

The Tragedy of Solomons Life

by Keith Daniel

Solomon's life serves as a warning to Christians, demonstrating the consequences of pursuing wealth, materialism, and sensual pleasures, and the importance of total surrender to God.

Scripture: Genesis 8:21, 1 Kings 3:14, 1 Kings 11:1, Ecclesiastes 12:13, John 8:34-36, Colossians 3:2, 1 Timothy 6:5-10, 2 Timothy 3:4, Hebrews 12:5, 1 John 2:15

Topics: "Faithfulness To God", "Spiritual Downfall"

Description

This sermon delves into the tragic life of Solomon, highlighting his initial pursuit of God, the blessings he received, and the subsequent downfall due to pursuing self-glory, wealth, and sensual pleasures. It emphasizes the importance of total surrender to God, maintaining integrity in the pursuit of God, and the consequences of straying from His will. The sermon urges listeners to fear God, keep His commandments, and avoid the pitfalls that led to Solomon's downfall.

Transcript

The title of my sermon here tonight is The Tragedy The Tragedy of Solomon's Life The Tragedy of Solomon's Life We read in 1 Kings 2 verse 10 that David died David died Verse 12 Then sat Solomon upon the throne Chapter 3 verse 3 And Solomon loved the Lord Solomon loved the Lord walking in the statutes of David his father Verse 5 And the Lord The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream And God said Ask Ask What I shall give thee Ask What I shall give thee Verse 9 And Solomon said Give Give thy servant an understanding heart an understanding heart that I may discern may discern between good and bad that is between good and evil, between right and wrong Verse 10 And the speech pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this that Solomon had asked this Verse 12 And God said unto him I have done I

have done according to thy words I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart 2 Chronicles 1 verse 1 And the Lord his God was with him The Lord his God was with him and magnified him that is he honored him he honored him exceedingly 1 Kings 10 verse 24 And all the earth all the earth sought to Solomon to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart 2 Chronicles 9 verse 23 And all the kings of the earth all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom that God that God had put in his heart And the queen of Sheba exclaimed in 2 Chronicles 9 verse 6 The half the half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told to me the half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told to me 1 Kings 10 verse 8 Happy are thy men she said happy are thy people happy are these

thy servants verse 9 Blessed be the Lord thy God which delighteth in thee which delighteth in thee to set thee on the throne of Israel because the Lord loved Israel therefore made he thee king what an incredible beginning what an incredible beginning but but Solomon had a tragic ending Solomon had a tragic ending for you for you in 1 Kings 3 verse 14 God had warned him if if thou wilt walk in my ways to keep my statutes and my commandments then then if and then are two crucial words if and then are two crucial words strewn throughout the Bible beloved and none of us dare overlook that but Solomon tragically kept not that which the Lord had commanded 1 Kings 11 verse 1 but an evil in the sight of God verse 6 verse 9 and the Lord was angry with Solomon because because his heart

turned from the Lord now that can sadly happen to us also beloved that can happen to us also beloved the Queen of Sheba had given Solomon this noble tribute happy are thy people with thee as their king but they soon despaired under his eventual foolish and tyrannical reign at his death at his death a weary and disillusioned nation fled with Solomon's heir apparent Rehoboam thy father made our yoke grievous now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father and his heavy yoke that he put on us but Rehoboam proved to be gravely foolish from the start and consequently faced the rejection of most of his people David Wilkerson of Times Square Church New York said the first thing God removes from a Christian who backslides is discernment the first thing God removes from a

Christian who backslides is discernment that I believe is tragically what happened to Solomon beloved but why why did such a glorious beginning end in such shame why did such a glorious beginning end in such shame now the answer to that question I believe is given to us the answer to that question I believe is given to us in the book of Ecclesiastes the book of Ecclesiastes which is a staggering sermon delivered to us by Solomon himself before his death Ecclesiastes literally translated the preacher the preacher contextually meaning the preacher's sermon but in essence it was Solomon's shameful confession in which he reflects on how he lost how he lost the integrity of his initial pursuit of God have you has that happened to you in chapter 1 verse 17 he confesses I gave my heart I gave

myself to know wisdom and to know madness and folly in other words what was I thinking of what was I thinking of when I buried integrity and single mindedness in my pursuit of God it was madness doing that for it only brought shame and sorrow and weariness to my life now the first thing the first thing he confessed doing that he now realized was madness was literal madness the first thing he confessed doing that he now realized was literal madness was when he buried when he buried his initial pursuit of God imparted knowledge in order to live a God glorifying life when he buried his initial pursuit of God imparted knowledge in order to live a God glorifying life and stooped to embrace a carnal pursuit of prideful knowledge in order to live a self glorifying life chapter 1 verse 13 I gave

my heart initially to seek and to search out by wisdom concerning all things but then verse 16 I communed with mine own heart saying lo I have gotten more wisdom than all that have been before me yes I initially gave my heart to know wisdom but then stooped to what I now realized was madness in doing and folly and in chapter 12 he sorrowfully cried out in disillusionment of making many books there's no end and much study is a weariness of the flesh much study that was not sought for edifying but self glorifying swiftly became a weariness of the flesh to him so the first thing he confesses having tragically stooped to that he now looked upon as madness doing was when he buried his initial transparent and humble and noble pursuit of God imparted revelation and knowledge in order to live a

