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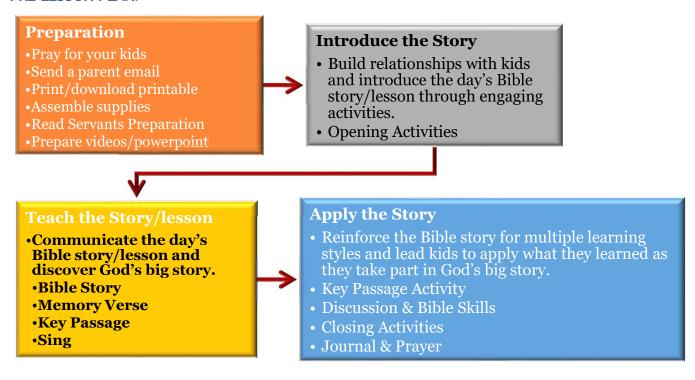
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PRE-LESSON PLAN:



SERVANT FOR CONSIDERATION: (Click Here)

Pre-class reading and assignment (add)

Class session

Opening hook – (add), i.e., a question(s) opening activity.

Short intro (add): review application of last session, and homework.

Chapters in the plan, the story- by chapter,

Learning Goals – Application

Activities (add):(in beginning or end)- linguistic questions, verse memorization activity, true/false questions, emotional questions, fact questions,

Memory Verse (add) - ways of memorization.

http://www.sundayschoolsources.com/ottoc.htm#The United Kingdom http://www.sundayschoolsources.com/ottoc.htm#The Divided Kingdom

Add: linguistic questions, true/ false questions, emotional questions, fact questions, Memory Verse- verse memorization activity, ways of memorization (add)

Homework – or after class maybe

http://www.joyfulmeditations.org/resources/kids/bible-activity-sheets#1%20kings

WEEK #7: CHAPTER 9-11 THE FRUITS OF SOLOMON'S REIGN

SERVANTS PREPARATION

Pre-class reading and assignment.

Class session:

Opening hook – (add), i.e., a question(s)

Short intro: review application of last session, and homework (add)

Chapter# 9 God Accepts Solomon's Temple (With Conditions)

Chapter outline:

1. The Lord appeared to Solomon... again.

2.Additional Labor of Solomon

1. The Lord appeared to Solomon... again.9:1-9

Lord promised that "If you walk in my ways, I will establish your throne." Sometime after the temple dedication, the Lord appears to Solomon again, like he had before at Gibeon.

- He says, "I have heard your prayer [... and] I have consecrated this house that you have built and put my name therefore ever" (9:3).
- He tells Solomon that if he'll be as faithful as David was, God will make sure that Solomon's descendants keep the throne. But if he—or his children—step out of line, Israel and the temple will both fall.
- It will be so bad, he says, that people passing by the ruined temple will be like, why would the Lord let this happen to his temple and his chosen people? Oh, probably because Israel didn't worship him" (9:8-9).
- And that was that.

2. Additional Labor of Solomon 9:10-28

- When things finally settle down after the festival, Solomon gives King Hiram of Tyre twenty cities in Galilee as payment for supplying all the gold and cedar and cypress.
- But Hiram wasn't crazy about the cities, and he's like, "Whoa, my brother. What's with these cities? Can't you do any better than that?"
- But then he lets it go, apparently, and actually gives Solomon a bunch more gold.
- While Solomon has all of these conscripted laborers, he also builds other stuff, like the wall of Jerusalem, and fortifies lots of other cities, like Gezer, which Pharaoh had captured and given to his daughter, Solomon's wife, as a present. Thanks, Daddy.
- This is a pretty rough time to be a Canaanite in Israel. Whereas the Israelites get to be soldiers, government officials, etc., the Canaanites get to be slaves.
- Solomon, meanwhile, just keeps doing his righteous king thing. He offers burnt sacrifices and burns incense at the temple, builds up a navy with some help from Hiram's experienced sailors, and keeps raking in boatloads of gold from tributaries.

POST-LESSON

Learning Goal: From a Dream to a Nightmare-1 Kings 9.1-9

This is the second time God appeared to Solomon in a dream. The first encounter took place when Solomon first became king. When God visited Solomon the second time, the king was the richest and wisest man in the world. The temple had been built and the land was at peace.

In this dream, there was both a promise and a warning. God assured Solomon that his prayer would be answered - God's presence would remain in his temple. But there is also a warning here. God told Solomon that if he or his sons worshiped foreign gods, the Lord would rip the kingdom out of their hands and take away the many blessings he had given them.

This promise and warning to Solomon apply to us, as well. God wants to be with us, but if we chase after false gods, such as money and material possessions, we will ultimately suffer great losses.



Chapter# 10 The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon, And Yes-She's Impressed

Chapter outline:

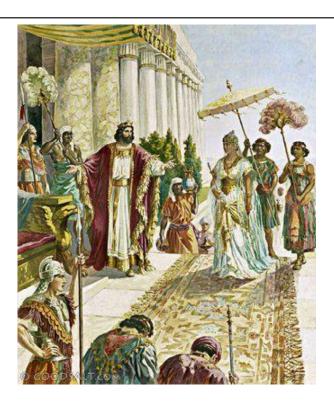
Queen of Sheba visited Solomon. Tested him. Exchange of gifts.

