

## *The Marriages of Solomon and his Repentance Part 1*

*“1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites: 2 Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. 7 Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. 8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods. 9 And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, 10 And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded. 11 Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. 12 Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. 13 Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen. 14 And the LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom. 15 For it came to pass, when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the host was gone up to bury the slain, after he had smitten every male in Edom; 16 (For six months did Joab remain there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom:) 17 That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child. 18 And they arose out of Midian, and came to Paran: and they took men with them out of Paran, and they came to Egypt, unto Pharaoh king of Egypt; which gave him an house, and appointed him victuals, and gave him land. 19 And Hadad found great favour in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him to wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen. 20 And the sister of Tahpenes bare him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house: and Genubath was in Pharaoh's household among the sons of Pharaoh. 21 And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country. 22 Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country? And he answered, Nothing: howbeit let me go in any wise. 23 And God stirred him up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, which fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah: 24 And he gathered men unto him, and became captain over a band, when David slew them of Zobah: and they went to Damascus, and dwelt therein, and reigned in Damascus. 25 And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria. 26 And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his hand against the king. 27 And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the*

*king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father. 28 And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph. 29 And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field: 30 And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces: 31 And he said to Jeroboam, Take thee ten pieces: for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee: 32 (But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:) 33 Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father. 34 Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes: 35 But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes. 36 And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there. 37 And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel. 38 And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee. 39 And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever. 40 Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon. 41 And the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon? 42 And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. 43 And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.” (1 Kings 11:1-43 KJV)*

From the beginning of the book of *1 Kings*, we can read nothing of Solomon but what was great and good, but the luster both of his goodness and his greatness is here in this chapter sullied and eclipsed, and his sunsets under a cloud. The glory of his piety is stained by his departure from God and His duty, in his latter days in marrying many strange wives and worshipping their strange gods as we read in *1 Kings 11:1-8*. The glory of his prosperity is stained by God's displeasure against him and the fruits of that displeasure of God when He sent him an angry message as we read in *1 Kings 11:9-13*. God stirred up enemies against Solomon, who gave him disturbance. The first was Hadad as we read in *1 Kings 11:14-22*, and the second was Rezon as we read in *1 Kings 11:23-25*. Then God would give away later on ten tribes of his twelve tribes, from his posterity after him, to Jeroboam, whom therefore Solomon sought in vain to slay as we can read in verses *1 Kings 11:26-40*, and all that remains here in *1 Kings 11:41-43* to be told concerning King Solomon, was his death and burial.

Reading the first eight verses from *1 Kings 11*, it is a sad story, and very surprising, of Solomon's defection and degeneration. First, let us enquire into the occasions and the particulars of it. Shall Solomon fall, that was the beauty of Israel, and so great a blessing of

his generation? Yes, it is too true; he fell, and the Scripture is faithful in relating it, and repeating it, and referring to it long after, for we can read the fall of Solomon later on in the Scriptures in the writing of Nehemiah, ***“26 Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin.” (Nehemiah 13:26 KJV)*** This is the summary of Solomon’s apostasy; it was the women that deceived him and caused him to transgress. He doted on many strange women. He gave himself to women, which his mother had particularly cautioned him against them: ***“2 What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows? 3 Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.” (Proverbs 31:2-3 KJV)*** Yes and true, women can destroy kings. Solomon’s father, King David fall began with the lusts of the flesh, which Solomon should have taken warning by; the multiple marriages of David were adultery, but Solomon did not take warning of that. The multiple marriages of Solomon were adultery and were the same as having relationships with prostitutes.