God glorifying life and foolishly embraced a prideful pursuit of knowledge in order to live a self glorifying life and in doing that in doing that he lost every intention of implementing or living those God imparted

truths I want to repeat that in doing that he lost every intention of implementing or living those God imparted truths and we all must beware here beloved we all must beware here for all integrity is immediately crippled the moment we cease to live only for God's smile and this was Solomon's first fearful warning to all who would read this his heart breaking confessional sermon all integrity is immediately crippled the moment we cease to live only for God's smile I have known men in this world who were living encyclopedias of this book every doctrine, every theological facet

of truth historical church history everything there is about Christianity you name it about even today's movements heretical or good or once good and now lost he could tell you like a living encyclopedia when I was near him I used to say stop just wait and I'd pull out papers and pens and say now go on he was a living encyclopedia of biblical truths but he eventually brought great dishonor and shame upon Christendom when it became evident that he didn't live the truth he preached I have known men again and again who left me in awe at their knowledge their incredible grasp and understanding as it were but they brought great dishonor and shame upon Christendom when it became evident they didn't live the truth they preached now I have no doubt that they had started with genuine humility,

transparency and integrity like Solomon but like Solomon they also fell into the trap of seeking self glory and thereby ceased to seek grace the grace that God would have given them to live a holy life through the knowledge they had obtained.

Beloved, God is a jealous God Exodus 20 verse 5 and his sensitivity as he sees our motives concerning serving him is unnerving and fearful I believe that the great warning to us here is that it is possible to become living encyclopedias on the truth and doctrines of the sacred book and to tragically experience no genuine desire or intention of living or implementing those truths I believe that the great warning to us here is that it is possible to become living encyclopedias on the truth and doctrines of the sacred book and to tragically experience no genuine desire or intention of living or implementing these truths the tragedy of a sacrificial pursuit after biblical and theological knowledge with no intention or desire to live it I wonder what percentage of preachers alone in the

evangelical pulpits of our world are guilty of this as I look at them being exposed exposed one by one across the world in shameful sin while they were preaching all this knowledge that impressed and left men and women in awe now the second thing the second thing he sorrowfully confesses to have stooped to that led him to his making shipwreck of his spiritual life and pursuit of God was to have become consumed with a passion for wealth and materialism but once again for self glorification in chapter 2 verse 4 he reflected I made me great works I builded me houses verse 7 I had great possessions verse 8 I gathered me silver and gold verse 9 so I was great I was great verse 10 and whatsoever my eyes desired I kept not from them but then in verse 11 he sadly wrote he wrote I looked on all

the works of my hand I looked on all the works that my hand had wrought and behold all was vanity and vexation weariness of spirit verse 17 therefore I hated life I hated life then in chapter 5 verse 10 he warns us he that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver nor he that loveth abundance with increase for this is vanity it's worthless wasted effort that brings nothing but weariness in 1 Timothy 6 verse 5 Paul warned us be content with such things as you have verse 9 they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare and into many foolish and hurtful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition verse 10 for the love of money is the root of all evil which while some coveted after they had erred from the faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows I met a pastor in

my country of one of the largest churches in our nation now what's unique about this man is his church is situated in one of the most affluent wealthy areas of southern Africa where there are millionaires upon millionaires upon millionaires and billionaires just to drive through there is unnerving here his church is situated 6,000 people I walked into his building the auditorium they built oh he started with 6 in a little cottage meeting a few years prior and then he said these words to me that honored me brother the tragedy of this church is that 90% of all members are millionaires a good amount of billionaires most of which attempted suicide and I with my pastors as the church grew was taken to their hospital bed as they lie some of them close to death some of them hardly able to be

revived after the horrific way they tried to kill themselves and I led them to Christ I pointed them to the one that satisfied that fills up the gap that no other thing you pursue or achieve oh there is a man in south Africa that said when I become a millionaire that's when I rest you know he became a millionaire and the next day after he was declared a millionaire he committed suicide this man said the most of this congregation came to this church as a result of us leading them to Christ as they lay half dead because wealth doesn't satisfy you think it does and there is a shocking thing to find having achieved great wealth and financial success did not give them what only Christ can peace and true happiness now a life consumed with the belief that materialistic achievement and wealth is

