

1 Kings 11: Tragedy of not Finishing Well

Fear God

1 Kings 10:24 Now all the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. 25 Each man brought his present: articles of silver and gold, garments, armor, spices, horses, and mules, at a set rate year by year. And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen; he had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem. 27 The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedar trees as abundant as the sycamores which are in the lowland...

“This is going to last forever...”

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

[Solomon]

I. Legacy of a Fool

- **World comes to Solomon:**
 1. Hear his Wisdom
 2. Bring him presents
 3. See his chariot's, horsemen, glory [Queen of Sheba]

1 But...

- **But:** Great if God follows; man not so much
- But...Solomon loved; i.e. lusted after many “foreign” women

...but King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites— 2 from the nations of whom the Lord had said to the children of Israel, “You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods.” **Solomon clung to these in love.**

Ecclesiastes 2:9 So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. 10 **Whatever my eyes desired** I did not keep from them. I **did not withhold my heart from any pleasure**, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And **this was my reward from all my labor.**

Fall began with sense of entitlement: I work hard...I help people...I deserve it

- **Self-deception:** I deserve this...

God said if I do this there will be consequences...I will be the exception I deserve this. God knows I deserve this. He knows the sacrifices I made?

- I desire obedience not sacrifice/ Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft
- **Solomon “clung” to these in love?** Lit. To adhere as if with glue

Deuteronomy 13:4 You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His

commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and **hold fast [cling to] to Him.**

- Solomon loved pleasure, wives, riches above his love of God

Solomon was an Idolater

3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.

- 1000 Wives/concubines

Deuteronomy 17:16 [Read] [Instructions for the King you are not supposed to have] But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' 17 Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, **lest his heart turn away**; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.

- **Blatant disobedience...**

[cont.] 18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, 20 that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.

Solomon did not heed God's clear warning.

Multiply wives and your heart will be turned away from Me. **Period**

4 **For it was so**, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David.

We don't want to end our lives saying...It was so...I should have listened

- **It was so/so it was...**there is a time when it is too late
 1. Solomon was old and his heart was hard from denying God's Word
 2. Pagan wives *really did turn his heart from God*

4b...and [Solomon's] heart **was not loyal** to the Lord his God, as was the heart of his father David.

**King David sinned greatly...but he was never an Idolater
Loyal to God: Man after God's own heart**

- **Solomon was disloyal to his God**; sinned against love

Committed Spiritual Adultery

5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after

Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the Lord, as did his father David. 7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon.

- **Ashtoreth:** Sidonians
- **Milcom:** Ammon
- **Chemosh:** Moab
- **Molech:** Also Ammon [next week...]

Began as a simple compromise with world...political marriage to a Pagan
Solomon began to worship Demons

8 And [Solomon] did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

Deuteronomy 32:16 They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; With abominations they provoked Him to anger. 17 They **sacrificed to demons**, not to God, To gods they did not know, To new gods, new arrivals That your fathers did not fear. 18 Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful, And have forgotten the God who fathered you.

1 Corinthians 10:20 ... the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they **sacrifice to demons** and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. 22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

- **Solomon also let Israel astray** v. 33 *they* have forsaken Me
- **Idol:** Anything you think about/give attention to more than Jesus Christ

Whatever a man depends upon, whatever rules his mind, whatever governs his affections, whatever is the chief object of his delight, is his god... That is your god which rules your nature—that which is your motive power—that for which you live.[Spurgeon]

1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

- **Little children:** Solomon asked to be talked to like little child
 1. **World entices Flesh:** Beckons us to fill a void only God can fill
 2. **Flesh motivates Pride:** Prods us to take the glory for what God has done
 3. **Devil motivates Flesh:** Whispers keep going this will never end
- Solomon's heart is hard/Lords patience has come to end

Sin against Love: After all I have done for you...?

9 So the Lord became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, 10 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.

- **God's anger provoked:**

1. **Revelation Disregarded:** Ingratitude
2. **Command Disobeyed:** Lack of Fear

Only a fool does not fear God
Wisest man that ever lived will be remembered as a fool

Proverbs 1:7 The **fear of the Lord** is the **beginning of knowledge**, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 9:10 "The **fear of the Lord** is the **beginning of wisdom**, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 15:33 The **fear of the Lord** is the **instruction of wisdom**, And before honor is humility.

