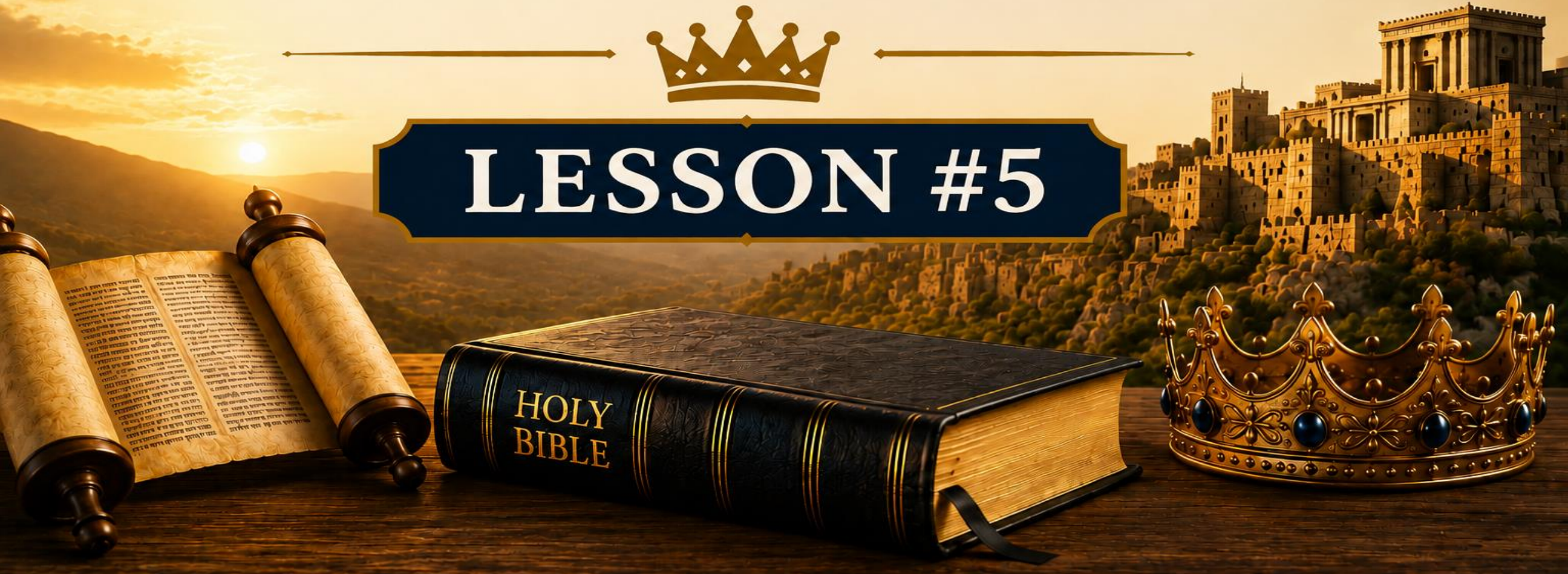


STUDY OF 1st KINGS



LESSON #5





Review of Previous Lesson:



Solomon removes the remaining threats to his kingdom.



Solomon's kingdom is firmly established.



IN THIS STUDY:



Solomon prays
for wisdom.



Solomon demonstrates
the wisdom God has
provided to him.



Solomon is blessed
with great wealth
and wisdom.



A king with a beard and crown, wearing a blue robe with gold trim, is kneeling on a patterned rug. He has his hands raised in prayer, looking up at a bright sunburst breaking through clouds. In the background, a city with stone walls and towers is visible. To the left, there are stone columns and a potted plant. In the foreground, there is a closed book labeled 'HOLY BIBLE' and an open scroll with text.

SOLOMON PRAYS FOR WISDOM.

*"Give your servant therefore
an understanding mind to govern
your people, that I may discern
between good and evil, for who
is able to govern this your great
people?"*

1 Kings 3:9

SOLOMON'S EARLY REIGN

SHOWS BOTH

PROMISE AND WARNING



THE PROMISE



God's promise to David is now in fulfillment.

2 Samuel 7:12-16



Solomon loves the LORD and follows David.

