

6/4/06

Recap of 5/28/06

1. Under Solomon Israel reached the zenith of its political and economic power, yet he sowed the seeds of idolatry by marrying many foreign women. Their idolatry affected Israel and its worship. He was a great success politically but not spiritually.

2. Even so, God in His grace reached out to Solomon and gave him the opportunity to request anything that he desired. To his credit Solomon did not ask for something for his own pleasure, but overwhelmed by the enormity of his responsibilities asked God for a "discerning (i.e. "hearing") heart."

3. If we feel overwhelmed by a pending decision or our responsibilities we can ask God for a wise and discerning heart (James 1:5)

4. God not only grants Solomon's request for wisdom and discernment but gave him in additional riches and honor (Matthew 6:19-34). When we ask God for something He answers us, not as a miser, but with abundance (Ephesians 3:20).

"Peace & Prosperity"

1 Kings 4:1-34

I. Solomon the organizer vv. 1-19

II. Solomon the ruler vv. 20-28

III. Solomon the thinker vv. 29-34