Job 28:28 And to man He said, "Behold, the **fear of the Lord, that is wisdom**, And to depart from evil is understanding."

- End of Solomon's life Solomon's warning...

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

- **Consequences:**

1. We can choose our actions
2. We cannot choose the consequences of our actions

Sometimes consequences of our actions are more catastrophic than we could ever imagine
Surprised because we "got away" with it for so long

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

11 Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant.

- **You are about to lose it all...**

1. Divorce
2. Finances
3. Family
4. Job
5. Relationships
6. **For Solomon...**the Greatest Kingdom in the world

I will surely *tear* the kingdom away from you and give it **to your servant**
Violently and quickly remove everything you trusted in

12 Nevertheless I will not do it in your days, for the sake of your father David; I will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 However I will not tear away the whole kingdom; 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.”

- **God’s Mercy/Faithfulness:**

1. I will not do this while you live
2. I will “tear the Kingdom” from your son Rehoboam
3. I will leave one tribe for David [Judah the tribe of Jesus]
4. **Not because of you but Solomon...**
 - Because of David
 - Because of Jerusalem which I have chosen

2 Samuel 7:14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.””

Solomon: Legacy of Failure. Legacy of unfaithfulness. Legacy of one who caused division

- **Solomon chose his actions:** Disobedience to Word of God
- Solomon did not /could not choose consequences:
 1. Loss of his kingdom
 2. Loss of peace...

How strange, That Solomon, in his old age, should be ensnared with fleshly lusts, youthful lusts. As we must never presume upon the strength of our resolutions, so neither upon the weakness of our corruptions, so as to be secure and off our guard.

How strange, That so wise a man as Solomon was, so famed for a quick understanding and sound judgment, should suffer himself to be made such a fool of by these foolish women.

How strange, That one who had so often and so plainly warned others of the danger of the love of women should himself be so wretchedly bewitched with it; it is easier to see a mischief, and to show it to others, than to shun it ourselves.

How strange, That so good a man, so zealous for the worship of God, who had been so conversant with divine things, and who prayed that excellent prayer at the dedication of the temple, should do these sinful things. Is this Solomon? Have all his wisdom and devotion come to this at last? Never was gallant ship so wrecked; never was crown so profaned. [Matthew Henry]

SUMMARY: Legacy of a Fool

II. Peace No More

14 Now the **Lord raised up an adversary against Solomon...**

- Lord raised up an adversary

When we begin to attribute success and victory to ourselves we steal the Glory from God

Isaiah 42:8 I am the Lord, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another...

- Solomon's Idolatry:

If you want to lose that which is the object of your comfort and delight, love it too much.
[Spurgeon]

- 40 Years of peace coming to an end

14b... Hadad the **Edomite**; he was a descendant of the king in Edom. 15 For it happened, when David was in Edom, and Joab the commander of the army had gone up to bury the slain, after he had killed every male in Edom 16 (because for six months Joab remained there with all Israel, until he had cut down every male in Edom), 17 that **Hadad fled to go to Egypt**, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him. Hadad was still a little child.

Solomon fed the flesh and now the flesh attacks

- **Years earlier:**

1. During reign of King David Solomon's father
2. Joab David's commander kills every male in Edom [so he thought]
3. Little Edomite Hadad flees to Egypt after witnessing slaughter

- **Edom:**

1. Descendants of Esau Jacob's brother; **picture of sinful fleshly nature**
2. Sold Spiritual birthright for a pot of stew
3. Hadad fled to Egypt: **Type of the world**

Began as a little Edomite but grew into a fierce enemy...with a vengeance

18 Then they arose from Midian and came to Paran; and they took men with them from Paran and came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house, apportioned food for him, and gave him land. 19 And Hadad found great favor in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him as wife the sister of his own wife, that is, the sister of Queen Tahpenes.

- **Edom** [Flesh] finds a home in Egypt [World] and favor from Pharaoh [Devil]
- Hadad marries Pharaoh's wife's sister [Sister of Queen Tahpenes]

20 Then the sister of Tahpenes bore him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house. And Genubath was in Pharaoh's household among the sons of Pharaoh.

- **Anti-Moses?** Hadad's son Genubath weaned by Pharaoh's sister in Palace

21 So when Hadad heard in Egypt that David rested with his fathers, and that Joab the commander of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Let me depart, that I may go to my own country." 22 Then Pharaoh said to him, "But what have you lacked with me, that suddenly you seek to go to your own country?" So he answered, "Nothing, but do let me go anyway."

