

3/7/11

Solomon Apostasized From God
1Kings 11:1-13

The slow liberal progressive agenda that began at the turn of the last century, 1900, to remove every vestige of the Judeo-Christian influence from every level of society, is the result of our present national crisis.

1. It took about 100 years.
2. Just about everything our founding fathers fought for and established is being chipped away by altering, redefining or replacing.
3. We have arrived at the place where God, the Bible and Christians are the enemies of American.
4. We have slowly gone from a Republic, the rule of law to a Democracy, the worst form of government, subject to the whims of people and trends of time, arriving at the present Oligarchy, the rule of a few over many.

The President of the United States takes an oath to **uphold** and **defend the Constitution** of the United State, “so help him God”, not to ignore or change the Constitution.

1. Yet President Obama, in a major legal policy shift, has directed the Justice Department to stop defending the Defense of Marriage Act — the 1996 law that bars federal recognition of same-sex

marriages — against lawsuits challenging it as unconstitutional.” Wed. Feb. 23, 2011

2. How did it happen? Through slow, progressive and purposeful intent to change our nation.”

This is what happened to Solomon, as he went to having all he could ever wish, in a united Kingdom, to loosing all through a divided kingdom by breaking covenant with God.

We want to look at the slow progressive compromise of Solomon, one step at a time that brought him to the slippery slope of apostasy, characterized by three things: 1Kings 11:1-13

- I. Solomon’s apostasy was due to his many wives. vs. 1-4
- II. Solomon’s apostasy was after many gods. vs. 5-8
- III. Solomon’s apostasy was met by many consequences from God. vs. 9-13

I. Solomon’s apostasy was due to his many wives. vs. 1-4

- A. The diverse foreign wives of Solomon. vs. 1
 1. The statement of the failure of Solomon that led him slowly away from God, “But King Solomon loved many foreign women.” vs. 1a
 - a. Solomon loved many women, in the context of marriage.

- 1) He was mentally, emotionally and sexually involved with the many women.
- 2) He was constantly under the wiles of each woman to manipulate and win over for her own.
- b. Solomon chose to love many women that were not Jews.
 - 1) The word foreign “nokiyi”, means alien, of other nations.
 - 2) Those who were not of the nation of Israel by birth or proselytizing.
2. The statement of distinction between the many wives of Solomon and the daughter of Pharaoh is made, “as well as the daughter of Pharaoh.” vs. 1b
 - a. The daughter of Pharaoh is separated from the rest of the foreign wives.
 - 1) Whether she embraced the worship of Yahweh is not made known.
 - 2) Nothing has ever been found archeologically in Jerusalem, related to Egyptian gods.
 - b. Solomon married the daughter of Pharaoh prior to the building of the Temple and his own house.
 - 1) “Now Solomon made a treaty with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and married Pharaoh’s daughter; then he brought her to the City of David until he had finished building his

- own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall all around Jerusalem.” 1Kings 3:1
- 2) Without doubt as we have noted before, the marriage involved political treaty alliances between nations, for trade and protection.
 3. The statement of the nativity of the wives of Solomon are related to the enemies of Israel, “women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites.” vs. 1c-f
 - a. The Moabites were the descendent of Lot by his first born daughter. Gen. 19:37
 - * The Moabites were not to received into the congregation till the tenth generation. Deut. 23:7
 - b. The Ammonites were the descendents of Lot by his younger daughter. Gen. 19:38
 - * The Ammonites also were not to received into the congregation till the tenth generation. Deut. 23:7
 - c. The Edomites were the descendents of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob. Gen. 36:1
 - * An Edomites could be received into the congregation after the third generation. Deut. 23:8

- d. The Sidonians were the people of Sidon believed to be Canaanites. Josh. 13:4, 6, 1Kings 5:6
 * Many of the marriages were motivated by political and economic alliances.
- B. The defiance against God by Solomon. vs. 2**
1. Solomon disobeyed the command of God, “from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, “You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you.” vs. 2a-c
 - a. These nations were corrupt in the vilest forms of paganism.
 - b. These people would break down the morals of the Israelites.
 - c. These marriages would divide the home.
 * “Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your sons.” Deut. 7:3
 2. Solomon knew the reason for the command, “Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods.” vs. 2d
 - a. The warning of God was not hypothetical, but absolute truth. Ex. 34:16
 - 1) The word surely “aken”, is a strong assertive force, indeed.

