



Lesson 105

Solomon Asks for Wisdom

Story Elements

Text: 1 Kings 3:1-28; 2 Chronicles 1:6-13

Setting: circa 970 B.C.

Main Characters: God and Solomon

Plot: Solomon asks for wisdom.

Key word(s): “ _____ ”

Climax: *1 Kings 3:5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.*

Weaknesses Revealed

- (1 Ki. 3:1) Early on in Solomon's reign he married _____ daughter. This was how nations made peace treaties long ago. As his power extended and other kings wished to make treaties with him, Solomon amassed many foreign wives - something that the kings of Israel were forbidden to do

Deuteronomy 17:17 Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.

- (1 Ki. 3:2-3) Solomon and the people sacrificed unto the LORD in the “high places.” These places were open-air, hilltop places of worship that were leftover by the Canaanites. The Hebrews were commanded to destroy the high places, not _____ them.

Wisdom Requested

- (1 Ki. 3:3) In spite of his many failures (which will become more evident in later passages), Solomon truly did _____ the LORD.
- (1 Ki. 3:4; 2 Ch. 1:2-6) In his early years as king, Solomon went to Gibeon to make sacrifice unto the LORD at the great high place; it was also where the _____ was located.
- (1 Ki. 3:5-9) After offering a thousand sacrifices, Solomon received a vision from God at night. In the vision, God spoke to Solomon and said, “Ask what I shall give thee.” In his conversation with God, Solomon:
 - Acknowledged God's _____ to his family – especially his father David.
 - Acknowledged his own _____ to lead the great nation of Israel.
 - Asked for what he needed most: _____.

6. (1 Ki. 3:10-15) Solomon's humble request pleased the LORD, and the LORD rewarded him with not only wisdom, but also riches, honor, and (if he would be faithful to God) _____.

7. (1 Ki. 3:16-28) Solomon's wisdom was soon put to the test. Two harlots argued over who was the rightful mother of a child. How was Solomon able to discern the true mother of the child? _____

Application

8. The high places remained a constant failure for Israel and her kings. Even though they were sometimes used to worship the LORD, he commanded that they be destroyed. God didn't want to be worshiped in the high places; he had promised Israel that he would designate a place to be worshiped. We need to remember that it is not enough to worship God, but we should worship God in the way that he has _____.

Deuteronomy 12:3 And ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; and ye shall hew down the graven images of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place. 4 Ye shall not do so unto the LORD your God. 5 But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:

9. Solomon feared God. Fearing God involves knowing who God is, and consequently knowing who we are in his sight. This brings humility and helps us see our need of _____ and God's infinite supply of it.

Psalm 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:

Answer Key: Key word(s): wisdom • 1. Pharaoh's • 2. re-purpose • 3. love • 4. tabernacle • 5. a) goodness; b) inability; c) wisdom • 6. longevity • 7. By threatening to kill the child, Solomon exposed who was protective and who was jealous. • 8. commanded • 9. wisdom

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section.