- **Hadad waited for this day:** Flesh waits for an "in"
 1. Music
 2. Sex
 3. Movies
 4. Internet
 5. Gossip

- **Meat Moment:** Flesh feeds on legalism; i.e. trying to fix it without God
 1. Can't be fixed
 2. Can't be rehabilitated
 3. Can't be medicated

Flesh must be *utterly destroyed* or we get a little Hadad and later vicious/relentless enemy

- King Saul let at least one Amalekite live.
- Amalekites decedent was Hamar
- Book of Esther rose up with vengeance to try to annihilate the Jews

Flesh [godless thoughts/actions] must be utterly destroyed by power of the Blood of Christ

Sin poisons the well-head. Sin is in our brain; we think wrongly. Sin is in our heart; we love that which is evil. Sin bribes the judgment, intoxicates the will, and perverts the memory. We recollect a bad word when we forget a holy sentence. Like a sea which comes up and floods a continent, penetrating every valley, deluging every plain, and invading every mountain, so has sin penetrated our entire nature...Sin is not a splash of mud upon man's exterior, it is a filth generated within himself. [Spurgeon]

- Enemy #1: **Hadad** "bothered Solomon with Pharaoh's permission" Guzik
 1. Note: Paul's Thorn in the flesh...a messenger of Satan.

- **Enemy #2...**

23 And God raised up **another adversary** against [Solomon], Rezon the son of Eliadah, who had fled from his lord, Hadadezer king of Zobah. 24 So he gathered men to him and became captain over a band of raiders, when David killed those of Zobah. And they went to Damascus and dwelt there, and reigned in Damascus. 25 He was an adversary of Israel all the days of Solomon (besides the trouble that Hadad caused); and **he abhorred Israel**, and reigned over Syria.

- Solomon's disobedience invites another enemy...
- Rezon the son of Eliadah: Another foreign enemy with a vengeance

Flesh abhors the Spirit

God gave time for Solomon to repent. God's kindness should have led to repentance. Solomon thought the shoe would never drop...judgment would never come. ..But it did

- **Solomon:** *heb.* Loved by the Lord
 1. God became angry with the one He loved
 2. God stirred up trouble for the one He loved
 3. God took the Kingdom and Pride from the one He loved

Solomon mistook God's love and patience...for complacency

1 Peter 2:9 [Read] The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is **longsuffering** toward us, **not willing that any should perish** but that all should come to repentance. 3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

5 For this they **willfully forget:** that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

10 **But the day of the Lord** will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

SUMMARY Peace No More

1 Kings 11:6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not fully follow the Lord, as did his father David.

1. **Adversaries raised up...**
 - Hadad the Edomite
 - Rezon son of Eliadah
 - **Next...Jeroboam his own apprentice**

III. Jeroboam

26 Then **Solomon's servant**, Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite from Zereda, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, also rebelled against the king.

- **Jeroboam** Adversary #3: Solomon's Servant
- "...rebelled against king

Mutiny brought about/allowed by God

"I will elevate an adversary to accomplish my purpose"

- **God pre-destines** His desired result...at the same time **utilizing man's free-will...**

27 And this is **what caused [Jeroboam] to rebel** against the king: Solomon had built the Millo and repaired the damages to the City of David his father. 28 The man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valor; and Solomon, seeing that the young man was industrious

- **Solomon's supervises many building projects**
- **Eyes on Jeroboam:**
 1. Mighty man of valor
 2. Young man
 3. Diligent, hard-working...**Solomon notices:**

Proverbs 22:29 Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men. [Bible honoring the blue collar employee/hard worker]

[Solomon]...made [Jeroboam] the officer over all the labor force of the house of Joseph.

- **Jeroboam becomes "Construction Supervisor"**
- **Being prepared by the Lord...Jeroboam...**
 1. *Honed skills* in leading men
 2. *Refined skills* in communication
 3. *Improved skills* in encouragement/discipline men

Lord will use seemingly unrelated past/present experiences

To hone/refine/improve our skills for where/what he wants for us in the future

- Wallpaper hanger to Teacher: Math on the wall
- As a Teacher utilizing Commercial Art skills/wallpaper from HS
- As a Job Developer working with people w/ disabilities utilizing SPED Credentials
- **As Pastor making the most of previous Teaching/People Skills**

Jeroboam's on-the-job training for what's to come...

