

## Israel: Drive through History Pt 2

### 2 Chronicles 1:1-17

#### V1-17

- **V1-2** David has passed on to glory and now Solomon has taken over the throne of Israel, and under first David and now Solomon's leadership Israel will reach its greatest level of peace, prosperity and power. Initially Solomon followed in the footsteps of his father David by gathering up the leaders into one place and making sure they understood that this was a nation that was under God's rule and therefore his and anyone else who was in a position of authority needed to know that it wasn't of their own doing but it was the Lord Who put them there.
- Solomon was left with every advantage both spiritually and practically that a man and King could ever want, his father had provided the road map of success by teaching him that as long as he followed the Lord and remained humble then his path would be prosperous. So Solomon has a great beginning to his reign as the Lord Himself strengthens him and reassures him by showing him that He is near him. During this time **First Kings Chapters 1-3** tell us that between the death of David and the time Solomon is established as King that both Adonijah and Joab were killed as they attempted a power struggle with Solomon, but that was a sign that God was with him.
- **V3-6** shows that at this time just as **V1** tells us that "**the Lord was his God**" right now he is probably still a teenager, this is why his older brothers and others looked at him physically and thought you have got to be kidding, but David made sure to tell everyone that Solomon was God's choice and not Man's, because no one would have chosen him over his older siblings. Solomon goes to the Tabernacle and make sacrifices to the Lord as a reminder that all this is because of the Lord, the choice of him as King, and his desire to build a house unto the Lord.
- Just so you know this was the same altar that was made in the wilderness between Egypt and the promise land, this altar was over **500 yrs**, so it was made to last, so this is where Solomon would go to make his first sacrifices as King and he in front of the entire nation and makes a thousand sacrifices unto the Lord, wow! What a first day, as we'll see the Lord is going to be very pleased with what Solomon did that day as he truly honored the Lord in front of the people
- **V7** that night God comes to this teenager after a long and prosperous day and says "**ask what shall I give you**" it's a whatever you want request. What would you have asked for at **16-17** if given a choice, what would your kids ask for if you proposed this to them. Right now if the Lord tested you with a question like this what would you ask for, would it be something that will be a blessing to just you or would it be something that everyone around you could benefit from? Sometimes we think our children are not listening to us but often times they are, we just won't realize it until it's time for them to put it into practice, that's what's going to happen here.

- **1 Chron 22:5-6, 11-12**, here David tells Solomon that he was young and inexperienced and the work of building the house of God is great and needs to be done with excellence. Translation: this work in and of itself is too much for you, and even though I've helped you by providing all the materials and man power, you are still in over your head, unless the Lord intervenes, and gives Solomon the wisdom and discernment he needs then he will not succeed. But if he humbles himself and surrenders to God's will and His ways then he will complete the work and keep the commandments of the Lord, all of this is going to play itself out right now.
- **V8-10** before responding to God's offer and asking for something, Solomon remembers God's mercy and God's faithfulness to both his father David and now to himself. Then he acknowledges the task of ruling over a vast amount of people, remembering what his father said that he was far too inexperienced and that the work was too great for him, this leads him to ask the Lord for both "**wisdom and knowledge**" so that he could be a good King who rules well.
- In **1 Kings 3:7-9** says he didn't just want **head knowledge** to figure things out, but **heart knowledge**, to humble himself under the Mighty hand of Him Who put him into this position in the first place. **V10** Solomon understood that although he would sit on the throne the nation, the people, and the land belonged to the Lord and he needed Him to lead and guide him. **V11-12**, God was so pleased by what Solomon asked for that He not only gave him his request, but granted things that he didn't ask for > riches, wealth, and honor, more than anyone ever before.
- **Matt 7:7, Jn 15:7**, people use these verses to make it seem like God is obligated to give us whatever we ask for, but it's in the context of > **1Jn 5:14**- that when we ask anything according to His will then we know He hears us and will grant it. **Eph 3:20** says God is able to grant us more than we can ask or even think, and that's exactly what happened to Solomon, he never thought that the Lord would respond to his request like this and it blows him completely away.
- **V13-17** this shows that although the Lord was blessing Solomon, and that the Kingdom was prospering, there was some things bubbling under the surface that would lead to disaster > scripture tell us how famous the stables of Solomon were but unfortunately what man celebrates is not always what God has commanded > **Deut 17:16-17**- Solomon's going to violate everything the Lord said for a King not to accumulate, wrongly thinking that somehow because of his wisdom and knowledge he could handle what God said to avoid.
- Sadly many make the very same mistake, as they start to think more of themselves than they ought to and it leads to their downfall > **Rom 12:3**. It's been said the most dangerous time in a person's life is not when their struggling because they know they need help, but after they've succeeded, that's when they start to believe their own press clippings, and think that everything they do will be met with success, even if it goes against what has blessed them in the first place.