

Solomon Becomes King

1 Kings 1

1 Chronicles 29:21-25

by Don Falkos

copyright 2017 Donald Falkos Storytelling LLC

King David was very old, and he couldn't keep warm no matter how many blankets he used. So his advisers found a beautiful young woman to take care of him. One of her duties was to lie beside David to keep him warm, but they did not have sexual relations.

David's son Adonijah set about to make himself king. He garnered support from many quarters including from Joab and from Abiathar the priest. But many others, including Nathan the prophet and David's personal bodyguard, refused to back him.

Adonijah hosted a feast for all of his supporters. Nathan went to Bathsheba, told her what was happening, and warned her that if something wasn't done soon both she and her son Solomon would certainly be killed. Bathsheba went to David and said, "You promised my son Solomon would be the next king. But now Adonijah has made himself king." Then Nathan the prophet came in and confirmed everything she had been saying.

David vowed, "As surely as the Lord lives, Solomon will be made king of Israel this very day." He told Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet, "Anoint Solomon king. Blow the rams horn and shout 'Long live King Solomon!' Have him sit on my throne. He is my successor."

Solomon rode on David's own mule to the place where he was anointed as king. Adonijah's feast quickly broke up. Adonijah fled to the Tabernacle, seeking refuge by taking hold of the horns of the altar. He pleaded with Solomon not to be killed. Solomon replied, "Prove yourself loyal, and you will not die." Adonijah came and bowed respectfully to King Solomon.