

The Wisdom of Solomon

1 Kings 3 – 4

2 Chronicles 1

by Don Falkos

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Solomon made sacrifices at the Tabernacle. That night God appeared to him and said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!"

Solomon replied, "My father, David, was a great king. But I am like a little child who doesn't know what he's doing. Give me the wisdom and understanding to govern your people."

"Since you have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies, I will give you what you have asked for. I will give you wisdom such as no one has ever had or ever will have. And I will also give you what you did not ask for – both riches and honor. And if you obey me always, I will give you a long life."

Two prostitutes came to Solomon with a problem. One of them said, "This woman and I live in the same house. Each of us recently gave birth to a son. But during the night she rolled over on her baby and he died. Then while I was asleep she took my son and left her dead child beside me. She has my baby!"

The other woman insisted, "That was your son. This is my child." And they began to argue.

The king called for a sword and ordered, "Cut the living child in two, and give half to each woman."

The woman holding the baby said, "Fine, he won't be yours or mine. Cut him in two!"

The first woman cried out, "No! Don't kill my baby! Let her keep him."

The king said, "Don't kill the child. Give him to the woman who wants him to live; she is his mother!"

God gave Solomon great wisdom and insight, and understanding on a broad range of subjects. His kingdom expanded. He increased in wealth and fame. And people from every nation came to listen to the wisdom of Solomon.