



Holy Beginnings: God's Wisdom for God's Work (1 Kings 3)

Questions: Week One

Solomon Asks for Wisdom - [1 Kings 3:1-15](#)¹

Topics: [Administration](#), [Approval](#), [Choices](#), [Covenant](#), [Discernment](#), [Faithfulness](#), [Government](#), [Honor](#), [Justice](#), [Kindness](#), [Law](#), [Love](#), [Obedience](#), [People](#), [Pleasure](#), [Promises](#), [Righteousness](#), [Sacrifice](#), [Spiritual Gifts](#), [Wealth](#), [Wisdom](#), [Youth](#)

Open It

1. *What have you fantasized you would ask for if you had three wishes?
2. If you had to stand trial, what qualities would you value most in a judge?

Explore It

3. With what country did Solomon make an alliance by marriage? ([3:1](#))
4. What major projects did Solomon undertake? ([3:1](#))
5. Where were the people of Israel making sacrifices at this time? ([3:2](#))
6. How did Solomon show that he loved God? ([3:3](#))
7. What was one area in which Solomon did not entirely please God? ([3:3](#))
8. What impressive sacrifice did Solomon offer at Gibeon? ([3:4](#))
9. *What did God say to Solomon in a dream while he was at Gibeon? ([3:5](#))
10. How did Solomon see his own place in the history of God and Israel? ([3:6](#))
11. What did Solomon find humbling about being king? ([3:7-8](#))
12. In Solomon's view whose nation was Israel? ([3:8](#))
13. *What request did Solomon make of God and for what purpose? ([3:9](#))
14. How did God feel about what Solomon had chosen to request? ([3:10](#))
15. *What difference did it make that Solomon asked God for wisdom? ([3:10-14](#))

1. *Adult Questions for LESSONMaker*, (Austin, TX: Wordsearch, 1992), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "1 Kings".

16. What other things might Solomon have asked for when God gave him one request? ([3:11](#))
17. What did God promise to Solomon in response to his request? ([3:12](#))
18. What did God promise to Solomon that he had not asked for? ([3:13](#))
19. What blessing did God offer to Solomon if he would walk in His ways as David had? ([3:14](#))
20. What did Solomon realize when he awoke from his sleep? ([3:15](#))
21. How did Solomon offer his praise and thanksgiving to God? ([3:15](#))

Get It

22. What was one practice of Solomon that had evidently not been the custom of David?
23. What did God reveal about His nature by meeting Solomon at the most important high place?
24. *Given the opportunity to ask God "for whatever you want [Him] to give you," what sort of request would you expect from our human nature?
25. Why are awe and humility appropriate reactions to the responsibility of governing a nation?
26. *Why are riches and honor of less ultimate value than wisdom?

Apply It

27. *What practical steps can you take to place a higher value on wisdom this coming week?
28. What can you request from God and be fairly certain that He will say yes?
29. How can you seek God's wisdom as a matter of habit?

A Wise Ruling - [1 Kings 3:16-4:34](#)

Topics: [Arguments](#), [Awe](#), [Children](#), [Death](#), [Deceit](#), [Government](#), [Greatness](#), [Insight](#), [Judgment](#), [Justice](#), [Leadership](#), [Listening](#), [Lying](#), [Security](#), [Serving](#), [Teaching](#), [Understanding](#), [Wisdom](#)

Open It

1. What are some of the characteristics of an opulent (rich) life-style?
2. *What sorts of knowledge can bring a person fame in this day and age?

Explore It

3. Who came to King Solomon with a dispute to be settled? ([3:16](#))
4. *What series of events was described by one of two prostitutes who came to Solomon? ([3:17-21](#))
5. *What version of events did Solomon hear from the second prostitute? ([3:22](#))
6. How did Solomon confirm his understanding of the situation before he proceeded? ([3:23](#))
7. How did Solomon propose to settle the argument? ([3:24-25](#))
8. *How did Solomon settle the matter? ([3:24-27](#))
9. How did the two women react differently to the prospect of "dividing" the baby? ([3:26](#))
10. What was Solomon's ruling in the case of the disputed child? ([3:27](#))
11. What was the reaction when word got out about Solomon's ruling? ([3:28](#))
12. What positions of leadership constituted the "chief officials" of Israel under Solomon? ([4:1-6](#))
13. What was Solomon's system for keeping his household supplied throughout the year? ([4:7](#))
14. What were some of the measures of the prosperity of Israel and Judah? ([4:20-21](#))
15. What was one of the key national blessings during Solomon's lifetime? ([4:25](#))
16. What was God's primary gift to Solomon? ([4:29](#))
17. How did Solomon's wisdom compare to that of the wisest men of his day? ([4:30-31](#))
18. What were some of Solomon's intellectual accomplishments? ([4:32-33](#))
19. What was the response of other kings when they heard of Solomon's wisdom? ([4:34](#))

Get It

20. *Why is it a good idea to be sure you understand the facts before jumping to a conclusion?
21. *In the case of the prostitutes, how was Solomon so sure that he could tell the real mother from the pretender?
22. Why is it such a big job to provision a king or head of state?
23. What were the different evidences of Solomon's wisdom?
24. How did the wisdom Solomon requested from God end up bringing him fame and wealth as well?
25. Why is peace the greatest blessing that a nation can enjoy?
26. What sources of wisdom has God given us?

Apply It

27. What positive qualities can you affirm in a leader or your church or community this coming week?
28. *In what situation do you need to step back, look at God's perspective, or investigate further before making a judgment?