

The Story: Chapter 12 King Solomon

We've made it to I Kings.

Movement 2:

Movement 2: The Story of Israel (Genesis 12 – Malachi)

God builds a brand new nation called Israel. Through this nation, He will reveal his presence, power, and plan to get us back. Every story of Israel will point to the first coming of Jesus – the One Who will provide the way back to God.

I Kings Chapter 1:

- David is getting old and about to die.
- His oldest son, Adonijah, has decided he wants to become the next King.
 - Not too bad of an assumption since he is the oldest.

But, Bathsheba goes to see David in his room where he is staying and reminds him of his promise to make her son, Solomon, the King instead.

End of Chapter 1: David anoints Solomon to be the next King.
Then, as we begin chapter 2, David has a talk with his son.

I Kings 2:1-4

When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. ²“I am about to go the way of all the earth,” he said. “So be strong, show yourself a man, ³and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in his ways, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and requirements, as written in the Law of Moses, so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go, ⁴and that the Lord may keep his promise to me: ‘If your descendants watch how they live, and if they walk faithfully before me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a man on the throne of Israel.

One thing we learn right up front from David's talk with Solomon is that the promises God has made to David, and not sending on to Solomon, are conditional.

- “If you do this, I'll do this” type of stuff.

We'll see a lot more about this in a few minutes.

The rest of Chapter 2 is a process of Solomon's Kingdom being firmly established!

I Kings 3:1-3

Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt and married his daughter. He brought her to the City of David until he finished building his palace and the temple of the Lord, and the wall around Jerusalem. ² The people, however, were still sacrificing at the high places, because a temple had not yet been built for the Name of the Lord. ³ Solomon showed his love for the Lord by walking according to the statutes of his father David, **except** that he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places.

Then we see where we get one of the things that most people know about Solomon: He was known as the most wise King there ever was or ever would be.

Here's where we get that:

I Kings 3:4-10

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

⁶ Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. ⁷ "Now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸ Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹ So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?" ¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this.

God is SO PLEASED that He makes Solomon the wisest person that has ever lived AND also blesses him with more money and stuff than we can imagine.

Then we see him making a judgment between two women that showed all those listening that he had been given superior wisdom to anything they had heard before.

Solomon was truly world famous for his wisdom. People would come from miles and miles away just to talk to him and listen to his wisdom.

Chapter 6: We see him build the Temple.

- The Temple was to be a permanent place for God to reside so that He would have to live in a temporary tent anymore.
- If you remember, David wanted to build the Temple for God but God said he had shed too much blood in battle so the job fell to Solomon, his son.

But, David and Solomon both believed God needed a permanent place to stay.

Once Solomon finished the Temple, God spoke to him again...

1 Kings 9:1-9

When Solomon had finished building the temple of the Lord and the royal palace, and had achieved all he had desired to do, ² the Lord appeared to him a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. ³ The Lord said to him: “I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

⁴“As for you, if you walk before me in integrity of heart and uprightness, as David your father did, and do all I command and observe my decrees and laws, ⁵ I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father when I said, ‘You shall never fail to have a man on the throne of Israel.’

⁶“**But** if you or your sons turn away from me and do not observe the commands and decrees I have given you and go off to serve other gods and worship them, ⁷ then I will cut off Israel from the land I have given them and will reject this temple I have consecrated for my Name. Israel will then become a byword and an object of ridicule among all peoples. ⁸ And though this temple is now imposing, all who pass by will be appalled and will scoff and say, ‘Why has the Lord done such a thing to this land and to this temple?’ ⁹ People will answer, ‘Because they have forsaken the Lord their God, who brought their fathers out of Egypt, and have embraced other gods,

worshiping and serving them—that is why the Lord brought all this disaster on them.’ “

Here’s what we see:

God reminds Solomon that His agreement with them was conditional.

- You must do these things or I will not do what I said I would do.
- What actually happens in the end is that Solomon fails to keep his part of the agreement so God doesn’t do what He said He would do.
- The Kingdom is eventually taken away from Solomon because he negated the contract.

But LISTEN:

That is all a part of the Old Covenant.

You understand that there were two different covenants in the Old Testament.

Abraham:

- One God made with Abraham and said that his family would end up being a blessing to ALL nations.
- This promise was unconditional.
- And was fulfilled in Jesus Christ!

