

The Slippery Slope of Idolatry

1 Kings 10:14-11:10

1. Solomon's WISDOM manifested (10:1-13; 8:41-43, 59-60)

2. Solomon's WEALTH multiplied (10:14-29)

3. Solomon's WAYWARD heart (11:1-10; 1 Cor. 10:11-12)

A. WARNING signs of a heart not wholly true to God (Dt. 17:14-20)

1) LABOR force (1 Kings 12:4; Dt. 7:1-4; 2 Cor. 8:9)

Q: What are some specific ways you can serve others in love? (Gal. 5:13)

2) GOLD accumulation (Dt. 17:17b; Job 31:24-28; Ecc. 5:10, 12:13)

Q: How can you lay up treasures in Heaven by using what God has given you for His glory and the good of others? (1 Tim. 6:17-19)

3) HORSE accumulation (Dt. 17:16; Ps. 20:7, 33:16-17)

Q: Is your life a living testimony that you are trusting in the Lord? (Pr. 3:5-6)

4) PAGAN wives (1 Kings 11:1-3; Dt. 17:17, 7:1-6; Neh. 13:26; 2 Cor. 6:14)

Q: Are you guarding your heart concerning your relationships? (Pr. 4:23)

5) IDOL worship (Dt. 17:18-20)

Q: Are you daily treasuring up God's Word in your heart and letting it direct how you live? (Ps. 19:7-11; 119:105; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

“Solomon is a paradox... Solomon serves as both example and warning. Like Solomon we need to learn how to steward God's gifts responsibly. We have a sinful tendency to take good things and use them wrongly. Sex, money, food, and influence are wonderful blessings when used accordingly for God's glory, but they can be abused and can destroy lives. Therefore, we need to learn from this story - the story of Solomon's tainted glory and his tragic downfall. His rise to greatness is something to behold, but it's short-lived and impure at times... In studying his life we must learn to avoid his sins and to marvel at the One greater than Solomon.”¹

¹ Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Kings*, 55-56.