

## Background of Solomon's Wisdom

### **1 Kings**

3:2 The people were still sacrificing on the high places, because there was no house built for the name of the Lord until those days. 3:3 Now Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David, except he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

3:4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place;

Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

3:5 In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said,

“Ask what you wish me to give you.”

3:6 Then Solomon said,

“You have shown great lovingkindness to Your servant David my father, according as he walked before You in truth and righteousness and uprightness of heart toward You; and You have reserved for him this great lovingkindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

3:7 “Now, O Lord my God,

You have made Your servant king in place of my father David,

yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. 3:8 “Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted.

3:9 “So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil.

For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”

3:10 It was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing.

### **2 Chronicles**

1:3 Then Solomon and all the assembly with him went to the high place which was at Gibeon, for God's tent of meeting was there, which Moses the servant of the Lord had made in the wilderness. 1:4 However, David had brought up the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to the place he had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem. 1:5 Now the bronze altar, which Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the Lord, and Solomon and the assembly sought it out.

1:6 Solomon went up there before the Lord to the bronze altar which was at the tent of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.

1:7 In that night God appeared to Solomon and said to him,

“Ask what I shall give you.”

1:8 Solomon said to God,

“You have dealt with my father David with great lovingkindness,

and have made me king in his place.

1:9 “Now, O Lord God, Your promise to my father David is fulfilled,

for You have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.

1:10 “Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people,

for who can rule this great people of Yours?”

## 1 Kings

3:11 God said to him,  
“Because you have asked this thing  
and have not asked for yourself long life,  
nor have asked riches for yourself,  
nor have you asked for the life of your enemies,  
but have asked for yourself discernment to understand  
justice,

3:12 behold, I have done according to your words.  
Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart,  
so that there has been no one like you before you, nor  
shall one like you arise after you.

3:13 “I have also given you what you have not asked,  
both riches and honor,  
so that there will not be any among the kings like you  
all your days.

3:14 “If you walk in My ways, keeping My statutes  
and commandments, as your father David walked,  
then I will prolong your days.”

3:15 Then Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a  
dream.

And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of  
the covenant of the Lord, and offered burnt offerings  
and made peace offerings, and made a feast for all his  
servants.

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4:29 Now God gave Solomon wisdom and very great  
discernment and breadth of mind, like the sand that is  
on the seashore.

4:30 Solomon’s wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all  
the sons of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt.

4:31 For he was wiser than all men, than Ethan the  
Ezrahite, Heman, Calcol and Darda, the sons of  
Mahol; and his fame was known in all the surrounding  
nations.

4:32 He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were  
1,005. 4:33 He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is  
in Lebanon even to the hyssop that grows on the wall;  
he spoke also of animals and birds and creeping things  
and fish.

4:34 Men came from all peoples to hear the wisdom of  
Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had  
heard of his wisdom.

## 2 Chronicles

1:11 God said to Solomon,  
“Because you had this in mind,  
and did not ask for riches, wealth  
or honor,  
or the life of those who hate you,  
nor have you even asked for long life,  
but you have asked for yourself wisdom and  
knowledge  
that you may rule My people over whom I have made  
you king,

1:12 wisdom and knowledge have been granted to  
you.

And I will give you  
riches and wealth and honor,  
such as none of the kings who were before you has  
possessed nor those who will come after you.”

1:13 So Solomon went from the high place which was  
at Gibeon, from the tent of meeting,  
to Jerusalem,

and he reigned over Israel.

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9:22 So King Solomon became greater than all the  
kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

9:23 And all the kings of the earth were seeking the  
presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God  
had put in his heart.

## **OUTLINE FOR PROVERBS**

**TITLE:** “The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel:” (1:1)

**PURPOSE** (1:2-7)

**ALLEGORY FOR A SON** (1:8-9:18)

**ORIGINAL PROVERBS PUBLISHED BY SOLOMON** (10:1-24:34)

**PROVERBS OF SOLOMON COLLECTED BY KING HEZEKIAH** (25:1-29:27)

**WORDS OF AGUR COLLECTED BY KING HEZEKIAH** (30:1-33)

**WORDS OF KING LEMUEL COLLECTED BY KING HEZEKIAH** (31:1-31)