- 2) The warnings of God are potential true realities.
- b. The danger was in the influence of the pagan mate to turn their hearts to their gods.
 - 1) They would slowly and gradually persuade them to betray and abandon the worship of Yahweh.
 - 2) They would turn their heart devotion of Yahweh to unfaithful and treachery, to worship gods that were no gods at all.
3. Solomon was ensnared by these foreign gods, “Solomon clung to these in love.” vs. 2e
 - a. Solomon by and in his marriage union became one with these gods.
 - 1) The word clung “dabaq”, means to cause to cleave or join together.
 - 2) The word is the same one used of a man being joined to his wife and becoming one flesh. Gen. 2:24
 - 3) There is a tying and binding of emotions, desires and a desire to please a person.
 - b. Solomon became compromising and permissive in all he allowed.
 - 1) He clung “dabaq” to the gods of his wives in love, over his love to God.

* The Hebrew is emphatic, “even to these.”

- 2) He became slowly more devoted and committed to these gods and forgot his God, perhaps ascribing it still to God, syncretism.

C. The divided heart of Solomon. vs. 3-4

1. Solomon set himself up to be unfaithful to God, “And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines.” vs. 3a-c

a. He had 700 wives and princess.

- 1) That he had to please.
- 2) That he had to resist their allurements.
- 3) That he gradually became tolerant to their beliefs, being emotionally and physically tied to them.

b. He had 300 concubines.

- 1) They were simply for sexual pleasure.
- 2) They were not on the same level as his wives and princes.

c. He could make his rounds to all one-thousand:

- 1) If he spent one a night with each, it would take him 2 years and 9 months.
- 2) Listen to Solomon after he came back to God about these 1,000

women, “I applied my heart to know, To search and seek out wisdom and the reason of things, To know the wickedness of folly, Even of foolishness and madness. And I find more bitter than death The woman whose heart is snares and nets, Whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God shall escape from her, But the sinner shall be trapped by her. “Here is what I have found,” says the Preacher, “Adding one thing to the other to find out the reason, Which my soul still seeks but I cannot find: One man among a thousand I have found, But a woman among all these I have not found.” Eccl. 7:25-28

2. Solomon became the biggest fool, having been the wisest man, “and his wives turned away his heart.” vs. 3d
 - a. His disobedience could not remain static, but it progressed.
 - b. His compromise was unnoticed.
 - c. His divided heart led him to no heart for God.
3. Solomon became an old fool, this is the summary statement of his life. vs. 4
 - a. The period of time was in his old age, “For it was so, when Solomon was

old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods.” vs. 4a-c

- 1) Solomon took 20 years to build the temple and his houses, he began in the fourth year of his reign.
 - 2) If he began reigning at age 20-25, he was 40-45 at the termination of the temple. 1Kings 6:1, 9:11
 - 3) Solomon must have been in his fifties when his wives turned his heart away from God
 - 4) Solomon after reigning 40 years, died at 60-65 years of age.
 - 5) The seduction of his wives turned his heart to other gods!
- b.** The tragic witness, “and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David.” vs. 4d-e
- 1) His heart was not loyal “shalem”, complete or whole to Yahweh.
* God told Solomon in response to his prayer at the dedication of the temple that He would honor his petitions, with the condition, “Let your heart therefore be loyal to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and keep His commandments, as at this day.” 1Kings 8:61

- 2) His heart did not measure up to his father David, no passion for God.
- 3) These marriages to Ashdod, Ammon and Moab plagued Israel until after their captivity, as some children spoke the language of Asdad and could not speak the language of Judah. Neh. 13:23-27

Illustration

Look at what “no fault divorce” of the 70’ and 80’s do to destroy the family and just living together. Children in our public school system don’t have to learn English, the national language and even the government caters to deal with people in their own native language, diluting and weakening America.

Application

1. There is no command in the Bible that is more important than our relationships to the opposite sex and the roles of the man and the woman.
 - a. We are a different as night and day.
 - b. We are wired different by design, women are more emotional and volatile, men are less emotional and more stable.
* There are exceptions, but it is not the rule!
 - c. We are to know and understand the differences between men and women, giving the greater honor to the woman.

d. We are to be very aware of the emotional and sexual attraction that will pull on us to control, manipulate and to compromise.

