



# A Summary of the Old Testament

*within the word*

# Lesson Thirteen | Solomon, the Wisest King of Israel

## Day One

1. Solomon was anointed king of Israel by his father, King David, shortly before his death. Now, it is his turn to lead this great nation for God. Even though Solomon had been merciful to Adonijah after his attempt to seize the crown, we see Adonijah is still plotting a way to take over.

Read 1 Kings 2: 13-25.

If Adonijah could not take the kingdom by force, he was willing to take it by craftiness. Taking Abishag, King David's concubine, was perceived by Solomon as an attempt to claim the throne. It was treason!

What was the result for Adonijah?

2. Solomon chooses this time to deal with Abiathar and Joab, who had been supporters of Adonijah's attempt to seize the kingdom.

Read 2 Kings 2:26-35.

What happened to these two men?

3. Read 1 Kings 2:36-46.  
Solomon is prepared to carry out his father's instructions and deal with Shimei. You may recall Shimei had cursed David when he was running from Absalom. (1 Kings 2:8-9)

What does Solomon offer Shimei as his punishment?

4. Did Shimei respect the king's orders?
5. When you are given clear instructions from someone in a position of leadership, are you careful to carry it out exactly as instructed?  
Can you think of a situation where you might have disregarded a clear command and suffered for it?  
What was the cost?
6. Do you believe Shimei thought he had a valid reason to disobey the King's command?

7. Read 1 Kings 3:1-15  
King Solomon went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices. In a dream, God spoke to Solomon and told him to name whatever he desired, and it would be given.

What did Solomon say he wanted?  
What did God promise he would have?

## Day Two

1. 1 Kings 3:16-28 contains a story that has been shared by many, throughout the years, as an example of great wisdom.

List the characters mentioned in this story?

2. We will probably never face a situation like Solomon faced, between these two women. However, every day we are faced with decisions that are not easily decided.

What is our best course of action to make a wise choice?

3. What do you think Solomon saw in one mother that allowed him to see clearly to make this ruling?
4. Do you recall the words of Samuel to the people of Israel when they begged for a king?

Go back and read 1 Samuel 8:10-17.  
What had Samuel warned them a king would require?

5. Read 1 Kings 4:22-28.

What were the daily provisions king Solomon required of the people?

- a. Flour and meal \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Livestock \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Barley and straw \_\_\_\_\_

6. Locate Tyre and Sidon on a good Bible map.

7. Read 1 Kings 5.

Solomon and the king of Tyre made an agreement to exchange of goods.  
Solomon will supply \_\_\_\_\_ to Hiram.  
Hiram will supply \_\_\_\_\_ to Solomon.

Once again, we see the words of Samuel the prophet ringing true. King Solomon drafted laborers from all Israel. He took the best of all those living in Israel for his purposes.

8. 1 Kings 6:1 tells us exactly when Solomon began building the temple. He began in his \_\_\_\_\_ year as king, which was \_\_\_\_\_ years after the Israelites came out of Egyptian bondage.



9. Read 1 Kings 6, how long did this construction project last?
10. What promises did God make King Solomon?

## Day Three

1. 1 Kings 7 gives the details of Solomon's second building project, the building of his palace. Scripture tells us that it took thirteen years for Solomon's palace to be completed.

Read 1 Kings 7:1-2.

How did the palace compare in size to the temple?

2. According to 1 Kings 8:1-21, the construction of the temple took 7 years, nearly 1 year later all furnishings were complete. King Solomon called for the elders and leaders of the tribes to come to Jerusalem for a time of worship and praise as the Ark of the Covenant was placed in the Holy of Holies.

What was the significance of the Ark being placed in this room?

3. What was the Ark of the Covenant associated with?
4. What act of wise leadership do we see in 1 Kings 8:22?

Now read 1 Kings 8:54-63, 65-66.

What did King Solomon do and what was the response of the people?

5. We have not been called to, literally, build a temple like Solomon. However, if we are a child of God, we have God's Spirit living in us. The purpose of the temple was to serve as a place of worship.

How might we apply this to our daily interactions with others?

Do we offer a safe place to come and draw closer to God?

Do we remind others that they are not alone, there is a loving God who longs to have a relationship with them?

Does our presence and conversation point them to reconciliation with our great God?

