



September 5, 2021

“So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.”

I Kings 3:9a

I. The Wealth of Wisdom (I Kings 4:29 – 34)

- A. The poster boy = “Solomon” = Heb “*Peace*” = Son of David and 3rd King of Israel
- B. God gave him 1) Wisdom (*hakma*), 2) largeness of heart, and 3) understanding (*tabun*) beyond all in the world
- C. He authored 3,000 proverbs, over 1,000 songs, and Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon
- D. A wide variety of knowledge so that many came from around the world to hear his wisdom

II. The Way of Wisdom (I Kings 3:3 – 9)

- A. How did Solomon come to be filled with this wisdom? What can we learn?
- B. #1 – Right place with God – worshipping at Gibeon
- C. #2 – Real humility before the Lord (7 signs of humility)

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| | i. My Lord (Yahweh) and my God (Elohim) – personal relationship |
| | ii. God had MADE him King – all we have comes from God |
| | iii. Following father David – impossible! |
| | iv. “I am only a little child” – no ego, honest need |
| | v. “do not know how” to be king – honest need/help |
| | vi. “too numerous to count or number” – big job/need help |
| | vii. No one can do this! – I can’t do this! |

- D. #3 – Request the Lord’s help – 1) Discerning heart, and 2) Distinguishing right and wrong

III. The Wonder of the Wisdom-giver (I Kings 3:10 – 14)

- A. What did the Wisdom-giver do?
 - 1. He was “pleased” to give Solomon a “wise and discerning heart”
 - 2. He gave Solomon even a bonus! Wealth and honor!
 - 3. And, He promised long life if Solomon walks in obedience
- B. What about us? Do you wish God has made us this offer? (Matt. 7:7; Jn 15:7; I Jn 5:14)
- C. Does God still give wisdom to people? (Jam. 1:5; Prov. 1:7, 2:6; Ecc. 2:26)

Solomon’s Prayer: *Lord give your servant a discerning heart and the ability to distinguish between what is right and wrong*