

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 05 Dec.....1Kings 1-4.....What Money Can't Buy
 2) 12 Dec.....1Kings 5-9a.....Why Prayer Deserves Priority
 3) 19 Dec.....Mat 1-2.....Worship the King of Kings
 4) 26 Dec.....1Kings 9b-11.....Where Compromise Takes You
 5) 02 Jan.....1Kings 12-16a.....Anatomy of a Grave Decision
 6) 09 Jan.....1Kings 16b-22.....A Hill on Which to Stand
 7) 16 Jan.....2Kings 21-23.....Building a Culture for Life
 8) 23 Jan.....2Kings 1-5.....Sick of Greed?
 9) 30 Jan.....2Kings 6-8.....Right Not to Remain Silent
 10) 06 Feb.....2Kings 9-10.....Danger! Unbridled Passion
 11) 13 Feb.....2Kings 11-17.....U-Turn Here--and Now!
 12) 20 Feb.....2Kings 18-20.....Got to Have Hope
 13) 27 Feb.....2Kings 23-25.....Keep Hope Alive

INTRODUCTION

- Sometimes it is hard to keep 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings and 1&2 Chronicles straight. Here's a short synopsis of each:
 - ♦ 1Samuel – King Saul's reign
 - ♦ 2Samual – King David's reign
 - ♦ 1Kings – Judean Kings Solomon to Jehoshaphat & Elijah
 - ♦ 2Kings – Judean & Israelite Kings with Prophet Elisha
 - ♦ 1Chronicles – Recap of King David's reign (author Ezra)
 - ♦ 2Chronicles – Recap of Judean Kings Solomon-Zedekiah

Passage	Comments
1Kings 1:1-4	<p>King David's Final Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What a retirement plan. He gets to sleep with the prettiest lady in town – but he's too old to enjoy • Abishag was a Shunammite from Shunem, a city of Issachar (#Jos 19:18). It is now called Sulam. • Polygamy was allowed according to Jewish law, & by God's accommodation to sin (also divorce) • Polygamy stopped after the Babylonian captivity • Jesus would clarify marriage from the beginning of creation as 1 man to 1 woman for life -everything else adulterates God's original plan • The importance of Abishag is revealed in Chap 2
1:5-10	<p>Special Characters to Remember</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adonijah – Son #4, mother was Haggith, was in line to the throne since 3 older brothers were dead (Amnon, Chileab [assumed dead], & Absalom) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ His dad, King David, never rebuked him (v6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think this will cause issues later? • Joab – King David's nephew and commander in chief, who saved David's bacon numerous times, was a thorn in David's flesh • Abiathar – A faithful priest to King David up to this point. He didn't think things through nor consider the consequences of his actions
1:11-27	<p>Prophet Nathan and Queen Bathsheba Conspire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar story how Isaac's wife Rebekah and son Jacob conspired to steal Esau's birthright from an old man • Couldn't God put Solomon on David's throne as promised without the Bathsheba/Nathan drama? • How many times do we bypass God and take matters into our own hands? Are we better off?
2:1-46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adonijah – Solomon has him killed for asking to marry his dad's mistress, Abishag – which could play out later for another run on the throne • Joab – Solomon had him killed for treason • Abiathar – Solomon retires him from high priest

Passage	Comments
3:1-28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solomon forms a marriage alliance with Egypt - Solomon begins doing his own thing • v5. Yet God was still willing to bless Him because "Solomon loved the Lord" - What would we ask for if God gave us a wish? • v16. Why weren't the harlots stoned instead of receiving a court hearing from the King? Houses of ill-repute were illegal at this time • The word for "harlot" also conveys "food seller" or inn-keeper (eg., Rahab lodged 2 spies – Josh 2) • It is odd no husbands were mentioned and these 2 women lodged together in the same house, so some hanky-panky was probably happening • What was at stake was not their assumed immorality, but the life of a baby
4:1-34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-19. Great leaders often have great managers • v20. Judah & Israel were able to multiply • v21. Israel reached its greatest boundaries • v24. Israel had "peace on all sides" • vv29-34. God gave Solomon his wisdom - Can we have such wisdom?James 1:5 • Solomon wrote 3000 proverbs and 1005 songs - Of which we only have 1000 proverbs & 1 poem

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- How can we get some of God's wisdom to get through life?
- Before making life-changing decisions we should ask God for His wisdom and consider any consequences
- Besides just asking for wisdom, do we need to be obedient?

SUPPORTING PASSAGES:

Jas 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

NEXT WEEK: 1Kings 5-8. Highlights of Solomon's reign

