

1 Kings 12:1-24

Solomon-The Final Chapter

Divided Loyalty to the LORD Led Directly to a Divided Nation

Request of the Northern Tribes v1-4

Rehoboam-the son of Solomon

Jeroboam-the “favorite son” of the ten northern tribes

Their major grievances: heavy taxation/huge growth of the central government

Reflection of Rehoboam v5-11

Good Move: he consults with wise elders who give good advice

Bad Move: he consults with foolish young guns who give disastrous advice

Reply of Rehoboam v12-15

My way...or the highway! Your concerns don’t concern me...just sit down/shut up!

Rending of the Once Great Nation v16-24

The United Tribes of Israel (UTI) become the Divided Tribes of Israel (DTI)

This is a bit like North Korea/South Korea since 1953...constant tension/threat of war

The one powerful united nation became two small/struggling nations

1: Judah-the Southern Kingdom under King Rehoboam

2: Israel-the Northern Kingdom under King Jeroboam

Emphasizes the Personal Spirituality of the Leaders

1-2 Samuel	1-2 Kings
1-2 Chronicles	

Emphasizes the National Spirituality of the People

Take This to Heart

Some Key Lessons the Life of Solomon Teaches Us Today

1: God Uses All Kinds of Flawed Human Raw Material to Work His Plan (Matt 1:1-18)

If you doubt that, look at the human genealogy of our Lord Jesus in Matthew 1:1-18

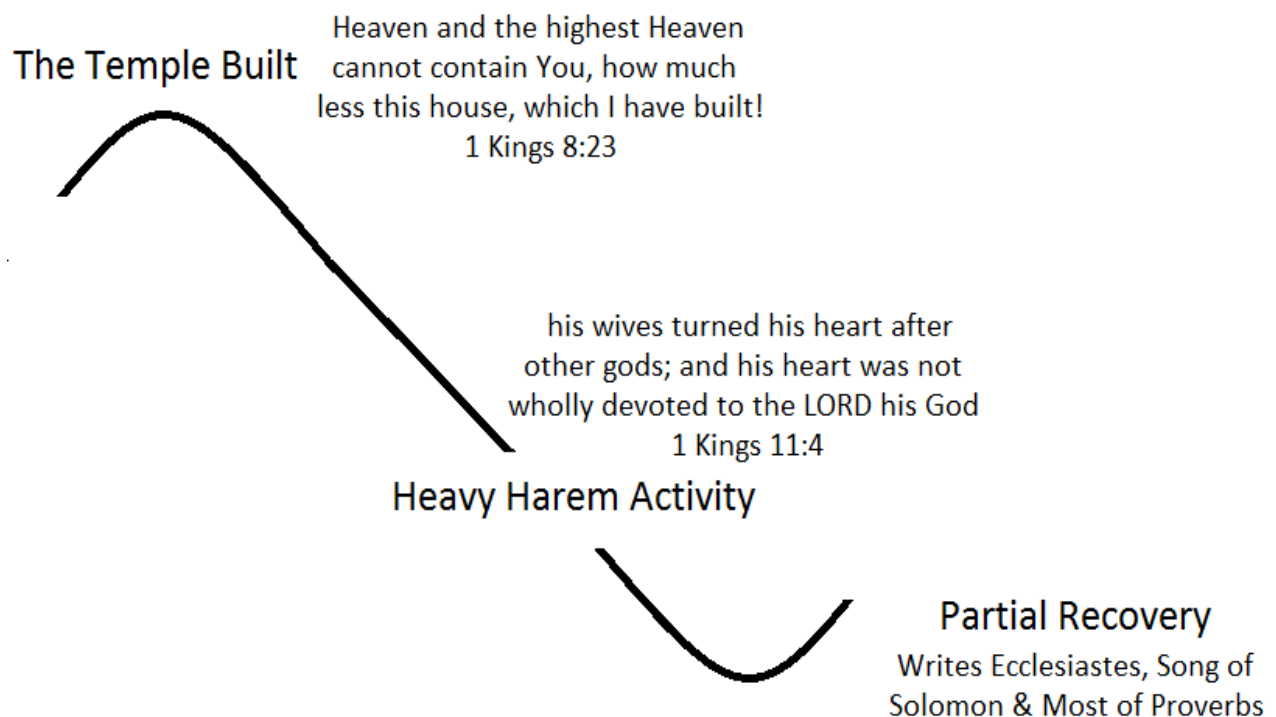
2: God is No Less Gracious to Believers Who Fail (James 3:2; 1 John 1:9) Than He Is to People Coming To Him in Faith for the First Time (Psalm 103:12; Ephesians 1:7)

Solomon wasted a lot of “good years” but before he died, he renewed his fellowship with the LORD and he was allowed to contribute to the Wisdom Literature of Scripture.

3: Truth + Error = Error

Solomon multiplied wives (which while culturally accepted expected but still biblically/morally wrong) and mixed his faith in the LORD with various pagan religions

4: What We Do Have Ripple Effects Throughout our Lives...and Beyond



Solomon: A Believer Who Blew It Big Time-a Big Shot Who Shot Himself in the Foot

The conclusion when all has been heard: Fear God and keep His commandments, this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything even if it is hidden from other people, whether it is good or evil. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14