

This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures. Our goal is not just "to know" but to "act upon what we know." (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your LIFEgroup. Although you can review it on your own, it will be most useful to you when processed with others!

FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. What did you learn about Solomon that was new to you?
- 2. Why did Adonijah think he should be king? What might he have done differently?
- 3. What evidence of David's wisdom and folly do we have in this story? Where do you see this kind of thing in your own life?
- 4. What do you learn from Adonijah's followers? How does that help you in understanding people and choosing friends?
- 5. Why was it important for the throne to be "firmly established" in Solomon's hands?





May 20 & 21, 2017 | Solomon's Beginnings | 1 Kings 1-53 | Dennis Miller, pastor

TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES:

- 1. Solomon reminds us that there is good and bad in ALL of us.
 - It is not usually the "BIG" sins that destroy a life and a PURPOSE, but the little things that will DERAIL us from God's perfect PLAN.

THE STORY PRECEDING SOLOMON

S — STARTING (4 events, C,F,F,B - Gen 1-12)

T — TREATIES and Tribes (4 men, A,I,J,J - Gen 12-50)

A — ADVANCEMENT (4 events, E,W,C,J - Exodus thru Joshua)

G — GLORY (3 men, S,D,S - 1 Sam thru 1 Kings 11:40)

E — EROSION (3 events, D,D,D - 1 Kings 12 thru 2 Chronicles)

S — SERVITUDE (3 men, Z,E,N - Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther)

SOLOMON'S NAME

JEDIDIAH — יְדִידְיָה — Yĕdiyd-yah ("Beloved of God")

2Sam. 12:24 . . . She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon. The LORD loved him; 25 and because the LORD loved him, he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah.

SOLOMON — שָׁלֹמֹה — Shlomoh — ("Peace")

SOLOMON'S TIME PERIOD

Ruled from <u>970-930</u> BC — During this time Israel was known for its greatest PEACE and PROSPERITY.

THE TRANSITION FROM DAVID TO SOLOMON

Kings 1:23 And they told the king, "Nathan the prophet is here." So he went before the king and bowed with his face to the ground. 24 Nathan said, "Have you, my lord the king, declared that Adonijah shall be king after you, and that he will sit on your throne? 25 Today he has gone down and sacrificed great numbers of cattle, fattened calves. and sheep. He has invited all the king's sons, the commanders of the army and Abiathar the priest. Right now they are eating and drinking with him and saying, 'Long live King Adonijah!' 26 But me your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon he did not invite. 27 Is this something my lord the king has done without letting his servants know who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?" 28 Then King David said, "Call in Bathsheba." So she came into the king's presence and stood before him. 29 The king then took an oath: "As surely as the LORD lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble. 30 I will surely carry out today what I swore to you by the LORD, the God of Israel: Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he will sit on my throne in my place." 31 Then Bathsheba bowed low with her face to the ground and, kneeling before the king, said, "May my lord King David live forever!" . . . So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the Kerethites and the Pelethites went down and put Solomon on King David's mule and escorted him to Gihon. 39 Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the sacred tent and anointed Solomon. Then they sounded the trumpet and all the people shouted, "Long live King Solomon!" 40 And all the people went up after him, playing flutes and rejoicing greatly, so that the ground shook with the sound.

- 1. David was an OLD man and unable to LEAD the country.
- 2. David had many sons (19) and his FOURTH, Adonijah, was the oldest living son. He decided to NAME himself king. (The fact that Adonijah did not invite Solomon and others to his "coronation" shows that he was usurping the throne.)
- 3. Learning of Adonijah's PLANS, the prophet Nathan WARNED Bathsheba and King David. Although Solomon was David's NINTH son, he was the one CHOSEN by God to be king.
- 4. David finally declared Solomon as his SUCCESSOR.
- 5. And David sent the RIGHT people to the RIGHT place with the RIGHT symbols to make this happen!

The People: — ZADOK the priest —

- NATHAN the prophet —
- BENAIAH son of Jehoiada -
- The Kerethites and the Pelethites —

The Place: — The GIHON Spring —

The Symbols: — David's MULE —

- Oil from the SACRED TENT —
- The TRUMPET —
- 6. And all the people FOLLOWED Solomon and rejoiced so greatly that the ground TREMBLED.

THE FEAR OF THE NEW KING

1Kings 1:41 Adonijah and all the quests who were with him heard it as they were finishing their feast. On hearing the sound of the trumpet, Joab asked, "What's the meaning of all the noise in the city?" 42 Even as he was speaking, Jonathan son of Abiathar the priest arrived. Adonijah said, "Come in. A worthy man like you must be bringing good news." . . . 46 Moreover, Solomon has taken his seat on the royal throne. 47 Also, the royal officials have come to congratulate our lord King David, saying, 'May your God make Solomon's name more famous than yours and his throne greater than yours!' And the king bowed in worship on his bed 48 and said, 'Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who has allowed my eyes to see a successor on my throne today." 49 At this, all Adonijah's quests rose in alarm and dispersed. 50 But Adonijah, in fear of Solomon, went and took hold of the horns of the altar. 51 Then Solomon was told, "Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon and is clinging to the horns of the altar. He says, 'Let King Solomon swear to me today that he will not put his servant to death with the sword." 52 Solomon replied, "If he shows himself to be a worthy man, not a hair of his head will fall to the ground; but if evil is found in him, he will die." 53 Then King Solomon sent men, and they brought him down from the altar. And Adonijah came and bowed down to King Solomon, and Solomon said. "Go to your home."

- 1. SO MUCH for "Long live Adonijah!" Now no one wanted to ASSOCIATE with him for he was a usurper.
- 2. In FEAR of the new king, Solomon, Adonijah ran to grab the HORNS of the ALTAR and pleaded for his life.
- 3. Already Solomon showed his WISDOM and his desire for PEACE. He allows Adonijah to determine his OWN fate. If he behaved, he would be allowed to LIVE; but if he tried to steal the throne again, he would DIE. What do you think happened?

THE SECURITY OF THE NEW KING

1Kings 2:12 So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his rule was firmly established.

LESSONS WE LEARN:

- 1. Be CONTENT with the place God has GIVEN you now.
- 2. Understand that AGE catches up to all of us, and it is our responsibility to PREPARE and TRANSITION properly.
- 3. If God has called you to LEAD, DON'T hesitate.