

## Seeking God's Wisdom: Personal Lessons from 1 Kings 3

In *1 Kings 3*, we see Solomon at the beginning of his reign. He is young, inexperienced, and stepping into the massive responsibility of ruling Israel. But what sets Solomon apart is that he **realizes his need for God's wisdom**. This chapter teaches us profound lessons about seeking God first, the dangers of compromise, and the impact of godly wisdom in everyday life.

### 1. A Compromised Beginning (1 Kings 3:1-4)

Solomon started well in many ways, but his decision to marry Pharaoh's daughter set a dangerous precedent. This was **not** in line with God's instructions for Israel's kings (*Deuteronomy 17:17*). Though Solomon loved God, his small compromises would later lead to **major spiritual downfall**.

#### Personal Application:

- Are there small compromises in my life that could lead to bigger spiritual problems later?
- Am I aligning my relationships, priorities, and decisions with God's Word?

We may love God, but if we ignore His warnings in one area, it can weaken our walk with Him over time.

### 2. God's Offer: What Would You Ask For? (1 Kings 3:5-9)

One night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, "*Ask! What shall I give you?*" Imagine if God asked you the same question. What would you say?

- Would you ask for **wealth**?
- Would you ask for **power**?
- Would you ask for **health, success, or security**?

Solomon's response revealed his **heart for God**. Instead of asking for personal gain, he asked for **wisdom** to lead God's people well. He understood his own inadequacy and depended on the Lord.

#### Personal Application:

- What does my greatest desire reveal about my heart?
- Am I seeking wisdom to serve God well, or am I focused on personal success?

Jesus affirmed this same principle in *Matthew 6:33*: "*Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*" When we pursue God first, He provides for everything else.

### 3. God's Response: Abundant Blessing (1 Kings 3:10-15)

Because Solomon asked for wisdom, God gave him **more than he asked for**—wisdom, riches, and honor. And He even added a conditional promise of long life if Solomon remained obedient.

This shows us a **key truth about God's character**: He is generous! Ephesians 3:20 says, *"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think."*

#### Personal Application:

- **Am I trusting that God knows how to bless me in His perfect way?**
- **Do I focus on what I want, or do I trust God to provide what I truly need?**

When we focus on growing in wisdom and godliness, God takes care of everything else.

### 4. Wisdom in Action: Solomon's Famous Judgment (1 Kings 3:16-28)

Immediately, Solomon's wisdom was put to the test. Two women came to him with a dispute: both claimed to be the mother of a newborn baby. There were no witnesses, no DNA tests—just one king's ability to discern truth.

Solomon's strategy? He ordered the child to be cut in half. The real mother's love was revealed when she was willing to give up her son rather than see him harmed.

This case made Solomon's wisdom famous throughout Israel. People recognized that **his insight was from God**.

#### Personal Application:

- **Am I asking God for wisdom in handling life's difficult situations?**
- **Do I seek discernment in making decisions, or do I rely only on my own understanding?**

James 1:5 tells us, *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."*

**Wisdom isn't just about knowledge—it's about applying God's truth in real-life situations.** Like Solomon, we need to seek God's wisdom daily in our marriages, parenting, work, and relationships.

#### Final Takeaways: Living with God's Wisdom

1. **Watch out for small compromises.** Solomon's decision to marry Pharaoh's daughter seemed harmless but set the stage for greater problems later. **Are there "small" compromises in my life that I need to surrender to God?**
2. **Ask God for wisdom.** Solomon recognized his need for divine guidance, and God gave him more than he asked for. **Do I rely on my own understanding, or do I truly seek God's wisdom in my decisions?**

3. **God blesses those who seek Him first.** Solomon's heart was right before God, and because of that, God poured out blessings on him. **Am I prioritizing God's kingdom over my own desires?**
4. **True wisdom is practical and powerful.** Solomon's wisdom was immediately tested in a difficult case, but because he trusted in God, he was able to discern the truth. **Am I putting godly wisdom into practice in my daily life?**

### Prayer

*"Lord, like Solomon, I recognize that I don't have all the answers. I need Your wisdom to lead my family, make good decisions, and navigate the challenges of life. Help me to seek You first in all things, trusting that You will provide everything I need. Keep me from compromising in areas that could pull me away from You. Let my heart be fully devoted to You, and may my life reflect the wisdom that comes from walking closely with You. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

Let's make it our goal today to **seek God's wisdom in everything we do!**