1) “But I want you to know that the **head** of every man is Christ, the **head** of woman *is* man, and the **head** of Christ *is* God.” 1Cor. 11:3

2) “For man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.” 1Cor. 11:8-9

2. Sexual fulfillment and contentment was part of God’s design in marriage.

a. “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” Gen. 2:24, Eph. 5:31

b. With the fall, sin-nature corrupted our sexuality to defraud or take advantage of others, it is not to be. 1Thess. 4:6

c. Sexual purity, enjoyment and contentment has nothing to do with performance, but with one’s relationship to God, holding marriage in the high view of Scripture and understanding your God-given role.

* “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the

washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.” Eph. 5:24-27

3. Therefore the most important command for a man and a woman is, to not marry an unbeliever.

a. Believers are not date an unbeliever.

b. Some think they are the exception.

c. Some believe they can win their unbelieving boy-friend or girl-friend to Christ and compromise sexually or worst yet, marry.

d. Your home will end up divided, having ongoing compromise and problems.

* “Do not be **unequally** yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?” 2Cor. 6:14

Solomon’s apostasy was due to his many wives, in disobedience to God!

II. Solomon’s apostasy was after many gods. vs. 5-8

A. The personal decision of Solomon. vs. 5

1. Solomon went after and devoted himself to Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians. vs. 5a

a. The name Ashtoreth means “star”.

- b. She was the principal female deity of the Phoenicians worshipped in war and fertility, the Babylonian-Assyrian goddess, the queen of heaven. Gen 14:5, Num. 22:41, Jer. 44:18-19, 25
 - c. She also is known as “Ishta” of the Assyria and “Astarte” by the Greeks and Romans.
2. Solomon went after and devoted himself to Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. vs. 5b
- a. The name Milcom, means “great king”
 - b. The god Milcom was also the god of the Phoenicians, who sacrificed the infants on his burning arms.
 - c. The Israelites were disobedient and guilty of sacrificing their infants in the valley of Hinnom to Molech. Lev. 20:2-5, 2Kings 23:10, Jer. 32:35
 - d. Abomination “shiqquwts”, means detestable, what God rejects and abhors.
 - * Many of these gods are also known under different names!
- B. The personal failure of Solomon. vs. 6
1. The nature of the sin of Solomon is stated clearly, “Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD.” vs. 6a
 - a. The word evil “ra” is bad and wicked.

- 1) The worship of these gods was contrary to the command of God.
 - 2) The worship of these gods was unfaithfulness to God, rivals.
- b. The offense is in the sight of Yahweh.
- 1) God sees everything and needs no one to inform Him about anything.
 - 2) God abhors permissive, debased and debauched worships of man.
2. The cause of the sin of Solomon is also clearly stated, “and did not fully follow the LORD.” vs. 6b
- a. Solomon’s treasure was not God, so his heart was not at the feet of God.
 - 1) He presented himself many distractions.
 - 2) He had many devotions, above God.
 - b. Solomon was willing to receive from God wisdom, wealth and world fame, but not to fully follow Yahweh.
 - 1) He was self-centered, instead of God-centered.
 - 2) He was self-absorbed, instead of absorbed in God.
3. The comparison between he and David is repeated, “as did his father David.” vs. 6c
- a. David had a whole heart.
 - b. Solomon had a half heart.

C. The personal participation of Solomon. vs. 7-8

1. Solomon demonstrated his devotion to these false gods by building locations of worship. vs. 7
 - a. Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab. vs. 7a
 - 1) The name Chemosh means “subduer”, the god of war. Num. 21:29
 - 2) Chemosh was the national deity of the Moabites and a god of the Ammonites
 - 3) He was also identified with “Baal-peor”, “Baal-zebul”, “Mars” and “Saturn”, with sexual rites. Num. 25:3
 - b. Solomon built a high place and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon.” vs. 7c
 - 1) The name Molech “Molek”, means king, the god of the Phoenicians also.
 - 2) They offered up their unwanted infants in his burning arms, we do it by various forms of abortions.
 - 2) In 2004 pornography was a 10 billion dollar a year industry in America, it probably has doubled by now, in 2011.

