

## **1 Kings 3 – Solomon’s Prayer for Wisdom**

Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night. God said, “Ask what I should give you.”

And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant, my father David, because he walked before you

in faithfulness,

in righteousness, and

in uprightness of heart toward you;

and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant the king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I don’t know how to go or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous that they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people; able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked for this. God said to him, “Because you have asked for this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before and no one like you shall arise after you.

I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways keeping my statutes and commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life”

Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being and provided a feast for all his servants.