

The Man Who Had It All

SERMON 4

TEXT: 1 Kings 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All are encouraged to use the reading guide for this sermon series.
 - Parent commissioning on Mother's Day, May 13 for Covenant Members. Register at www.redeemerchurch.com/nextsteps
-

LEADING OFF...

1. What examples of wisdom, or lack of wisdom can you think of?
2. Who is the wisest person you know?
3. Why does culture view those who are "others-centered" as being wise?

BIG IDEA: Jesus is the only wise King.

Read 1 Kings 3:1-4

4. Whenever the Bible mentions Egypt (and Babylon also), what should we take note of?
5. Why is Solomon pursuing marriage with an Egyptian woman and what does this tell us about him?
6. How is poor decision making, or making decisions based primarily on what pleases me, not wise, and indicative of the state of our heart?
What can we learn from Solomon's hypocrisy (from killing his brother to offering sacrifices)?
7. How is it possible for a person (like Solomon and us) to move from selfless, God-centered worship to self-worship, in an instant?
8. How can a person guard against falling into self-worship?

Read 1 Kings 3:5-7

9. Describe Solomon's prayer?
10. How ought our prayers to be more like Solomon's prayer, of being honest about our inadequacies and begging for God's help.
11. How can we better rest in Jesus' adequacy and not our own?

Read 1 Kings 3:8-15

12. God gives Solomon supernatural wisdom and he responds with celebration. How do we know his wisdom is from God and not of himself.
13. We have access to the wisdom of Christ, the same wisdom Solomon was given. How should that change the way we seek after what is wise?
14. Read James 1:5. Discuss this verse. What is the problem and the promise in this verse?
15. All real wisdom is on loan from God, some of it even common to unbelievers. How are we to seek even deeper wisdom from God?

Read 1 Kings 3:16-28

16. Solomon does not insist these women first clean themselves up. How should we likewise not treat others that way?
17. Discuss the wisdom of Solomon's judgment.
18. We know that later in his life Solomon was self-centered and selfish. Discuss how this could happen to him?
19. If it happened to Solomon, how can we avoid taking a similar path?

Wrapping Up...**Read Romans 3:23-26**

20. All of our sin and unwise choices are punished in Christ. Yet, Jesus is wisdom walking and He is the wisdom of God. Consider these verses and how they relate to our need for His wisdom.
21. How does looking to Christ affect your decision making?