

I Kings 9-10 –28 July 2022

“The Fulfillment Of Faithfulness”

Introduction

- *I & II Kings demonstrate that a king’s allegiance to God’s Law is the key to success & protection
- *The 1st half of I Kings depicts the reign of Solomon
- *The 2nd half of I Kings begins the divided kingdom
- *Chap 1-2 - purging of the sinful men
- *Chap 3-4 - desire for wisdom yet struggles w/ purity
- *Chap 5-7 - building temple, we warned of letting worship turn into work by turning from Jesus
- *Chap 8 – dedication prayer asking God to be near
- *Today God responds to Solomon’s prayer & more
- *Read I Kings 9:1 - He’s completed “all his desire” & is in danger of a mid-life crisis (25 yrs into 40 yr reign)
- *Every day there’s a choice; living for God or for self
- *Today we’ll see 3 enduring principles of a faithful walk with the Lord**

1st principle of a faithful walk: Blessing is conditioned on obedience (Chap 9:2-9)

Read Chap 9:2-3

1. I've heard, I've hallowed & I will help
2. This is the starting point w/ God, He wants to bless and support us
3. He makes Himself available to all that ask

Read Vs 4-7

1. If, then statements
 - a. Relationship w/ God is based on His grace
 - b. But we can withhold His blessing on us by disobedience
2. David was promised his throne will be forever
 - a. Now Solomon is offered same if there's obedience...but there won't be obedience
 - b. The people & temple would be cast out for disobedience, but not God's promise of David's throne forever

Read Vs 8-9

1. Disobedience to the Lord is to serve other gods
 - a. Which are no gods at all
2. This isn't about relationship, it's about the blessing of fellowship and prospering

Cross-References

1. Read Eph 2:10 – We're born again to do good works and live in doing them for His glory
2. Read Jam 1:12, 25 – Continuing faithfully thru temptation is rewarded with blessings
3. Disobedience separates friends, oh you're still in the family but your lost friendship
 - a. And in God's family, we're removing ourselves from the place of blessing

2nd principle of a faithful walk: Gaining ‘more’ by compromise is worthless (Chap 9:10-28)

Read Chap 9:10-14 – *His gifts to Hiram*

1. We read in II Chr 8:2 that Hiram gave them back to Solomon and he restored them strong
2. Don't give away God's Promised Land – that's against God's Word and His plan
3. This just caused Solomon to spend money to fix up these camps once they were returned to him

Read Vs 15-19 – *Solomon's Subjects*

1. The Oriental Institute has uncovered ruins of Solomon's stables in Megiddo
2. Levy was 30,000 men take from the nation
3. Building up of central govt is not trusting God
 - a. God blessed him with riches that should have been turned back into worship again
 - b. Forced labor to build what? Central govt
4. This levy will be more than worthless as they revolt later against the whole concept of this work

Read Vs 20-23

1. Israelites were paid for their hard service
2. Canaanites put under tribute to pay and serve
 - a. More compromise – Israel was told to wipe out these sinful Canaanites
 - b. Now they'll cause trouble for years to come

Read Vs 24

1. Millo was a small fortress he built for his wife

Read Vs 25

1. These 3 times a year were at the 3 feasts

Read Vs 26-28 – *Solomon's Navy*

1. He had a great Red Sea navy obtaining gold

Cross-References

1. What will he use God's blessings for?
 - a. Read I Cor 3:12-15
 - b. Achan tried to gain more than God blessed
 - c. Gehazi tried to gain more also (II Kings 5)

3rd principle of a faithful walk: God's always faithful to keep His promises (Chap 10)

Intro

1. This is the famed story of the Queen of Sheba
2. Read I Kings 3:13 – God promised him honor

Read Chap 10:1-3

1. Notice she had heard of the name of the Lord
 - a. What Solomon had promoted around the world was the wisdom and knowledge of God
2. Very different than what Hezekiah will later do
 - a. II Kings 20 – Hezekiah invites Babylonians
 - b. He did it to brag of his greatness

Read Vs 4-7

1. Solomon didn't brag of his great possessions
 - a. He answered her questions & THEN she was impressed by seeing his possessions
 - b. This is the opposite of Hezekiah with the Babylonians later

Read Vs 8-10

1. Wisdom didn't lead to strife and envy, but led to peace and joy
2. God's blessing led him to honor & respect

Read Vs 11-13

1. They mutually blessed each other & she left

Transition

1. What else did God promise to bless him with?
2. Again, Read I Kings 3:13 - Riches

Read Vs 14-17

1. 25 tons of gold comes in every year
2. Many shields were made of the gold
3. We'll read in Chap 14 of Shishak, King of Egypt, coming & taking away the gold of Israel
 - a. Recently in 1939 Shishak's mummy was found in Tanis, Egypt in an amazing gold-covered sarcophagus

Read Vs 18-20

1. Throne of ivory covered in gold decorated w/ lions

Read Vs 21-23

1. Egypt, Babylon & Assyria are all weak at this time. Greece is just beginning to rise.
2. Israel is the jewel of the world

Read Vs 24-29

1. Solomon made Israel the center of the world's economic system
2. All b/c he asked for wisdom & God gave him wisdom, honor AND riches

Cross-References – *God keeps His promises*

1. Heb 10:23 – We can keep going b/c He's faithful
2. I Cor 1:4-9 – We have all blessing until the end
3. Phil 1:6 – He that began a good work, will complete it in us

Conclusion

I don't want to just be saved; I want to be faithful

1. **Blessing is conditioned on faithful obedience**
 - a. Salvation is based on His work, a blessed full life is based on our obedience
2. **Gaining 'more' by compromise is worthless**
 - a. "What shall it profit a man if he gains..."
3. **God's always faithful to keep His promises**
 - a. He's wanting to bless you, don't hinder Him by running into the flesh life

What if we've been unfaithful already – *repent*

Read II Chr 7:14 – Heard, forgive & *will heal*

**Have you settled for just being saved?*

Living without God working blessings in your life

**Or do you want to be faithful?*

Enjoying the fulfillment of what God wants to bless you with