

## **104 11. EVEN GOD'S BEST STUMBLE. Ask King David.**

I would encourage you start here with a personal prayer for knowledge, wisdom, discernment, love & God's full spirit of understanding, to get the most from all God has to offer you & to not be quick, to dismiss anything that you may disagree with, or have learned differently, but that you would take this chance to prove the truth for yourself, as you deserve all Gods best & all His truth in your life, which requires study & prayer.

God had chosen David, as the next King of Israel, the same David that killed the giant Goliath & who was called "a man after God's own heart" to replace Saul, but after Saul's death one of his sons took the throne for 2 years, before being assassinated, though Judah Israel's Southern Kingdom had stayed following King David as the true 2nd King of Israel 2Sam.2:4.

King David was a Godly King, who founded the Judaeen dynasty, united Israel's 2 kingdoms back together & established Jerusalem as the eternal capital of Israel. He was a great king, but as a man, he had faults & sins as well, as he once had one of his soldiers killed, to cover up his own adulterous affair with the soldier's wife Bathsheba, who was now pregnant with David's child, to which this child would die 2 Sam. 11.

David had brought the ark of the covenant into the city but was denied by God, the honor of building the temple, 2Sam.7:11, likely due to his sins with & against Bathsheba & Uriah, her husband, but His son Solomon would be great & wise & succeed Him & would build God's temple in Jerusalem. So, David's son Solomon was the 3rd & final king of United Israel & David gave him the plans for the Temple & said; my son, know

the God of your father & serve Him with a loyal heart & a willing mind; for the Lord searches hearts & understands the intent of all thoughts.

If you seek Him, He will be found; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever, follow now, for the Lord has chosen you to build His temple; so be strong & do it, 1 Chron. 28:9-11.

King Solomon sought after God & God allowed him one request of anything he wanted, Solomon humbly asked for wisdom, to govern God's people righteously. God was pleased & gave him greater riches & wisdom than any other king, as well as peace on all fronts, during most of his reign, 1 Kings 10:23-25.

Solomon became Israel's wisest man & king & God's favor was with him & he ruled for 40 years, writing many proverbs & songs, 1 Kings 4:32 & completed many building projects, including the temple for God's people, 1 Kings 7:1-12; 9:15, he built a fleet of ships & acquired tons of gold; yet he also did much to break the kingdom down.

He had angered God by taking many wives, including ones he allowed to build alters to pagan gods, who also lead him into idolatry, 1 Kings 11:1-13 & though he made Jerusalem one of the wonders of the world, the kingdom was now ready for collapse & when he died the kingdom split in two, after the Northern tribes refused to accept Solomon's son as their king. This split Israel into the Northern & Southern Kingdom of Judah & Jerusalem.

Samaria (Israel) the Northern kingdom, was conquered by the Assyrian Empire in 772AD & Judah, the Southern Kingdom, was conquered by the Neo-Babylonian Empire in 586 BC.

Much can be learned from the life of Solomon through the words he spoke, such as; When we seek God with all of our heart, we will find Him, 1 Kings 3:3; Those who honor God will be honored by Him, 1 Kings 3:11; if we trust God, He will equip us for the tasks He calls us to, 1 Kings 3; We should ask God to incline our hearts toward Him, 1 Kings 8:57–58. We must be careful of the company we keep, as life lived apart from God will be meaningless, regardless of education, accomplishments, pleasures, or wealth, Ecclesiastes 1:2; The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom & instruction, Proverbs 1:7; Iron sharpens iron, & one man sharpens another, Prov 27:17; Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy, Proverbs 31:9; Commit your work to the Lord & your plans will be established, Proverbs 16:3; The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice, Proverbs 12:15; Trust in the Lord with all your heart & do not lean on your own understanding, Proverbs 3:5; Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise your good words, Proverbs 23:9.

There is so much more to hear about Solomon & can be found in in the bible, in the books of Kings & Proverbs.