The love of women has cast down many great men wounded, ***“26 For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. (Proverbs 7:26 KJV)*** Solomon wrote that but he did not apply it to his life. Solomon took many women, so many that, at last, they amounted to 700 wives and 300 concubines; 1000 in all, and no one good among them, as he wrote that in his repentant sermon ***“27 Behold, this have I found, saith the preacher, counting one by one, to find out the account: 28 Which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man among a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found.” (Ecclesiastes 7:27-28 KJV)***

God had, by His law, particularly forbidden the kings to multiply neither horses nor wives, ***“16 But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way. 17 Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.” (Deuteronomy 17:16-17 KJV)*** Solomon broke this law, in multiplying horses, and having them out of Egypt too (which was expressly prohibited in that law) as we read: ***“29 And a chariot came up and went out of Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty: and so for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, did they bring them out by their means.” (1 Kings 10:29 KJV)*** Possibly God’s instruction not to multiply horses so they will not have pride and start to think and do their own will and move back to Egypt.

***“17 Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.” (Deuteronomy 17:17 KJV)*** Here we are told how King Solomon broke that in multiplying wives. **Here it is very clear that God commanded the kings to have one wife and not to multiply them in order to be good example to others to avoid multiple marriages.**

David had multiplied wives too much, and perhaps that made Solomon presume it lawful. **\* Note, If those that are in reputation for religion in anything set a bad example, they know not what a deal of mischief they may do by it, particularly to their children. One bad act of a good man may be of more pernicious consequence to others, than twenty of a wicked man. \* Many churches now a day accept and condone divorce and remarriage, and that had set the bad**

**example to others and to the new believers and to the new converts to go through this wicked and pernicious way.**

Probably Solomon, when he began to multiply wives, intended not to exceed his father’s number. **But the way of sin is down-hill; those that have got into it cannot easily stop themselves.**

**Divine wisdom has appointed one woman for one man, and those who do not think one enough will not think two or three enough. Unbridled lust will be unbounded, and the loosened lust will wander endlessly.**

But this was not all that Solomon did: In addition to multiple marriages, they were also strange women, Moabites, Ammonites, etc., of the nations which God had particularly forbidden them to intermarry with, ***“1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites: 2 Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.” (1 Kings 11:1-2 KJV)*** Some may think it was in policy that he married these foreigners, by them to get intelligence of the state of those countries, and to find out how he can invade them. **But more likely Solomon married foreigners because the daughters of Israel were too serious in their modesty for him, and he cannot do with them what he likes. But the foreigner women were pleasing his lust by their looseness and the immorality of their dress, makeup, and conversation.**

Possibly Solomon had a women’s house, as the other houses of his treasures. This house of women replenished with women that which was brought from other nations because he cannot do certain indecent things with the Israelites women. It is a disgrace to the Israelites to be in such women’s house and be mistresses only kept for pleasures. That was most likely what drove Solomon to marry and have foreign wives from other nations.

And, to complete the mischief, ***“Solomon clave unto these in love.” (1 Kings 11:2 KJV)*** What can be understood from this statement, that Solomon not only kept them, but was extravagantly fond of them, set his heart upon them, spent his time among them, thought everything well what they said and did, and despised all the women of Israel, in comparison of them.

Solomon was a master of a great deal of knowledge, but to what purpose, when he had no self-control over himself? Solomon was drawn by these wives to the worship of strange gods, as Israel to Baalpeor by the daughters of Moab. This was the bad consequence of his multiple wives. We have reason to think that these marriages with foreign wives had impaired his health, and hastened upon him the decays of age. They might even exhaust his treasures, which, though were vast indeed, would be found little enough to maintain the pride and the vanity of all these women. These women had caused him, in his latter end, to neglect his business, by which he lost his supplies from abroad, and was forced, for the keeping up of his splendor, to burden his subjects with those taxes which they complained of as they said, ***“4 Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.” (1 Kings 12:4 KJV)***

But the worse consequences of his multiple wives were this: ***“3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.” (1 Kings 11:3-4 KJV)***

***I. His wives turned away his heart after other gods: “5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.” (1 Kings 11:5 KJV)*** Solomon grew cold and indifferent in his faith and careless in the service of the God of Israel and started to worship and serve idols.

***II. His heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father:*** Solomon started to forget and neglect some or a big part of his commitment toward God and toward His temple.