Moses:

- The one God made with Moses, the one with all of the Law that the nation of Israel was supposed to live by, was conditional.
- And, we see that with Solomon as well.
- God says, if you keep my law I will bless you and take care of you
- If you do not, I will be against you and your new Temple will be nothing but a pile of rubble before I am done.

And what we see later is that Solomon DID NOT follow all of God’s commands and the Temple was eventually destroyed.

Why does this matter to us...

Good news for us: There is also a third covenant in the New Testament:

This is the promise that, **through Jesus Christ blood** shed on the cross, we can have forgiveness of our sins and become children of God.

Hebrews 8:6

⁶ But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

All of the promises of Jesus in the New Testament are permanent.

- They are not held together by you.
- They are not dependent on you.
- And they are not going away if you do something wrong tomorrow or did something wrong yesterday.

Watch this:

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

Remember that Solomon's big work was to build a temple for God.

Remember this:

I Corinthians 6:19

¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?

GREAT NEWS: When the God of the Universe, through the blood of Jesus shed on the cross, moves into your heart in the form of the Holy Spirit, HE NEVER LEAVES!!!

He does not move in and out according to the day that you had.

- He does not treat you like your instagram friends and unfollow you every time you mess up.
- He moves in permanently!

We are the new Temple of God on this earth.

- Jeremiah prophesied that this new covenant would come.

- Of course, they all thought it would look like a new version of their old covenant.
- But, then Jesus showed up...

And, our only responsibility to be a part of this new covenant with Jesus is to BELIEVE!

- And, when we truly believe, we surrender.
- And, everything else is held together by Jesus.

Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

²¹ Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, ²² set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

That is all wonderful news.

- If Jesus Christ has saved you He has also placed the Holy Spirit in you as a stamp of guarantee for all that He promises for your future.

Here is the issue with that:

I Kings 11:1-6

King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. ² They were from nations about which the Lord had told the Israelites, "You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods." Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. ³ He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray.

As he got older, his wives turned his attention away from God.

- And, he did not do all that God had commanded him to do as his father, David, had done.

Problem for Solomon with the permanent house for God: Hey, God is always going to be here so we can do what we want now.

Problem for us knowing God will never leave us: Hey, God is always going to be here so we can do whatever we want now.

What caused God to take His hand of blessing off of Solomon and his kingdom?

[1. He lost sight of what God had done for him.](#)

David had told him clearly that he must remember all that God had done and follow ALL of His commands.

[2. He did not guard against the process of sin in his life.](#)

The law clearly said he was not supposed to intermarry with other nations because they would turn his heart against his God.

[3. He gave his heart to other gods in worship.](#)

AND, that is exactly what happened.

Here's how that works for you and me:

[1. We lose sight of what God has done for us.](#)

- Knowing that God will never leave us makes it very easy for us to forget just how blessed we are in our salvation.

[2. We allow the process of sin to take over in our lives.](#)

- When we take for granted what God has done for us, we don't really work that hard to protect it anymore.

- We fail to work to protect our relationship with Him.

[3. We start to worship things other than our God.](#)

No matter what it is, if we put it before God it's an idol in our lives.

Hope for tomorrow:

Our hope for tomorrow is based on a covenant we have with Jesus that says He will never leave us along.

- He will never take His hand off of us.

- He will love us no matter what.

How do we know this: Because God made an unconditional promise through Jesus Christ that if we confessed Him as our Lord and Savior and BELIEVED in our hearts, we would be saved!!!

- And that does not go away!

Challenge for us today:

Then we see this from **King Solomon**: He writes the book of Ecclesiastes at the end of his life to make sure we all know that a life not lived for God is pointless and will never satisfy.

And that is still very true to this day!

Response Time:

We should surrender our lives to Jesus Christ today if we do not have a personal relationship with Him.

We should praise God everyday that our salvation is not temporary.

- That it does not depend on how perfect we are today.
- It is not dependent on us making the right animal sacrifice today.
- It is all based on Jesus, held together by Him, and guaranteed by the Holy Spirit.

We should reflect that belief in the way we live our lives everyday.

- We should keep our eyes on Him and all that He has done for us
- Stop the process of sin immediately anytime we see it sneaking up on us.
- And make sure we're worshiping Him and Him alone!!