- c. Solomon built these high places for these pagan gods on the hill that is east of Jerusalem. vs. 7b
 - 1) The people were sacrificing to Yahweh prior to the temple, on the high places. 1Kings. 3:2, 3
 - 2) They became a problem, in the divided kingdom. 1Kings 11-2Kings
 - 3) The hill is the Mount of Olives.
2. Solomon demonstrated his devotion to all his wives by erecting for them high places also. vs. 8
 - a. Solomon devoted his loyalty to the gods of all his wives also and built high places for them, “And he did likewise for all his foreign wives.” vs. 8a
 - b. Solomon did not object to his wives pagan worship of their gods, “who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.” vs. 8b
 - * “Then the king (Josiah) defiled the high places that were east of Jerusalem, which were on the south of the Mount of Corruption, which Solomon king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the

abomination of the people of Ammon.” 2Chron. 23:13

Illustration

There was a time, not too long ago, that America embraced and honored the Judeo-Christian faith, according to our founding Fathers and the writings of our Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Bill of Rights. But now every god and religion is taught and protected in our Public schools and by our government, except the Judeo-Christian faith.

Application

1. Each person makes the personal decision as to who or what they are going to worship in life.
 - a. Many justify themselves by saying they do not worship gods like Astoreth, Milcom, Chemosh and Molech, but we do.
 - b. All these gods were fertility gods that were celebrated with sexual rites, degrading the design of God for a man and a woman, in marriage alone.
 - c. This brought about unwanted pregnancies and they offered them up in the burning arms of Molech.
 - d. Today we do it through the worship of evolution, denying creation, believing we have evolved from animals, so sexual expression is natural, so we kill unwanted babies by the various means of abortions.

* “Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. Rom. 1:22-25

2. The alters of the god of pornography are many.
 - a. The web-sights.
 - b. The studios where they do there filming.
 - c. The massive shows booked in the L.A. convention center, Vegas around the world.
 - d. The privacy of one’s own home.

* “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.” Eph. 4:17-19

3. Never say you would never do “such and such”, if you do not walk with Jesus daily, are devoted and committed to Him, for you will begin a slow and progressive departure from the Lord.

- a. It could simply begin by going to church, instead of being the church.
- b. It could be by attending a church that does not deal with sin and the holiness of God.
- c. It could be saying you are a Christian and living like the world, in order to relate to them, like the “Emergent Church”.
- c. It could be mixing in Christianity with your religion, New Age thought, etc, syncretism.

* “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.” Col. 2:8-10

Solomon’s apostasy was after many gods, in devotion to false gods!

III. Solomon’s apostasy was met by many consequences from God. vs. 9-13

- A. Solomon would be chastened for sinning against personal revelation. vs. 9

1. Solomon incurred the wrath of God, “So the LORD became angry with Solomon.” vs. 9a

- a. The word angry “anaph” means to be displeased, to breath hard.
 - 1) The anger or wrath of God is due to His holiness, He can not look upon sin with approval or condones. Hab. 1:13
 - 2) Sin is a hindrance to our fellowship with God, it must be acknowledge and confessed, to maintain one’s fellowship with God.
- b. The word is the same Solomon used in his dedication prayer of the temple, if the people sinned and God became angry with them. 1Kings 8:46
 - 1) In the same verse in parenthesis Solomon said, “for there in no one who does not sin.”
 - 2) Solomon was fully aware of every person being a sinner by nature, with an ever-present potential to sin.

2. Solomon incurred the anger of God, due to his high privilege. vs. 9b-10

- a. He had known God, he made a conscious decision to turn his back on God, “because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel.” vs. 9b

- 1) The heart “lebab”, indicates the inner man, the real person, who you are.
 - 2) This was a sin against God.
 - 3) God had named him “Jedidiah”, loved by the Lord.
- b.** He had the privilege of God appearing to him, “who had appeared to him twice,” vs. 9c
- 1) He had sinned in a greater manner than all other Israelites, God had appeared to him two times.
 - 2) At Gibeon, first in a dream by night and then a second time. 1Kings 3:5, 9:2
* Jesus said that to those that much is given, much more will be required of them. Lk. 12:48
- c.** He had heard the voice of God warning him of the consequences against idolatry, about trespassing the commands of God, “and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the LORD had commanded.” vs. 10
- 1) God made this very clear. 1Kings 9:6-7
 - 2) This was a willful trespass against God.