***III. “6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.” (1 Kings 11:6 KJV):*** Solomon’s heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, nor did he follow Him fully like David. We cannot suppose that he cast off the worship of God, or that he restrained or hindered the temple service; but he grew less frequent, and less serious, in his going to the house of the Lord and his attendance on God’s altar. He left his first love, lost his zeal for God, and did not persevere to the end as he had begun; therefore it is said he was not perfect, because he was not constant; and he followed not God fully, because he turned from following Him, and did not continue to the end. His father David had many faults, but he never neglected the worship of God, nor grew negligent in that, as Solomon did; for his foreign wives used all their arts to divert him from it, and there began his apostasy.

***IV. He tolerated and maintained his wives in their idolatry and made no hesitation of joining with them in it:*** When Solomon began to grow careless in the worship of God and imperfect toward Him, he was pulled and deceived to build chapels for these gods, so he maintained and supported their priests, and perhaps himself attend their altars. ***“7 Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.” (1 Kings 11:7 KJV)*** When Solomon will do this to one of his wives, the rest would take it ill if he will not do to them in like manner, therefore he needed to do it for all his wives to satisfy them, ***“8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.” (1 Kings 11:8 KJV)***

***My Dear and Beloved:*** Consider the message seriously in your life and start to check your heart and your ways before God. Have you started to lose your fervent love that you had before when you first believed and now you become lukewarm? Have you allowed your eyes to lust after the desires of the flesh? Have you allowed women to rule and control your heart more than God and His Word in your life? Is your heart became not perfect before God and you started to lose your commitments before him one by one? Have you started to spend more of your time, strength and resources on women, and on the things of this world from material things and the perishing treasures of this world?

It is a time for you to wake up from your sleep and open your eyes and see how much you had move away from the right path that God had ordained for you to go through. It is time for you to come to God in repentance and throw away all kinds of temptation; women, lust, love of money, love of material things and love of fame. It is time for you to restore your first love to God and to go back to Him in spending more time with Him in prayer, listening to His voice and in reading His Word. It is a time for you to cut your relations with women, friends, none believers and break your yoke with the Media that are exhausting you, affecting your health, and wasting your resources and put you on more curses and the consequences of such sins. It is time for you to come back to God and start to serve Him in doing His will and got involved in the ministries of God and in building up His church. Let us pray . . .

***My Prayer:*** Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your teaching that I received in this message. Thank you for the rebukes, the corrections and the admonishments that helped me to set my life back in the right way that you want me to go through.

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins especially the sin of immorality, having multiple partners, multiple marriages and the lust of the flesh. Confess and renounce your worldliness, the lust of your eyes and your love for worldly things. Confess and renounce your bad example to others and especially to your children and to other people in the society around you. Confess and renounce your idol worship and your service to other gods. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers and the sinful culture of your tradition. Confess and renounce your moving away from serving God and your non willingness to suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.

Lord I commit myself to cut my immoral relationship with the following persons\_\_\_\_\_. Lord I commit my life to move away from friends, non believers and the Media and start to serve you. Lord I commit my life to be good example to my children and to the people around me in living a Godly life and in willingness to serve you.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins and are willing to be cleansed from the sin of immorality, worshipping idols and serve them. Lord give them more fruit of the Holy Spirit especially patient and self-control so they will not be tempted. Devil and the spirit of lust I rebuke you in the name of Jesus, go away and don’t come back to them. Lord use them in the ministry to serve you and let others see Christ in their lives. Lord bless them, provide for them, answer their prayers and lead them into your will in their lives and make their lives good examples to others to follow you. Lord I pray for others who still in sin, Lord give them and teach them your ways so they will repent and do your will.

Lord, bless us as your church. and help us to stand firm to implement the teaching that we had studied in this message. Lord we pray for more people to be set free from this sin of immoralities and the lust of the flesh. Lord lead us to help people who are involved in such a sin. Lord we ask you to refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in order to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.’ Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the

*grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

The Marriages of Solomon and his Repentance Part 1. 1 Kings 11:1-43. Nehemiah 13:26. Proverbs 31:2-3. Proverbs 7:26. Ecclesiastes 7:27-28. Deuteronomy 17:16-17. 1 Kings 10:29.

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