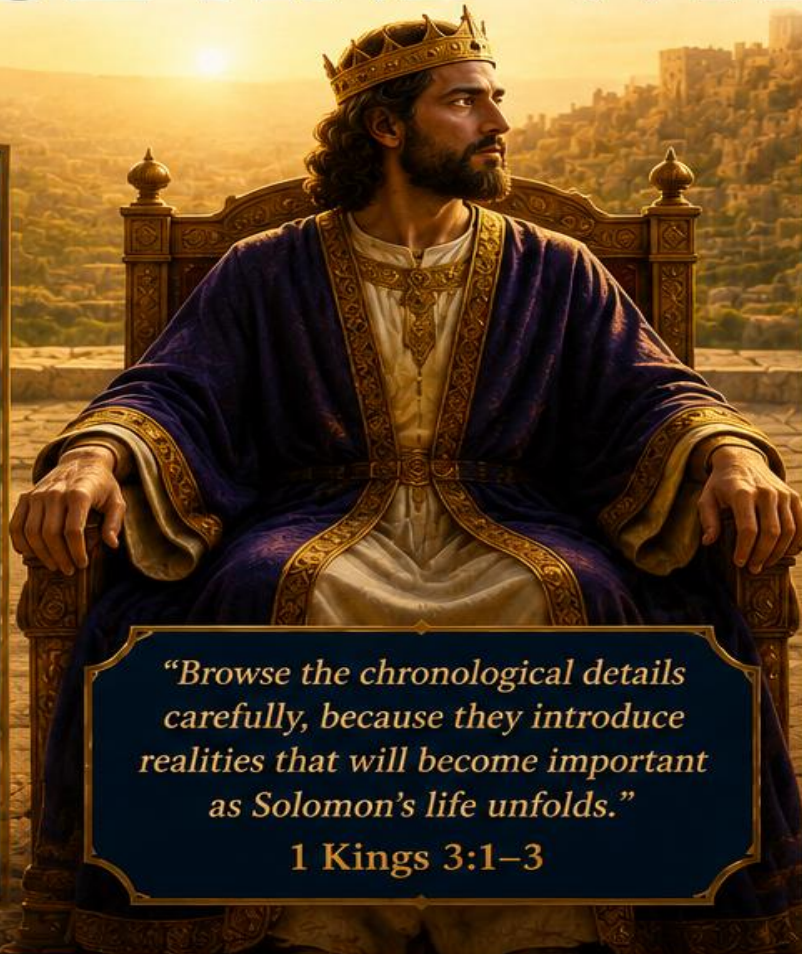
1 Kings 3:3



God appears at Gibeon to Solomon in a dream.

1 Kings 3:5

GOD IS FAITHFUL TO ESTABLISH HIS KING!



"Browse the chronological details carefully, because they introduce realities that will become important as Solomon's life unfolds."

1 Kings 3:1-3



THE WARNING SIGNS



Solomon marries Pharaoh's daughter, making a political alliance with Egypt.

1 Kings 3:1



The people still sacrifice at the high places because the temple is not yet built.

1 Kings 3:2



These details foreshadow weaknesses that will become serious later.

1 Kings 11:1-8

A KING IS BLESSED, BUT HIS CHOICES STILL MATTER!



⇒ GREAT PROMISES DO NOT PREVENT FUTURE PROBLEMS. ⇐

→ FAITHFUL STARTS MUST CONTINUE FAITHFUL FINISHES.

GOD APPEARS TO SOLOMON AT GIBEON



GOD INITIATES

The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at Gibeon.

1 Kings 3:5



GOD INVITES

"Ask what I shall give you."

1 Kings 3:5



GOD IS FAITHFUL

God had been faithful to David and was faithful to Solomon.

1 Kings 3:6



GOD DESIRES A HEART

That seeks wisdom above all other things.



"And God appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him, 'Ask what I shall give you.'"

1 Kings 3:5

"Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in."

1 Kings 3:7

SOLOMON ASKS FOR AN UNDERSTANDING HEART

1 Kings 3:7–9

Solomon's Request

"Give your servant therefore an understanding heart to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

1 Kings 3:9



AN UNDERSTANDING HEART IS A HEARING HEART.
He asked for a heart that can hear, listen, discern, and obey.



TO DISCERN BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL.
He needed wisdom to judge righteously and lead God's people well.



HE RECOGNIZED HIS LIMITATIONS.
Solomon knew the task was too great for him without God's help.



HE SOUGHT WISDOM TO SERVE, NOT SELF.
His desire was to care for and govern God's people faithfully.



WHAT SOLOMON REQUESTED:



A HEARING HEART



DISCERNMENT



WISDOM TO LEAD



TO SERVE GOD'S PEOPLE

GOD WAS PLEASED WITH SOLOMON'S REQUEST

- ✓ He asked for what pleases God.
- ✓ God gave him wisdom, riches, honor, and long life.
- ✓ Solomon began his reign seeking God first.



*"Your request has been granted.
I give you a wise and discerning mind,
so that there has never been anyone like you before you, nor shall anyone like you arise after you."*

1 Kings 3:12