the means to fulfillment and happiness can be expected from the unsaved beloved but when a man who knows and follows half the heart of God who walks with God who loves God who is fulfilled and finds all the peace that God gives a man who is right with him when he allows his pursuit of God to be drowned by a carnal desire and passion for wealth and materialism he will experience grave sorrow and frustration for he will completely lose the one thing that truly matters in life peace with God God is a jealous God and he wants our hearts and he warned against laying up for ourselves treasures upon earth for where your treasure is there will your heart be also Matthew 6 verse 19 O seek, set your affection set your affection on things above not on things of the earth Colossians 3 verse 2 I know

a deeply conservative and loved evangelical preacher I have known more than one trust me who landed up in jail for long sentences for the love of money that took away their integrity you see the love of money is the root which is the beginning of all evil once the seed of this sin enters your heart it can lead you to stoop to grave sin beloved and total disregard and insensitivity toward God's will and commandments the third and final burial of all integrity in his pursuit of God that he confessed was madness madness in doing was his pursuit of sensual pleasures in chapter 2 verse 1 he shamefully confesses I said I said in my heart I will give, I will enjoy pleasure verse 10 so I withheld not my heart from any joy or pleasure but he that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man Proverbs 21

verse 17 warns I want to repeat it, write it on your heart boy, girl he that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man and Paul also warned against serving diverse lusts and pleasures Titus 3 verse 3 and tragically stooping to become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God that's a serious verse there you see it says there was something overtaken buried lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God 2 Timothy 3 verse 4 choosing, choosing choosing, choosing to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season Hebrews 11 verse 25 thou art given to pleasure thou art given to pleasure Isaiah 47 verse 8 does God confront you and say that of you also here tonight does God confront you and say that of you also here tonight in your heart and conscience in 1 Kings 11 verse 1 we read that Solomon loved many strange

women well ungodly foreign women and he took to himself 700 wives which turned away his heart completely from God that was the final barrier this word loved is sensual it's not just you loving one woman

you loving there's something tragic about this word it implies a sensual desire that made you stoop to this it's fearful he loved many women it didn't matter if they were ungodly it didn't matter if God had warned and given him the light from the old laws and the commandments through Moses not to embrace them not to perceive them because they would turn your heart away from God he took to himself 700 wives which turned away his heart verse 3 completely from God the final burial of anything left happened there there was nothing left now I know a man in South Africa and a lady she's quite a

character he's more of a character sure I get a little bit startled in their company at times but I've made notes and used it she said to him I suppose if I die you would swiftly marry someone else wouldn't take long you'll get married again won't you so he looked up what never one was not enough thank you well Solomon certainly didn't seem to think so he had some other sort of agenda ah well I have known many preachers who tragically at some point gave themselves over to the lusts of the flesh and like Solomon ended in disgrace and shame became a grief to God and man now the downfall of many people and many great preachers that I have known and prayed with and loved the downfall of so many one proudly seeking to glorify themselves and no longer God proudly seeking to glorify themselves

in religion in preaching and no longer God secondly purposefully and seeking wealth and materialism oh once a man in the pulpit when a Christian starts on that road it's the end God he will not stand in the pulpit with God even if he has a bible and quotes scriptures about giving money he's written across every single church and man on earth even if they have thousands the moment they stoop to that beloved and I hope you hear this sermon sir proudly seeking to glorify themselves the downfall of many preachers seeking to glorify themselves and no longer God to purposefully and sinfully seeking wealth and materialism through religion three evilly passionately seeking sensual pleasures in my country there was a man so revered and loved by his conservative values and his uncompromising

message he really was revered I preached for him in some of his meetings and then he landed up on the front pages of every newspaper and the television I believe the whole nation landed up in jail for the love of money you see he stooped in his love for money to take money from the churches these massive monuments that were being built to accommodate the crowds to go and gamble he found in a gambling den a casino because he now lost so much because it wasn't enough so he wants more so he stooped, you see it's the root of all evil, prison his wife died what a lovely soul she was I have known so many who had such integrity that I literally went to my knees after a few minutes with them and what God had done in this world to walk through them and then the same, the disgrace across the world

as their names were written in newspapers, magazines as they were exposed in sensual pleasures stooping to the lust of the flesh and now are the same in disgrace of the world, let alone the church evilly, passionately seeking sensual pleasures in the end while you preach that can happen to a man John cried out in 1 John 2 verse 15 love not, love not love not the world neither the things that are in the world if any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him, that means love for God is no longer in him for all that is in the world the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world the world and the world passes away and the lust thereof but he that doeth the will of God Solomon now while Solomon while Solomon pursued

