Solomon’s Legacy

The Golden Age of Solomon

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A Famous Visit

The Queen of Sheba comes to see if Solomon’s reputation is true.
1 Kings 10:1-5

1 Now when the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with difficult questions.
1 Kings 10:1-5

So she came to Jerusalem with a very large retinue, with camels carrying spices and very much gold and precious stones. When she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart.
3 Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was hidden from the king which he did not explain to her.
4 When the queen of Sheba perceived all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built,
5 the food of his table, the seating of his servants, the attendance of his waiters and their attire, his cupbearers, and his stairway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her.
A Famous Visit

A key word in her conclusion: “Blessed.”
1 Kings 10:6-10

6 Then she said to the king, “It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom.
1 Kings 10:6-10

7 Nevertheless I did not believe the reports, until I came and my eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. You exceed in wisdom and prosperity the report which I heard.
8 How blessed are your men, how blessed are these your servants who stand before you continually and hear your wisdom.
9 Blessed be the LORD your God who delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel; because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.”
1 Kings 10:6-10

10 She gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a very great \textit{amount} of spices and precious stones. Never again did such abundance of spices come in as that which the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon.
The Splendor of Solomon

➢ We see the greatness of his:

Imports
1 Kings 10:14-15

14 Now the weight of gold which came in to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold,
15 besides that from the traders and the wares of the merchants and all the kings of the Arabs and the governors of the country.
1 Kings 10:22

22 For the king had at sea the ships of Tarshish with the ships of Hiram; once every three years the ships of Tarshish came bringing gold and silver, ivory and apes and peacocks.
1 Kings 10:28-29

28 Also Solomon’s import of horses was from Egypt and Kue, and the king’s merchants procured them from Kue for a price.
29 A chariot was imported from Egypt for 600 shekels of silver, and a horse for 150; and by the same means they exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and to the kings of the Arameans.
The Splendor of Solomon

➢ We see the greatness of his: 

Shields
16 King Solomon made 200 large shields of beaten gold, using 600 shekels of gold on each large shield.

17 *He made* 300 shields of beaten gold, using three minas of gold on each shield, and the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.
The Splendor of Solomon

➢ We see the greatness of his: Throne
1 Kings 10:18-20

18 Moreover, the king made a great throne of ivory and overlaid it with refined gold.

19 There were six steps to the throne and a round top to the throne at its rear, and arms on each side of the seat, and two lions standing beside the arms.
20 Twelve lions were standing there on the six steps on the one side and on the other; nothing like it was made for any other kingdom.
The Splendor of Solomon

➢ We see the greatness of his:

Drinking Vessels
21 All King Solomon’s drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold. None was of silver; it was not considered valuable in the days of Solomon.
27 The king made silver as common as stones in Jerusalem, and he made cedars as plentiful as sycamore trees that are in the lowland.
The Splendor of Solomon

➢ We see the greatness of his: Chariots
Now Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen; and he had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, and he stationed them in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.
As we’ve seen, he also used some of that wealth on the temple.
1 Kings 6:2

² As for the house which King Solomon built for the LORD, its length was sixty cubits and its width twenty cubits and its height thirty cubits.
1 Kings 6:4

4 Also for the house he made windows with *artistic* frames.
1 Kings 6:22

22 He overlaid the whole house with gold, until all the house was finished. Also the whole altar which was by the inner sanctuary he overlaid with gold.
The Splendor of Solomon

A summary passage:

1 Kings 10:23-25
23 So King Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom.
24 All the earth was seeking the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart.
25 They brought every man his gift, articles of silver and gold, garments, weapons, spices, horses, and mules, so much year by year.
Lessons to Think About

1) What Jesus taught about the queen’s visit: Matthew 12:42
The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.
Lessons to Think About

2) Living in **wisdom** shows God’s **glory**.
1 Kings 10:1

¹ Now when the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with difficult questions.
So keep and do them, for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’
Deuteronomy 4:6-8

7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the LORD our God whenever we call on Him?
8 Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today?
Lessons to Think About

2½) Don’t forget: there are better blessings than wealth!
And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,

yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.
But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!
Lessons to Think About

3) **Blessings** are opportunities to do **good** for God.

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1 Kings 10:9

9 Blessed be the LORD your God who delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel; because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.”
Romans 12:6-8

6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;
Romans 12:6-8

7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;

8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
Colossians 3:17

17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.
So teach us to number our days, That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.  

–Psalm 90:12