



1

¹Then Solomon formed a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter and brought her to the city of David until he had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem. ²The people were still sacrificing on the high places, because there was no house built for the name of the LORD until those days.

³Now Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, except he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. ⁴The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place; Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, "Ask what *you wish* Me to give you."

2

⁶Then Solomon said, "You have shown great lovingkindness to Your servant David my father, according as he walked before You in truth and righteousness and uprightness of heart toward You; and You have reserved for him this great lovingkindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day. ⁷Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. ⁹So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

3

¹⁰It was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice, ¹²behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. ¹³I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days. ¹⁴If you walk in My ways, keeping My statutes and commandments, as your father David walked, then I will prolong your days."

4

¹⁵Then Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and made peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

(1 Kings 3:1-15)

5

Solomon the Wise

➤ Discordant Notes

- political alliance with Egypt
- marriage to Pharaoh's daughter
- worship at the "high places"

6

Solomon the Wise

1. Solomon's Request

- motivated by gratitude, humility and a care for God's people
- he asks for a discerning heart to govern the people well, especially in administering justice

7

Solomon the Wise

2. The Lord's Response

- He was pleased because Solomon's request was not merely self-serving
- He answered Solomon's request (a "wise" heart) and beyond his request
- He reminded Solomon of the ongoing need to obey His word

8

Solomon the Wise

3. Solomon's "Wise" Judgment (3:16-28)

- Solomon's solution showed that the "wisdom of God was in him to do justice"
- this wisdom included justice to even the outcasts of society

9

Solomon the Wise

➤ *Glimpses of a Greater King*

- Jesus Christ will reign in superior wisdom to administer perfect justice

10

Psalm 72 (A Psalm of Solomon)

- ¹Give the king Your judgments, O God,
And Your righteousness to the king's son.
- ²May he judge Your people with righteousness
And Your afflicted with justice.
- ³Let the mountains bring peace to the people,
And the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴May he vindicate the afflicted of the people,
Save the children of the needy
And crush the oppressor.

11

- ¹Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.
- ²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and strength,
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³And He will delight in the fear of the LORD,
And He will not judge by what His eyes see,
Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;

12

⁴ But with righteousness He will judge the poor,
And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth;
And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

⁵ Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins,
And faithfulness the belt about His waist.

(Isaiah 11:1-5)

13

Solomon the Wise

➤ *Glimpses of a Greater King*

- Jesus Christ will reign in superior wisdom to administer perfect justice
- Jesus Christ now reigns offering a just mercy to repentant sinners who trust in Him

14