

WALK THE TALK //////////////////////////////////////

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 have been your best thoughts and lessons from the Solomon series?
2. How have you seen yourself “drift” at times throughout your life? What has been the cause each time?
3. Why was almost nothing recorded about Solomon’s reign in his later years? (Your opinion)
4. What does the Book of Ecclesiastes teach us?
5. Finish this sentence however you’d like: *If the wisest man who ever lived . . .*



June 24 & 25, 2017 | Solomon's Final Years | 1 Kings 11 | Dennis Miller, pastor

TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES:

1. Solomon reminds us that there is good and bad in ALL of us.
2. It is not usually the “BIG” sins that destroy a life and a PURPOSE, but the little things that will DERAILED us.

THE END OF SOLOMON’S REIGN

1Kings 11:29 About that time Jeroboam was going out of Jerusalem, and Ahijah the prophet of Shiloh met him on the way, wearing a new cloak. The two of them were alone out in the country, 30 and Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces. 31 Then he said to Jeroboam, “Take ten pieces for yourself, for this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘See, I am going to tear the kingdom out of Solomon’s hand and give you ten tribes. 32 But for the sake of my servant David and the city of Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, he will have one tribe. 33 I will do this because they have forsaken me and worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Molek the god of the Ammonites, and have not walked in obedience to me, nor done what is right in my eyes, nor kept my decrees and laws as David, Solomon’s father, did. . . . 41 As for the other events of Solomon’s reign—all he did and the wisdom he displayed—are they not written in the book of the annals of Solomon? 42 Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years. 43 Then he rested with his ancestors and was buried in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam his son succeeded him as king.

1. Because Solomon did not KEEP God in FIRST place, the Lord TORE the kingdom from him and brought enemies upon him.
2. The last years of Solomon’s life and REIGN were not NOTEWORTHY.

3. Solomon died after RULING Israel for 40 years and he was BURIED.

SOLOMON'S LIFE IN HIS BOOKS

1. The Song of Songs — Solomon wrote 1,004 songs but this is the BEST one. It describes Solomon's first LOVE who became his first wife.

Ecc. 9:9 Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love, all the days of this meaningless life that God has given you under the sun — all your meaningless days. . . .

— Solomon also wrote TWO Psalms.

Psa. 72 Of Solomon. Psa. 127 A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

2. Proverbs — The TRUISMS of wisdom. Note that these are ONLY promises if God is the ACTION!

Prov. 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:

Prov. 10:1 The proverbs of Solomon:

Prov. 25:1 These are more proverbs of Solomon, compiled by the men of Hezekiah . . .

3. Ecclesiastes — An OLDER person (Solomon) looking back on LIFE, experiences and THOUGHTS.

Ecc. 1:1 The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem: . . . 12 I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem.

a. I've TRIED it all! (Ecc. 1:12 - 2:26)

Ecc. 2:4 I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. 5 I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. 6 I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. 7 I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. 8 I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired men and women singers, and a harem as well — the delights of the heart of man. 9 I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me. In all this my wisdom stayed with me. 10 I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor. 11 Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.

b. I've SEEN it all! (Ecc. 3:1 - 8:15)

Ecc. 3:1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: 2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot 3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain,

Ecc. 9:4 Anyone who is among the living has hope — even a live dog is better off than a dead lion!

c. I've CONSIDERED it all! (Ecc. 8:16 - 12:7)

Ecc. 8:16 When I applied my mind to know wisdom and to observe man's labor on earth — his eyes not seeing sleep day or night — 17 then I saw all that God has done. No one can comprehend what goes on under the sun. Despite all his efforts to search it out, man cannot discover its meaning. Even if a wise man claims he knows, he cannot really comprehend it.

Ecc. 10:19 A feast is made for laughter, and wine makes life merry, but money is the answer for everything.

— The study of OLD AGE!

Eccl. 12:1 Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them"— 2 before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars grow dark, and the clouds return after the rain; 3 when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop, when the grinders cease because they are few, and those looking through the windows grow dim; 4 when the doors to the street are closed and the sound of grinding fades; when people rise up at the sound of birds, but all their songs grow faint 5 when people are afraid of heights and of dangers in the streets; when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags itself along and desire no longer is stirred. Then people go to their eternal home and mourners go about the streets. 6 Remember him —before the silver cord is severed, and the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, and the wheel broken at the well, 7 and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it

d. The CONCLUSION of the matter (Ecc. 12:8-14)

Ecc. 12:9 Not only was the Teacher wise, but also he imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs. 10 The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true 11 The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails — given by one Shepherd. 12 Be warned, my son, of anything in addition to them. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body. 13 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole [duty] of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Only TWO things matter: FEAR (Worship) God and OBEY Him.

But the problem is that Solomon didn't SAY these things. HIS words end like this:

Eccl. 12:8 "Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Everything is meaningless!"

So, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

1. We cannot trust in MEN — even the wisest will FAIL!

2. To finish strong, we need to CLING to our faith in Jesus Christ and avoid the DRIFT that happens to so many.

Luke 11:31 The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom; and now something greater than Solomon is here.