29 Now it happened at that time, when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite met him on the way; and he had clothed himself with a new garment, and the two were alone in the field. 30 Then Ahijah took hold of the new garment that was on him, and **tore it into twelve pieces**. 31 And he said to Jeroboam, "Take for yourself **ten pieces**,

for thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will **tear the kingdom** out of the hand of Solomon and **will give ten tribes to you.**

- **Jeroboam leaves Jerusalem**
 1. God sends a prophet with a new tunic
 2. Meets Jeroboam in field alone
 3. Tears garment into 12 pieces
 4. Kingdom will be split/you are going to be King.
- After King Saul rejected the Word of the Lord...

1 Samuel 15:27 ... Samuel turned around to go away, [King] Saul seized the edge of his robe, and it tore. 28 So Samuel said to him, "The **Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel** from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. 29 And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent." [Done]

- **Prophets robe torn?** Done deal...Someone is losing a kingdom

You will be King over 10 Tribes

32 (but [Solomon and son] shall have one tribe for the sake of My servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel)...

- **Fulfilled Prophecy:** Solomon loses the Kingdom in a NY minute **v 13**
 1. **Judah** would be David's inheritance and Tribe of Jesus as promised
 2. **2nd Tribe** would be Benjamin [floater]

Prophet continues speaking to Jeroboam...

- This is why the Kingdom will be split

33 ...because *they* have forsaken Me, and worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the people of Ammon, and have not walked in My ways to do what is right in My eyes and keep My statutes and My judgments, as did his father David.

- Because **they** [plural/Israel] have forsaken Me and did not do what is right...
- ...as **his** [Singular/Solomon's] father David did

As the King goes so the nation goes

God will judge nations; e.g. Sodom and Gomorrah, Nineveh capital of Assyria, Israel

- **Solomon sinned** the people followed his lead
- **Jeroboam will sin:** People will follow his lead/Assyria will drag them away w/hooks

Elections have consequences: Especially for US who get to choose...

1 Timothy 2:1 ...I exhort first of **all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority**, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires **all men to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- **Least prayed for need it most:** Rich, those in government
- **Solomon followed his wives and the nation followed Solomon...**
 1. **Ashtoreth** of Sidonians: Moon goddess. Ritual prostitution. Ishtar [Easter]
 2. **Chemosh** of Moabites: sorcery, adultery, incest, prostitution and the sacrifice of unwanted children in the fire.
 3. **Milcom** of the Ammonites
 4. **Molech** also of Ammon

1 Kings 11:7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for **Molech** the abomination of the people of Ammon. 8 And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

- What was entailed in the worship of Molech...?

Leviticus 18:21you shall not let any of your descendants **pass through the fire to Molech**, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the Lord. [Child-sacrifice]

- **Moab/Ammon:** Offspring of adulterous relationship Lot's daughters and Lot.

Little Edomite now a lethal adversary

- **Prophet still speaking to Jeroboam...**

34 However I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand, because I have made him ruler **all the days of his life** for the sake of My servant David, whom I chose because he kept My commandments and My statutes. 35 But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand and give it to you—ten tribes. 36 And to his son I will give one tribe, that My servant David may always have a lamp before Me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen for Myself, to put My name there.

- Solomon rule until death
- Son Rehoboam will take the throne and rule over 1 tribe in south
- **You Jeroboam will take 10 Tribes rule in the north**

37 So I will take you, and you shall reign over **all your heart desires**, and you shall be king over Israel. 38 Then it shall be, if you heed all that I command you, walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as My servant David did, then **I will be**

with you and build for you an enduring house, as I built for David, and will give Israel to you. 39 And I will afflict the descendants of David because of this, but not forever.”

- **What an offer!**
 1. Reign over **all your heart desires**
 2. King of Israel [North]
 3. **If/Then promise**
 - If you do what is right
 - Then your will endure

- Solomon somehow finds out about private meeting...

40 Solomon therefore sought to kill Jeroboam. But Jeroboam arose and fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon. 41 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon? 42 And the period that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. 43 Then **Solomon rested with his fathers**, and was buried in the City of David his father. And Rehoboam **his son reigned in his place.**

- Solomon dies...Glory to Tragedy. Wise man to fool.
- Jeroboam Rises...for a minute

SUMMARY Jeroboam