



STUDY TEXT:

1 Kings 11:1, 9-14; James 4:4 (KJV)

1 Kings 11:1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites;

1 Kings 11:9 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.

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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.

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

APPLICATION POINT:

Scripture repeatedly emphasizes to every generation of “the redeemed” that God’s Word is completely impartial and unapologetically, universal in its impact and application to our lives. Absolutely, no one eludes its limitless reach, neither the commoner, nor the privileged; neither the general citizen, nor the king; neither “the los,,” nor “the redeemed.”

WHY EVERYTHING CHANGED

FOCUS TEXT: And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice. **1 Kings 11:9 (KJV)**

The timeless chronicles of Holy Scripture repeatedly compels us to consider that these keynote turning points that surface in our lives are never the random result of the interweaving complicated matters, nor the sudden emergence of dramatic life-quaking events that disrupt the normal routine of our daily affairs; but rather the consequences of the progressive drift of our heart sentiment away from complying with the known Word of the Lord.

In King Solomon's situation, the valid indictment of God's Word cited in **1 Kings 11:1-2**, "**But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh.... Solomon clave unto these in love.**"

Note fully the obvious downward pattern, namely, from an enveloping condition of deep infatuation (love) to the captivating state of the yoke of bondage (clave).

And too, we should recognize and understand that this progressive development (i.e., "**a little leaven**") transpired from **1 Kings 3:1**, where we read: "**And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the wall of Jerusalem round about.**"

And too, in **1 Kings 7:8** where the element of spiritual leaven is again mentioned: "**And his house where he dwelt had another court within the porch, which was of the like work. Solomon**

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made also an house for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken to wife, like unto this porch.

And, lastly, we are shown the final accommodation of this now firmly rooted and entrenched heart spiritual anomaly condition in **1 Kings 9:24**: “But Pharaoh's daughter came up out of the city of David unto her house which Solomon had built for her: then did he build Millo.”

Here, let us pause and consider the deep soul-probing inquiry and prophetic inevitability that is plainly forecast in **Proverbs 6:27-28**: “Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

“Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?”

And if we yet remain confused or unconvinced the Lord plainly emphasized the surety of the ruinous consequences of this sinful transaction by declaring in **1 Kings 11:2a**, “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.”

And further commented in **verse 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.”

Too frequently, we tend to forget the existence of the powerful influence of the flesh and the seducing sway of worldliness are from afar constantly assaulting our physical and spiritual senses. And when we foolishly choose to bring them into closer prominent circles of our lives that exerted drawing effect becomes much stronger.

Simple, Yet Destructive and Devastating

“That simple?” someone will undoubtedly challenge; which Scripture still irrefutably affirms in **Deuteronomy 26:16**, “This

day the Lord thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.”

Then every subsequent “redeemed” generation is forewarned in **Deuteronomy 30:17-18**, “But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;

“I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.”

Moreover, at the very outset of the commencement of his reign the Lord made it perfectly clear to King Solomon in **1 Kings 9:6-7**. “But if ye shall at all turn from following me, ye or your children, and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods, and worship them.”

“Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast out of my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people.”

Now, of course someone will also debate over the contemporary application of this O.T. declaration by challenging and arguing, “That only applied back in the Old Testament!”

However, the constant biblical truth principles that it affirms (i.e., God is holy, God is jealous, and practicing idolatry [in any era] is a profane, heinous breach and violation of the Holy Law) remain relevant and enforceable.

Consider the parallel of **2 Corinthians 6:14-16a**, “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

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“And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols?”

Hence, such selfishly inspired challenges are completely invalid; and we are (and will be) held liable by Heaven when we embrace that same kindred mindset and subsequently follow that spiritually divergent behavior pattern.

Provoking Heaven

Because our contemporary generations have been so exposed to the true teachings of the predominant N.T. messages that expound and extol the manifold blessings of the Grace of God, undoubtedly there are many that wrongly presumed that this surety somehow trumps or clashes with the affirmed bible truth that God is Holy; and that the expectation and responsibility of all that His grace has “saved” are required to live in accordance that divine character profile.

In fact, in **1 Corinthians 3:16-17** we (Christ followers) are gravely forewarned: **“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”**

“If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”

And if we have started to drift toward or have strayed down this perilous path, promptly the Lord Jesus sharply commands us in **Revelation 2:16**, **“Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.”**

The present inspired holy chronicle here makes it fully clear that Solomon had unfaithfully violated the divine trust that had been given to him; thus given the abundant measure of divine grace and mercy that had been freely apportioned to Him (i.e., the Lord specially and personally had appeared **“unto him twice”**) the sheer

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gravity of his sinful actions justly provoke strong recompense response from the throne of Heaven.

As was fully revealed in the present inspired account, the truth principle cited by the Lord Jesus in **Luke 12:48b** rightly reminds us of enormous responsibility and expected obedience that is associated with the heavenly grants of abundance.

He solemnly cited: **“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more. “**

Therefore, when we fail to maintain the associated requirements duly linked to that level of privilege, we too should fully understand that an equal measure of punitive consequences will be dispensed in recompense to that tragically great lapse.

Hence, the divine decree of denouncement was proclaimed to King Solomon in **verse 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.”**

Sadly, amidst his complete absorption in the indulgences of “fleshly pursuits,” his heart became uplifted in pride, and he forgot that the same sovereign God that graciously elevated him to the throne and granted him abundance, retains the same sovereign authority to rescind and remove that broad scope of privilege blessings.