God in humility and integrity this book records that he had peace on all sides round about him 1 Kings 4 verse 24 and Judah and Israel dwelt safely and he joyfully proclaimed the Lord my God hath given me rest that is peace on every side so that there is neither adversary, enemy nor evil occurring that's misfortunes that come upon us as a nation 1 Kings 5 verse 1 but God soon withdrew his hand of protection and

blessing from him for the Lord stirred up an adversary that is an enemy unto Solomon Hadad the Edomite 1 Kings 11 verse 14 chapter 11 verse 23 and God stirred up another adversary Rezon verse 26 and Jeroboam the Ephrodite even he lifted up his hand against the king he rebelled against the king respect and love for Solomon was gone all respect and love for Solomon was gone and his

nation's heart steadily turned against him but Hebrews 12 verse 5 cautions us here despise not thou the chastening of the Lord God did this took away the blessings and brought sorrows and troubles to try and make him seek God again to try and make him give up these evil pursuits and set his heart to being blessed and honored by God again the only way that God will let's get right with God despise not thou the chastening of the Lord Hebrews 12 verse 5 we see this again and again cried out through one passage after the other in its context perhaps that's what God is doing to you if he isn't yet he's going to, I guarantee you child, if you're a child of God your life will crumble pursuing these things at salvation at salvation enslavement to sin is gloriously cancelled whosoever committeth

sin is the servant of sin whosoever goes on in sin is enslaved to sin John 8 verse 34, verse 36 but if the Son shall set you free, shall make you free, you shall be free indeed, gloriously free now subsequent to salvation I believe a total surrender is essential in every Christian's life I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice you see in the Old Testament the sacrifice had to be a whole animal dead, but he doesn't want that he wants the whole of your life dedicated laid on the altar, surrendered fully on the altar of God I beg you brothers by the mercies of God you do that present, dedicate yourselves to be a living sacrifice holy acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service and be not conformed to this world don't go

for the things the world goes for that will just bring grief, but be transformed now by the renewing of your mind, change your heart, change your mind from anything that would divert you from an integrity in your pursuit with God that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God I believe victory will be obtained at such a dedication beyond all comprehension and I've yet to meet the man who argued with me and said that's not true, everything's salvation I said, I want to ask you a question and don't you dare answer it with a lie or God may strike you dead so be careful what about your life you're saved I have no doubt of that, don't you desperately for God to have a total surrender in you in your life desperately before you make I've never known a preacher or a

man who hasn't turned away and walked away from me unable to say the true answer but those who seek such a dedication the victory that you obtain and experience through this act of total dedication is maintained only through the discipline of meditating God's word fervently which results in true prayer outside of which there is no such a thing as praying in the spirit apart from Christ's prayers in desperate need there's no true prayer you see we are born with a sinful nature that salvation cancels out that enslavement to sin but a total, total surrender to God and seeking as you realize where your heart can be going just surrendering everything no matter what it costs no matter what you're going to throw out of your door your life or lose but don't lose the pursuit of God man's heart is

evil from his youth Genesis 8 verse 21 Solomon cries out remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth while that is before the evil days come not for the years draw nigh when thou shalt say like Solomon I have no pleasure in them I don't believe like we preach that this is speaking to unsaved people to get saved, no you young people get so totally right with God don't seek other things don't bury your pursuit of God of course Solomon got right with God before death but it was too late to rectify all the damage and shame and sorrow that his life had brought upon this world and on God's name the fact of this book of

Ecclesiastes is proof that this man confessed where he had gone wrong and longed for us and all who would read this sermon as heart breaking as it is to be protected from

where he landed the whole conclusion he says in chapter 12 verse 13 is to fear God, keep his commandment this is the whole duty of man for God shall bring every work into judgment with every secret thing whether it be good or whether it be evil oh that's what he prayed for isn't it but lost we have to be very careful here tonight concerning this man Solomon's fall you see his confession as tragic as it was was courageous because if any one of us sitting here tonight were to try to do the same the cost would be oh so great an honest confession before everyone right now of just what you are the cost of such a confession as this man made before his death to the whole world through the centuries the cost of such an honest confession to oneself will cost I implore every one of you whom God has

spoken to here tonight to pay that price confess it to yourself that costs how many of you how many of us started off like this man with utter integrity seeking wisdom, knowledge from the pages of this holy book in order to live a God glorifying life you also had a wonderful beginning but will you end in shame and tragedy we think we choose to come to a convention fellowship is sweet do you honestly think God wasn't in it for this message alone but what will you do with this message one step after this sermon, one word after this sermon God, Satan and man will know what you've done with this message one step after this message God will know, Satan will know

Video: https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/H10_gkvou14.mp4

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/keith-daniel/the-tragedy-of-solomons-life/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net