David and Bathsheba's son?
2. Where in the Bible do you find the description of the building of the first temple?
3. For what did Solomon ask God?
4. Where was the temple located?
5. In what year was the first temple destroyed?
6. What did Solomon build in addition to the temple?
7. Where is an important place for Jewish people to worship God?
8. What did Solomon desire that overshadowed the wisdom God gave him?

Answers: 1. Solomon 2. Kings 3. wisdom 4. Jerusalem 5. 587 B.C.E. 6. palaces 7. temple 8. power