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King Solomon: Money, Sex, and Power
First Kings 1:1 to 11:43



When **Solomon** ascended to the throne, the people of Isra'el soon learned that he was not another **David**. **He** was a scholar, not a soldier, a man more interested in erecting buildings than fighting battles. **David** enjoyed a simple life of a shepherd, but **Solomon** chose to live in luxury. Both **David** and **Solomon** wrote songs, but **Solomon** is better known for **his** proverbs. We have many of **David's** songs in the book of **Psalms**, but except for **Psalm 72** and **127**, and **the Song of Solomon**, we have none of **Solomon's** three thousand songs.

David was a shepherd who loved and served **God's** flock, while **Solomon** became a celebrity who used the people to help support **his** extravagant lifestyle. When **David** died, the people mourned; when **Solomon** died, the people begged **his** successor, King Rehoboam, to lighten the heavy financial yoke his father had put on their necks. **David** was a warrior who put his trust in **ADONAI**; **Solomon** was a politician who put **his** trust money, sex, and power. In some respects, **Solomon** was among the wisest fools who ever wore a crown.

Solomon is mentioned nearly three hundred times in the TaNaKh and a dozen times in the B'rit Chadashah. **He's** listed in the genealogy of **Yeshua Messiah (Mt 1:6-7)** and is cited as an example of splendor **(Mt 6:29; Lk 12:27)** and wisdom **(Mt 12:42; Lk 11:31)**. **He** is identified as the builder of the Temple **(Acts 7:47)**. One of the colonnades in the Temple was named after **him (Jn 10:23; Acts 3:11**

and **5:12)**. **His** father, **David**, was recognized as the ideal leader, and **his** record became the standard by which every succeeding king of Judah was measured. However, no one pointed to **Solomo**n as a good example of godly leadership.[24]