

Solomon's Compromise! (Solomon series - part 2)

Cornerstone Community Church - Pastor Jerry Ernst

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Scripture: 1st Kings 11:1-13

Proverbs 16:18 - *“(18) Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”*

When sin is left *without* correction, this root *produces* ungodly affection!

SOLOMON'S DEMISE - HIS COMPROMISE (11:1-11)

At 60 years old, Solomon's wisdom, wealth (1st Kings 10:14-29), and 700 royal wives were symbols of pride and boasting (11:1-11). Solomon's wives were used to seal international relationships and their “gods” turned Solomon away from his God.

Solomon's two areas of Compromise:

Sexual – intermarriage with foreign wives (1st Kings 3:1; 11:1-6; Deut. 17:17).

Idolatry - “High Places.” (1st Kings 3:3; 11:7).

Solomon's Four Compromising Steps...

1) ...Ignored God's warning (vv. 1-2) *“(1) But King Solomon **loved many foreign women**, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites – (2) from the nations of whom the Lord had said to the children of Israel, ‘You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods...’”*

- King Solomon violated Deuteronomy 17:16-17; Exodus 34:12-16.

2) ...Clung to foreign gods “in love” (vs. 2) - *“(2) ... Solomon **clung** to these in love.”*

Clung: (Heb. *dabaq*): *“Cling, adhere to, stick, joined together, catch by pursuit.”*

3) ...Turned his heart from God (vv. 3-8) - *“(3) He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. (4) ...his wives **turned** his heart after other gods,”*

Turned: (Heb. *natah*): *“To stretch out, extend, spread, incline, bend.”*

2nd Corinthians 6:14 - *“(14) Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers.”*

4) ...He “went after” false gods (vv. 5-7) - *“(5) For Solomon **went after Ashtoreth...** and after **Molech...** (6) So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the Lord; he did not follow the Lord completely, as David his father had done. (7) On a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for **Chemosh** the detestable god of Moab, and for **Molech** the detestable god of the Ammonites.”*

Ashtoreth – goddess of the Sidonians. She symbolized fertility and reproductive power – a mistress of the god Baal (Wooden poles – symbols to this goddess) Ashtoreth, the Phoenician goddess of love.

Molech – god of the Ammonites. “Detestable” because they used child sacrifice in worship of Molech.

*They would put the child into the Statue of Molech (fire-lit scorching hands) – burning the child.

Chemosh – god of the Moabites. Detestable practices that mirrored Baal; Chemosh worship as violent, degrading, and involving child sacrifice.

Six Steps of Unhealthy Relationships and Backsliding

- 1) People flirt with people.
- 2) People desire the person.
- 3) People invest in the relationship.
- 4) People justify the relationship. *Emotionally bond with them.
- 5) The relationship “clouds” their Christian commitment to God.
- 6) The relationship becomes “a god.”

James 1:14-15 *“(14) But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. (15) Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”*

God’s Word is for...

- **Warning** – to alert our moral *perception*.
- **Correction** - to change our spiritual *direction*.
- **Protection** – to guard against worldly *affections*.

Question: “Is there any area of *compromise* Jesus is showing you to fully commit to Him today?”