

This week we will study about the blessing of wisdom that God poured out on Solomon so that God's name would be glorified.



Torchlight

"The name of Jehovah was greatly honoured during the first part of Solomon's reign. The wisdom and righteousness revealed by the king bore witness to all nations of the excellency of the attributes of God whom he served. For a time Israel was as the light of the world, showing forth the greatness of Jehovah." – Prophets & Kings p. 23



The Wisdom of King Solomon



SUNDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, I praise and thank You for the gift of prayer and that I can come and talk to You anytime and anywhere. Please guide and direct me today and show me the best path to walk in. I thank You for loving me so much. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Chronicles 22:1-19



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Solomon, at the beginning of his reign, decided to go with all the leaders of Israel to the Tabernacle at Gibeon, which was the original made by Moses and the Children of Israel all those hundreds of years before. Verse 7 tells us that God appeared to Solomon for the first time and asked Solomon what He could do for him. Solomon asked God for wisdom so he could rule effectively and judge the people. This showed great humility and that he wanted to serve God instead of himself. God was pleased with his request and decided to bless him with riches anyway, even though he didn't ask for them. The wisdom that God blessed Solomon with came into play with a judgment he made that we read about today in 1 Kings. The Bible tells us about a situation of two women living in the same house that had recently had a baby each. One night, one of the babies died and the mother switched her dead baby with the live one while the other mother slept. When the mother awoke in the morning, further examination revealed that the dead baby was not hers. The king, on hearing the case, told his servant to cut the live baby in half and give each of the mothers a half baby each. The response of the real mother was to give her baby to the other woman, as she could not bear for her son to be killed. King Solomon expected this and gave the real mother her baby back. Verse 28 tells us that all of Israel recognized the wise judgment of Solomon. Read *1 Kings 4:29-34*. Did God answer Solomon's prayer when he asked for wisdom?



SABBATH QUIZ

1. For how many years in total did David rule? _____
2. How many talents of gold did the people give for building the temple? _____
3. Who was the half brother that tried to take the throne from Solomon? _____
4. What animal did Solomon ride on? _____
5. What were the two women fighting over when they came to the king? _____



SABBATH

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for creating the Sabbath for me. Help me to gain a rich blessing today as I spend the day with You. Please help me shine my light for You today so I can be a blessing to someone else. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Chronicles 1:1-12
& 1 Kings 3:16-28



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

In Devotional 41 we found out that David wanted to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant, but God had other ideas. He wanted one of David's sons to build it instead. David accepted this and our reading today tells us that David made preparations for his son, Solomon, in readiness for him to build the temple. God did not want David to build the temple because David's reign had been full of wars and bloodshed during the time he had spent building up the kingdom of Israel. Solomon was to be the next king and his reign was to be peaceful. God wanted His temple to be built while there was peace in the land.

Verses 12 and 13 tell us that David encouraged his son to be strong and courageous and keep God's commandments. In verse 19 he also tells Solomon to seek God with all of his heart and soul. Solomon had a big job ahead of him and here in these verses we have an example of a father encouraging his son to walk with God everyday. God is our heavenly father and these verses can also encourage us today to listen when He speaks to us.



FIND A WORD

In our reading today, how many times did the word 'iron' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





MONDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, help me to be strong and courageous and keep Your commandments. I know I can't do it on my own and I need You to send the Holy Spirit to help me. Thank You for loving me so much.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Chronicles 28:11-21
& 29:1-9



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Abiathar, the high priest, was exiled for his treason in following Adonijah. Abiathar had not trusted God's choice in choosing Solomon to be king. He was not killed because of respect for his office as high priest. Taking away that position was punishment enough. Abiathar was the last in the line of priests from Eli's house. Zadok, who was also a high priest, was given that sole position. Joab's life was taken for his treason in siding with Adonijah. Even though Joab had been loyal to David up until he defected, Joab had committed crimes, which he now paid for. Solomon gave Joab's position as commander in chief to Benaiah. The Bible tells us Shimei was also killed for his unfaithfulness.

All these killings are not very nice to read about, and it's hard to understand at times. I'm so grateful for Jesus and what He has done for us by dying on the cross for our sins. Jesus paid the penalty for us. All we have to do is come to Him, repent, and ask for forgiveness with a humble heart.



