

1 Kings 3

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33

**Readings this week:**

- S 2 Kings 11:1-12
- M 2 Kings 11:13-21
- T 2 Kings 12:1-8
- W 2 Kings 12:9-21
- Th 2 Chronicles 24:15-22
- F Psalm 27
- S 1 John 2:15-17



What advice did David give his son about being king? (See 1 Kings 2:1-4 and Proverbs 4:3-5)



## Solomon's choice

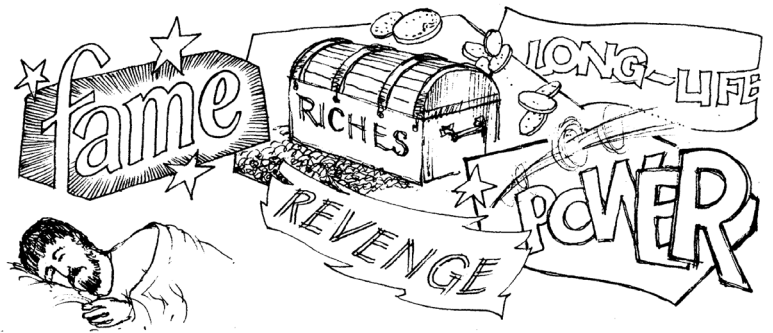
Read 1 Kings 3:4-15 together, then talk about the answers to these questions. What did Solomon choose?

Was it an easy decision?

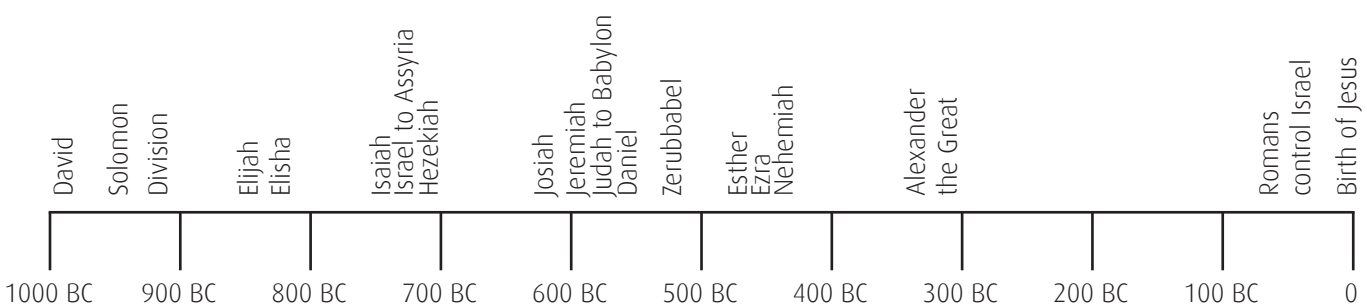
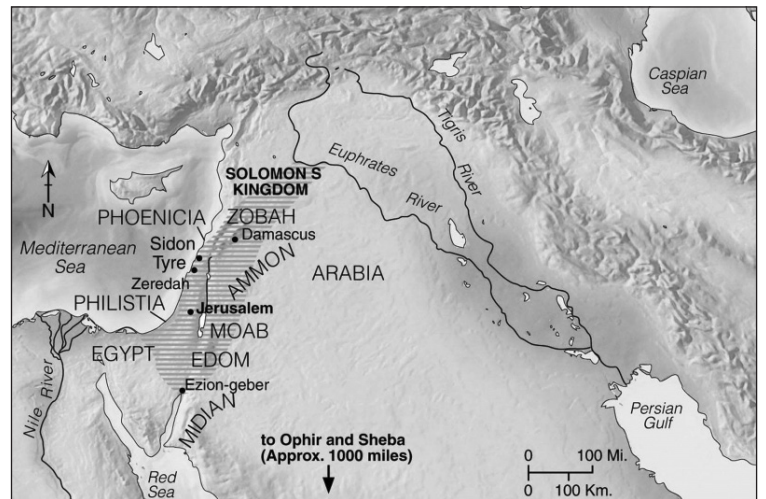
What does Solomon's choice tell us about him?

What would you choose for your life?

Why is your choice the best one you could make?



## Solomon's Kingdom



During his reign Solomon's kingdom prospered. It was on one of the main trade routes between the far East and Egypt and there were sea ports on the Mediterranean and the Red Sea so that Solomon was able to obtain luxury items like silks and spices. Read 2 Chronicles 9 to find out about his sumptuous style of living.

Talk about advice you have been given. Who gave it to you? Do you think it was good advice? Why?

Talk about the choices you have to make every day. What are the things which make you decide on them?

Think about some choices you had to make recently. Were they good choices or bad ones? Did the way you chose:

- please God?
- show care for others?
- show unselfishness?

Talk together about the choices you made and see if there are things you could do better next time. Do some drama sketches, showing the same event with two different endings, showing the difference between making the right and the wrong choices.

## Digging Deeper

### The wisdom of Solomon

Find out some of the things that resulted from Solomon's wisdom by looking at these passages:

1 Kings 4:29-34

1 Kings 5:12

The titles of Psalms 72 & 127

Proverbs 10:1

Ecclesiastes 1:1

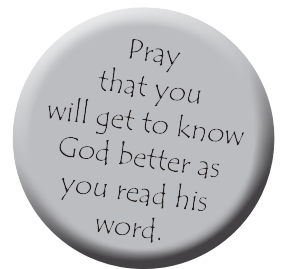
Song of Solomon 1:1

What do these passages tell you about Solomon?

Solomon wrote 3 books of the Bible: Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon and much of the book of Proverbs. They are part of the section sometimes called the Poetry Books of the Bible.

Can you remember ...

... the names of the 5 poetry books?  
Job  
Psalms  
Proverbs  
Ecclesiastes  
Song of Solomon



### The Hebrew Bible ...

... is arranged differently from ours, though the text is the same. We have 39 books in the Old Testament, but the Hebrew Bible groups them into 24.

#### The Books of Moses

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

#### The Prophets

6. Joshua
7. Judges
8. Samuel
9. Kings
10. Isaiah
11. Jeremiah
12. Ezekiel
13. The Twelve (Hosea to Malachi)

#### The Writings

14. Psalms
15. Proverbs
16. Job
17. Song of Songs
18. Ruth
19. Lamentations
20. Ecclesiastes
21. Esther
22. Daniel
23. Ezra/Nehemia
24. Chronicles