- Solomon's fame spreads until the Queen of Sheba hears about him. She's so intrigued that she comes to Israel to test his wisdom with some tough questions.
- She shows up in Jerusalem with a huge entourage and camels bearing gold and spices and jewels to give to Solomon.
- They sit down for a nice long chat, and she asks him everything that's on her mind. He answers all of her questions, and "there was nothing [...] that he could not explain to her" (10:3).
- Needless to say, <u>her mind is blown</u>, and not just because he's so wise. She's also pretty impressed with his house, his food, his clothes, his servants, his officials, and his religious observance.
- She's so impressed, in fact, that "there was no more spirit in her" (10:5).
- Whoa, he kills her.
- No, no, no. Sit down. She's fine. She's totally overcome, is all, and says, "I didn't believe
 what they told me about your accomplishments and wisdom, but they didn't even tell
 the half of it" (10:6-7).
- "Your wives are so lucky! And your servants, too. And all because of your God. Bless his name" (10:8-9).
- Then she gives him a ton of gold and jewels, and more spices than anyone had ever given before or ever would give again.
- Oh, and by the way, Hiram's fleet is still bringing gold, precious stones, and super-rare almug wood this whole time, too.
- Anyway, Solomon is a great host to Sheba. He gives her everything she asks for from his abundant riches before she returns to her own land with her peeps.
- But let's get back to how stinkin' rich Solomon is. In one year, he received 666
 (Whaaa?) talents of gold, not including taxes and stuff from traders, merchants, the kings of Arabia, and the governors of the land.
- (We calculate that **666 talents** of **gold** is worth about \$1,114,524,360 in 2013. That's 1.1 billion dollars. Not bad, King Solomon.)
- With all that gold, he made 500 shields and put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.
- He also made a great gold-overlaid ivory throne with two lions standing on each side
 of the armrests and one lion on each side of the 6 steps leading up to the throne. This
 thing was off the hook.
- Since he's basically surrounded by **opulence**, it comes as no surprise that all of his drinking vessels are pure gold, too. Silver? No way. That's for chumps. Any bum can afford silver during the Solomon administration.
- Every three years Solomon's fleets (along with Hiram's ships) come back from Tharshish full of gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.
- Solomon is king of the world, the top dog in both riches and wisdom. Everyone is dying to hear his thoughts all the time, and he is constantly sent gifts of gold, silver, clothes, weapons, spices, horses, mules, and much, much more.
- Solomon amasses 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horses, which he stations strategically throughout Israel.
- Solomon's traders do a ton of business with Egypt, trading horses and chariots for silver and turning around to sell them to the Hittites and the kings of Aram (or Syria in the KJV).

POST-LESSON

LEARNING GOAL: NO CONTEST -1 KINGS 10-1-13

- When the Queen of Sheba tried to challenge Solomon, she quickly learned that her little games and riddles were no match for the king. As a result, she never again doubted Solomon's wisdom, and she was awed by his wealth and intelligence. The Queen of Sheba had to admit that Solomon and his kingdom were even better than she had heard.
- Similarly, we have read and heard much about God's kingdom. But it is not until we experience it for ourselves that we truly begin to understand how great both He and His kingdom are.



Chapter# 11 "1000 Weddings and A Funeral" -Disobedience

Chapter outline:

- 1. Solomon's Foreign Wives and Apostasy.
- 2. God raised up enemies. Jeroboam rebelled.
- 3. Death of Solomon.

1. Solomon's Foreign Wives and Apostasy. 11:1-13

• But after all that wisdom and all those riches, Solomon drops the ball and breaks God's commandments. Tsk, tsk.

- See God commanded Solomon not to marry foreign women, because he knew they'd turn him to idolatry. But Solomon can't resist. He just loves those exotic Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites.
- In fact, Solomon loves them so much that he accumulates at least 700 princess-wives and 300 concubines.
- As he gets older, Solomon's wives turn his heart away from God and toward their gods, like Astarte (the goddess of the Sidonians) and Milcom (the abomination of the Ammonites).
- Solomon builds a temple for Chemosh, a Moabite god, and Molech, an Ammonite god, and for all of the other gods that his wives worship. Bad move, Solomon.
- Needless to say, God's pretty mad. He tells Solomon that he is going to lose his kingdom because of this betrayal.
- For his father David's sake though, God will wait until Solomon's dead to take the kingdom from him. He'll let his son keep one tribe. It's a pretty decent move on God's part.
- The stage needs to be set for the fall of Solomon's government, so God raises up a few enemies.
- First there's Hadad the Edomite.
- Years earlier, when Hadad was a young boy, David conquered Edom. Joab, his commander, killed every male. But Hadad escaped with some of his father's servants and hid out in Egypt. There, the Pharaoh gave him a place to live. These two became such good pals that Pharaoh gave Hadad his sister-in-law as a wife. Hadad lived with Pharaoh until he heard that David and Joab were dead. Pharaoh didn't want him to leave, but Hadad really wanted to go home, so he did and became Solomon's rival.
- Next God raises up Rezon, a former leader of a band of marauders who became king of Damascus.

2. God raised up enemies. Jeroboam rebelled. 11:14-39

- And then God raises up Solomon's main adversary: Jeroboam.
- Jeroboam was the son of one of Solomon's servants. A talented and energetic worker, Solomon put Jeroboam in charge of repairing the walls of Jerusalem.
- One day Jeroboam was outside the walls and wearing some new clothes when he
 bumped into a prophet named Anijah out in a field. Anijah grabbed Jeroboam's
 garment and ripped it into twelve pieces, saying (more or less): "Take ten pieces to
 represent the ten tribes that God has promised to take from Solomon (or, more
 specifically, Solomon's son) and give to you, because Solomon forsook God and
 worshipped Astarte, Chemosh, and Milcom. Solomon's son will keep one tribe so
 David's line will continue in Jerusalem."
- Solomon hears about this whole exchange, so he wants to kill Jeroboam, but Jeroboam is smart and has already fled to Egypt, where he remains until Solomon dies.

3. Death of Solomon. 11:40-43

 After 40 years of reign, Solomon dies and is buried in the City of David, and his son Rehoboam reigns in his place.

POST-LESSON