

1 Kings 11:1-43 Part 1

Solomon's Sad Choices Caused the Wisest Man in the World to
Become One of the World's Ultimate Under-Achievers

Solomon's Sad Choices

Led to Him to Drift Away from Close Fellowship with God v1-8

Root Cause 1

Solomon was weakened spiritually because he chose to ignore/disobey the Word of God v1-2

Root Cause 2

Solomon was weakened spiritually due in large part to his specific obsession with and his desire to impress the opposite sex v3-4

Ruinous Effect

Solomon became involved in gross idolatry/openly worshipping false gods v5-8

Solomon's Sad Choices

Resulted in His Receiving Divine Discipline from God v9-44

After His Death

The Prosperous and Unified Nation of Israel Would Split v9-13

And yet even in this discipline, God showed grace as His loving Heavenly Father

During the Final Years of His Reign

1: External Threats Arose against the Status Quo v14-25

Hadad the Edomite (with help from Pharaoh/Egypt) and Rezon the Terrorist

2: Internal Threats Arose against the Status Quo v26-40

Jeroboam (again with assistance from Egypt) providentially placed

At His Death:

His Arrogant/Foolish Son Rehoboam Took the Reins of the Nation v41-43

And quickly ran it over a cliff

Great Lessons from a Gross Example

Beware the ONE Key Thing That Threatens The Spiritual Vitality Of Every Believer

Solomon like all believers had to deal with specific areas of sin “that [can] so easily entangle us” (Hebrews 12:1). For him it was the desire to impress 1000 women!?! Most of us husbands today have a hard enough time simply trying to please one!?!

Even the strongest believer has areas of weakness in which she/he is especially susceptible to rationalizing and/or redefining.

Here is a Threefold Response I Would Recommend to Any Believer
If/When h/she Begin Down the Path of Being Pulled Away from Fellowship
With God Due to “Indulging In” Specific Sins

1: Own It!

Don't rationalize or redefine what you are doing. As someone once said: where God has put a period don't you put a question mark (1 John 1:5-2:2)

2: Confess It!

To God first and if our sin/sin pattern has caused direct harm to others...it can be appropriate to confess to them too (1 John 1:9)

3: Replace It!

First, consciously, deliberately, moment/moment be abiding in Christ. Then when tempted to relapse, replace the sinful pattern with some other activity.

Prayer and memory verses can be great but for some it is also important to add some kind of other activities/actions (1 John 2:28-3:3; Ephesians 4:22-32).