

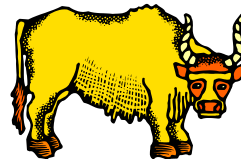
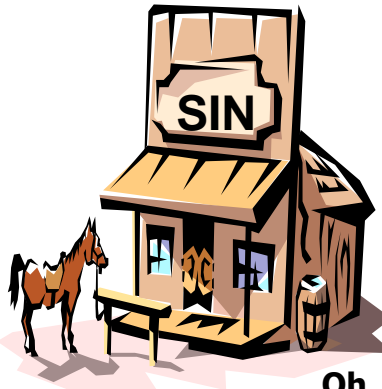
Solomon...

Giving Heed to other gods.

Man's Heart is instinctively wicked...Unless Changed by the Unchangeable God!

1 Kings 10:23, 24.. "King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart."

1 Kings 11:1-13, "King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women....."



Oh, what a difference a little word makes...

"However" changes the scene from God's blessings and approval...to God's chastisement and disapproval.

Why would a loving and understanding God allow such to happen?

Rebellion....Disobedience...not believing God's Word...putting God to test in lieu of God putting man to test...

Choosing death instead of life!

Solomon chose to follow his wives' and concubines' commands and likings in lieu of following the God in whom gave him his fortune, his abilities, his wisdom, and his kingship.

All Solomon had to do was to listen, follow, and seek after God. God would have made his life so much easier...so much more exciting...so much more inviting than his silly wives and "play things."

What lesson can we learn from this?

Of the 10,004 or more...this one stands out,

"When God gives an ultimatum..."You must not"...you must not or you will be in the most trouble you have ever been in your life.

Going against God is not wise! How can the wisest man in all the world be so dumb?

SIN WILL TEAR-DOWN THE GREATEST...WILL BREAK-DOWN THE MIGHTEST...AND WILL CAUSE THE BEST TO SINK TO THE LOWEST!

From a King to a Pauper...in God's Sight!

Solomon had wisdom because God honored his request. Solomon saw what God will do when we honor Him! So, Solomon wrote about it.

"He wrote so that God's people would think before acting and live better lives as an example for others."

- The word "wisdom" occurs 51 times in the book of Proverbs (main theme of book).
- "Wisdom" in Proverbs is used to include the concept of living skillfully according to God's plan....thus avoiding moral failings that stunt the spiritual growth of the children of God.
- Verse 7 of chapter 1 is pivotal in understanding the overarching theme..."The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Fearing God conveys the idea of reverence and submission to the lordship of God.
- True wisdom then is....when we honor god with our worship and submission to His will.
- Throughout most of Solomon's reign, he applied God's principles of wisdom in ruling the people of Israel. This resulted in peace and prosperity for the nation.
- **When a nation faithfully follows God, that nation benefits under the protection of God....God's hand is faithfully on the willing and faithful heart.**

So...what happened to Solomon?

He yielded to the old proverbial saying that we have heard so many times....

"Do as I say...not as I do!"

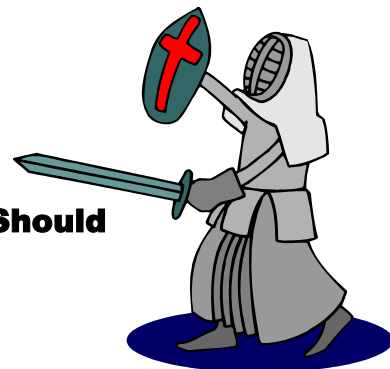
Many will say, "Solomon must not have believed God in the first place. He must have doubted God from the start."

Why should have Solomon known that God will do as He says He will do....and will never yield to sin?

Do you think his parents might have told him why he should listen and obey God?

Do you, as parents, have experiences to tell your children that they should and should not do to better understand God....His ways...His benefits... His teachings?

Be Willing to Tell Your Children Why They Should Follow God's Standards!



**"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6
A Key Verse for Toddlers through Adult**



Some key positions that we need to take a stand for the kids sake....and for the Parent' sake:

- 1. Be Devoted to God**
- 2. God Rewards His Followers/Worship God Only.**
- 3. God Deserves Our Full Devotion**
- 4. Be Loyal; Stick with God.**

If you could live life over....what would you change?

As a parent, what would you change?

It is not too late to start the process of changing for God's sake....which, in turn, will be for your sake.

Live life to the fullest...Give life a chance by being positive in front of spouse, children and the outside world.

It is easier to be positive in the outside world than it is at home because the negatives tend to be exaggerated at home.

Ask God to help you to be positive when it is easier to see and respond to the negatives.

Ask God to change your heart to accept the things I cannot do....and do those things which God has entrusted me to do.

Being a devoted parent is the third most important thing in life.

#1. Being Devoted to God.

#2. Being Devoted to Spouse.

#3. Being Devoted to Children....and making sure that they understand the importance of these priorities.

Interweave Faith Into Life

**“Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil”
(Proverbs 3:7)**



What will obedience to the above information gain you?

See the following...Proverb 3:8...

“This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.”

Note that this goes hand in hand with the Bible Point for toddlers and kindergarten (God Rewards His Followers).

As you speak to your children and family this week, read the following passages about honoring God....around the dinner table or in your daily time with the Lord as a family:

**Proverbs 29:2; Psalm 34:3; Psalm 57:5; Psalm 107:32; Isaiah 25:1;
Revelation 19:7.**

As parents, tell the children and family how honoring God has enriched your life.

If you know of people that have dishonored God, without telling their names, give a lesson as to what has happened to them that shows God’s favor is not on them. Do not make God look like the God who is waiting to punish all who don’t honor Him. Remember, it is in the choices we make as to whether we are favored by God.

God is no respecter of persons. He is, however, one that loves to give good gifts to those that love Him and try to live according the Word of God!