6. Read 1 Kings 9:1-9.  
Solomon has finished his work and God meets with him for the second time.

What words of blessings and warnings did the LORD speak to him?

7. God blessed Solomon with great riches and fame. Kings and queens came from all over to see how God had blessed him and hear him speak. God had given him great wisdom.

Read 1 Kings 10:1-10.

Who did the queen of Sheba praise and give the glory?

8. King Solomon did many things wisely, but when we read 1 Kings 11:1-6, what was one area of weakness?

## Day Four

1. Read 1 Kings 11:7-13.

What was the LORD's response to Solomon's activities?

2. How carefully are you following God's commands?

Read Micah 6:8 and write it below.

This is a great verse to write on sticky notes to be placed strategically around the house in order to see them often.

3. Life can become difficult in many areas when we lose focus on obedience to God. Like all of us, Solomon had people who opposed him. One of them was a man named Jeroboam.

Read 1 Kings 11:26-40.

Who did Jeroboam meet as he was leaving the city of Jerusalem?

What did you learn about this man?

4. Read 1 Kings 11:41-43.  
What facts did you see concerning King Solomon's rule?
5. What are some lessons you have gleaned from your study of King Solomon?
6. I feel we would miss some very important information if we did not take a few minutes to look at the book titled, Song of Solomon. This is the story of a love that is both deep and pure.

Some Bible scholars say it is speaking of God's love for his people, others say it is the love of a man for his wife. I believe both are true. I believe God gave us this beautiful story to give us an example of what a pure, honoring, and loving relationship looks like. It is a beautiful picture of God's love for us and of the love of a bride and groom.

Chapter 1 begins with the lovers stating their feelings about one another. How does the young woman describe her lover's name in verse 3?

If you like doing research on your own look up oil in the Bible. What was it used for during this time and how valuable was it?

7. Sadly, this young girl has been made to feel insecure about her physical appearance.  
What does her lover say about her in Song of Solomon 1:8-10,15 and in 2:2?
8. Have you ever felt less-than?
9. Have you ever felt your physical appearance made you of less worth?
10. What did her lover say about her?
11. Read John 15:12-15, Psalm 139:13-14, and 1 John 4:19.  
What does God say about you?

## Day Five

1. In Song of Solomon 2:8-9, she is listening for his voice. To what does she compare hearing him speak?
2. Song of Solomon 2:15 is a warning that we would be wise to listen to and watch out for. What are we being warned of here?

Take a minute and think about your marriage, what are some little foxes (stumbling blocks) that can come in and spoil your harvest of a rich and meaningful marriage partnership?

Think about your relationship with your heavenly Father, what are some little foxes that come in and steal the sweet fellowship you long to enjoy with Him?

3. What could you do to keep foxes out of your vineyard (your relationships)?

I read an article today, 3 deterrents to keep foxes out of your garden. How might these apply to the relationships you would like to see flourish?

- Tidy up your garden, don't give them a place to hide
- Don't leave low hanging fruit that easily entices them.
- Put out deterrents. They suggested spraying the area with certain sprays foxes do not like, such as ammonia.

4. Read Song of Solomon 4:9-10, this lover describes himself as being captivated by her. He declares she is better than wine.

What do you think he means by this compliment?

5. In Song of Solomon 4:11, he described her mouth as dripping with milk and honey. Where have we read about something described as, "...*flowing with milk and honey*?" (Hint, Exodus 3:8)
6. When you think of the words that pass from your lips, are they nourishing as milk and sweet and refreshing like honey?
7. When questioned by her friends, in Song of Solomon 5:9, "*What is your beloved more than another beloved?*" Her response is beautiful.

How does she describe him in verses 10-16?

What do you believe she is trying to express about the man she loves?

8. What would you say if someone asked this question about your mate?  
Remember, this book is not only about your marriage partner. It is about our greatest love, the LORD.

In what ways is our God more than the other things someone might trust in?

9. Think about all we have seen in just these few verses of Song of Solomon today. Why not take some time to read these 8 chapters in their entirety. Or you could put your earbuds in and listen to it read to you.

Do not forget these are words your God wants you to hear. He is speaking to you.

10. As we have done each week, add God's character qualities you have seen to your list on **The Character of God** page. Some of His qualities may be repeated from chapter to chapter but you may also see new ones as well.

Please, do not leave this undone. The purpose of our study is to get to know our God.