FIND A WORD

In today's reading how many times does the name 'Joab' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





FRIDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, Thank You for protecting me and keeping me safe this past week. Help me to prepare for Your Sabbath today and be mindful that the Sabbath is drawing near. I love you Lord.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 2:26-46



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, God gave David the plans for the temple just as He had done with Moses for the original sanctuary. David gave Solomon these plans as well as huge amounts of gold, silver and bronze for making the articles to go inside the temple and out in the courtyard. David himself gave, from his own personal treasure, three thousand talents of gold. A talent was a measurement of weight used back at that time. A talent in today's measurement is around 33kgs. David made an appeal to his people and they donated precious materials with a joyful heart. One of the things the people gave was an extra five thousand talents of gold. With the three thousand David gave that makes eight thousand talents. That amount in today's value is around fourteen billion Australian dollars' worth of gold! That's a lot of gold!

Take a look at verse 9 again. This situation is familiar, as it has happened before. Check out *Exodus 35:20-29*.




FIND A WORD

In today's Bible reading, how many times did the word 'talents' appear? _____

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





TUESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for all You do for me every single day. Help me to have a joyful happy heart. Help me to be kind and generous to my family and friends. Help me to always think of others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 1:1-27



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today informs us that David, when he knew his death was near, again encouraged his son Solomon to remain faithful to God. David knew the future success of Israel was dependant on Solomon's faithfulness. David gave some instructions as to what should happen to certain individuals that had either wronged the kingdom or who had done what was right. David died of old age and was buried in Jerusalem.

Adonijah, Solomon's half-brother, died for overstepping his boundary. He had dared to ask king Solomon, through his mother Bathsheba, for their father's maidservant Abishag as a wife. Abishag had been chosen to be David's carer while he was bedridden. When Adonijah asked for this request it was just another way of him trying to take away the throne from Solomon. Adonijah was the fourth son of David to die as told in the prophecy.

We have been through an amazing journey with David, as he lived an extraordinary life. David was 'a man after God's own heart'. Even though David had made some big mistakes he always repented and God forgave him. David was faithful in worshipping God alone and didn't worship other gods. That's why you will come across references further along in the Bible telling about David's faithfulness.



FIND A WORD

In today's reading, how many times was the name 'Abishag' mentioned? _____

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





THURSDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to this world to die for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins and help me to learn from my mistakes and to grow stronger in my faith in You.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 2:1-25



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today is an interesting one. It tells us about Adonijah, who was David's fourth born son. Verse 6 tells us David never reprimanded him for his behaviour, just as he had neglected to do with his other children. Adonijah decided he wanted to be king. He would have been well aware that Solomon was chosen by God to be the next king. Go to *1 Chronicles 28:1-8*. Adonijah rebelled against God. Verse 7 of *1 Kings 1* tells us that Joab, David's long standing commander, and the high priest, Abiathar, committed treason and chose to follow Adonijah. They travelled not far from Jerusalem to make animal sacrifices and have a feast to proclaim Adonijah king.

The prophet Nathan found out what Adonijah was planning and went to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother. He advised her to go and tell David, who was now old and bed ridden, what was taking place.

Rebellion against God never ends well. Take a look at *Numbers 14:9*, *Ezekiel 20:21* and *Isaiah 63:10*.



FIND A WORD

In today's reading, how many times does the word 'throne' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





WEDNESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for keeping me safe today. Help me to stay loyal and faithful to You. Please bless me with wisdom so I can make the right choices. I love you Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JAMES 1:5

"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".

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Kings 1:28-53



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

From our reading today we find out that David listened to Bathsheba and Nathan, and chose to abdicate or give up the throne in favour of his son Solomon. David gave instructions to Zadok, the priest, and Nathan, the prophet, as to what they were to do. Solomon was proclaimed king. The people of Judah celebrated with great joy. When the news got to Adonijah and his followers the rebellion was quickly disbanded. Adonijah, fearing for his life because of the treason he had committed, begged Solomon for his life. Solomon agreed not to kill him but warned him that if he did anything wrong, proving himself unworthy, he would die.

Notice in verse 38 that Solomon rode his father's mule, or donkey, in the ceremony proclaiming him king. Riding a donkey had a great significance with the Israelite kings. It was a sign of humility, peace and bearing burdens. Riding a horse was associated with war as it stood for human strength and pride. Can you think of another person in the Bible who rode on a donkey while people cheered?



FIND A WORD

In today's Bible reading, how many times did the word 'mule' appear?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