- B.** Solomon would lose the kingdom for breaking the covenant. vs. 11
1. The basis for the judgment of God over Solomon was the covenant. vs. 11a-e
 - a. God spoke directly to Solomon for the last time, “Therefore the LORD said to Solomon.” vs. 11a
 - 1) Some believe one of the prophet spoke this to Solomon, but we are not told that, anywhere.
 - 2) The authority was supreme, directly from heaven, “Yahweh said to Solomon.”
 - b. God proclaimed the indictment against Solomon, “Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you.” vs. 11b-c
 - 1) “This thing”, indicated his going after other gods.
 - 2) This idolatrous decision had violated and broke the covenant of God, turning to other gods was direct rebellion against God.
 - 3) The other violations were to going back to Egypt to multiply horses and riches, demonstrating that his what his true confidence was in them. Deut. 17:14-20
 - c. God pronounced the verdict over Solomon, “I will surely tear the

kingdom away from you and give it to your servant.” vs. 11e

- 1) The kingdom of Israel would be torn from Solomon.
- 2) The kingdom would be given to a servant of Solomon, Jeroboam, as the prophet Ahijah prophesied that God would give him ten tribes and God would be with him, if he obeyed God, but he did not.

1Kings 11:26-40

C. Solomon would receive mercy for the sake of David. vs. 12-13

1. God in His sovereign compassion would not do immediately. vs. 12
 - a. God would allow Solomon to finish his reign, “Nevertheless I will not do it in your days.” vs. 12a
 - 1) Some don’t understand why God waited?
 - 2) The reason is that God knew Solomon was going to repent and return to God.
 - b. God did it for David, “for the sake of your father David.” vs. 12b
 - 1) Being faithful to His promise to David.
 - 2) Being just in bringing judgment on Solomon for his sin.

c. God would do it the next generation, “I will tear it out of the hand of your son.” vs. 12c

- 1) God knew Rehoboam was not going to be faithful to God or the covenant.
 - 2) Rehoboam would prove to be arrogant, ungodly and a tyrant.
2. God in His sovereign compassion would leave a remnant for the house of David. vs. 13
 - a. God would not destroy the entire kingdom, “However I will not tear away the whole kingdom.” vs. 13a
 - 1) God would always have a remnant.
 - 2) God would fulfill His future promises to Israel.
 - b. God would leave two tribes, due to David and Jerusalem, “I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of my servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen.” vs. 13b
 - 1) The tribe of Judah.
 - 2) The tribe of Benjamin.
 - 3) Both comprised the southern kingdom, the last to go into captivity, in 606, 596, 586 B. C.
 - 4) The ten other tribes comprised the northern kingdom, the first to go into captivity, in 722 by Assyria.

- 5) As Shiloh was destroyed by God,
so would the temple!

Illustration

Look at the growing consequences to our nation,
like Solomon's.

1. We have more people that hate us and want to make America like all the other nations.
2. Many of these enemies are from within our nation and in our own government.
3. Government and states are nearly bankrupt.
4. Our schools can not educate children, despite the billions of dollars they rob us.
5. We have become so degenerated, our educators, politicians and judges refuse to distinguish a heterosexual life-style from a homosexual one, to our own confusion.
6. The United States of American looks more like the divided States of America.

Application

1. Every believer is accountable to God for their own salvation.
 - a. Each has heard the gospel.
 - b. Each has made a decision to repent and be saved.
 - c. Each person will be held personally responsible for turning away from God.
 - * "For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,

how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?" Heb. 2:2-4

2. The consequences of God, over those who turn away from Him, are just and deserved.
 - a. God is the most patient God.
 - b. God is Omniscient, so He know everything, before it happen and what our response will be.
 - c. God is for us not against us.
 - d. God does draw a line for each person, God alone knows where that is.
 - * " For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we

know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.” It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” Heb. 10:26-31

3. The Lord Jesus Christ will turn away no one who repents.
 - a. Despite the natural consequences that will come from our sowing and reaping to the flesh.
 - b. Despite what other may think of us and not forgive us, He will.
 - c. Despite our feelings and emotions, He is ever-merciful.
 - * “Beloved, if our heart does not **condemn** us, we have confidence toward God.” 1Jn. 3:21

Solomon’s apostasy was met by many consequences, in judgment from God!

Conclusion

The slow progressive compromise of Solomon, one step at a time brought him to the slippery slope of apostasy:

- I. Solomon’s apostasy was due to his many pagan wives, in disobedience to God!
- II. Solomon’s apostasy was after many gods, in devotion to false gods!

- III. Solomon’s apostasy was met by many consequences, in judgment from God!