**THE SINFUL FOLLY OF SOLOMON**

**1 Kings 11:1 – 10**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. It may well be said, the most prosperous period in the economy and history of Israel, was during the time of the reign of Solomon.

 A. Everyone who came in contact with him admired his accomplishments.

 1. Even the Queen of Sheba stated, of him “the half was not told” (1 Kgs 10:7).

2. The promise made to bless him with wisdom, riches and honor was fulfilled (1 Kgs 3:12, 13).

 A. **BUT**, even with the vast amount of wisdom, he finds himself in trouble with God.

**BODY:**

**1. MISPLACED LOVE (1 Kgs 11:1)**

A. Marriage is the 1st of three institutions ordained by God (Gen 2:23, 24).

 1. Therein one man and one woman were to become “one flesh”.

 B. When Solomon took 700 wives/300 concubines, he violated (Deu 7:1 – 6; 17:16, 17) ***NOT*** to “multiply wives” and keep their hearts from being turned away from God.

 C. When he “clave” (1 Kgs 11:2) to these women, he sought to please them, ***NOT*** God.

 1. It is natural and Scriptural for a man to seek to please his wife (1 Cor 7:33).

 A. Notwithstanding, ***NOT*** at the cost of compromising his faith!!

 D. Brethren, it is long past the time [we] in the church take marriage seriously!

 1. God’s plan from the beginning was for one man and one woman to be joined in “holy

 matrimony” until death (Rom 7:2, 3).

**2. EVIL COMPANIONS (1 Kgs 11:2)**

 A. The quickest way for the child of God to have trouble with their “father-in-law” is to marry a child of the devil.

 1. Remember, [we] are either children of God or children of Satan (Mt 6:24).

 B. Solomon made his choice and paid the price (as if he collected women as stamps).

 C. Because of this God gave him over to his own wickedness ( Rom 1:24 – 32).

 D. It is long past to warn our children of the dangers of evil companions (1 Cor 15:33).

 1. Clearly, the closest of companions would be one’s mate, **BUT** [we] say little or nothing if our children date non-members of the church. What are [we] thinking?

 2. The closer the tie [we] have with people, the less of a tie [we] should have with those ***NOT*** of the Lord’s church (2 Cor 6:14).

 E. It would seem [we] could easily see the danger of closely associating ourselves in

 relationships, which would cause us to compromise our FAITH (Mk 8:36, 37).

**3. SEEKING AFTER PRESTIGE AND STATUS (1 Kgs 11:3)**

 A. It is the same Solomon, who stated these Scriptures (Ecc 1:2; 12:8).

 1. What a shame he did ***NOT*** “practice what he preached.”

 B. He overlooked one’s LIFE does ***NOT*** consist of the things possessed (Lk 12:15).

 1. Many times, the love of things keeps [us] from looking up:

 A. Money (1 Tim 6:10) or the praise of men (Jn 12:43, 44).

 C. [We] must never forget “seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness” (Mt 6:33).

 D. As Christians, the challenge is ***NOT*** loving the world/the things thereof (1 Jn 2:15-17).

**4. COMPROMISE (I Kgs 11:4)**

A. Many are willing to compromise their FAITH for a variety of reasons.

 1. One who is only halfway committed to the Lord can ***NOT*** please Him (Mt 12:30).

 B. Brethren, in matters of religion, there is ***NO*** such thing as straddling the fence!

1. What part of “all” do [we] ***NOT*** [fully] understand (Mk 12:30)?

**CONCLUSION:**

1. May it never be said of us, “And the Lord was angry with us, because [our] hearts were turned from the Lord God” (1 Kgs 11:9).