

1 Kings 1-11



The Text – 1 Kings 1-11

1. Read 1 Kings 8:54-61. What do you think of Solomon's speech? What does this suggest about Solomon's heart?
2. Read 1 Kings 10:14-29. What do you make of this description of Solomon? What does this suggest about Solomon's heart?
3. Read 1 Kings 9:1-9. What is the promise and warning of this passage? What is the connection between Solomon's character and the future of Israel?
4. Browse through some of the following passages: 1 Kings 1:38-40; 2:1-4; 3:5-9; 4:20-28; 6:1-2; 7:1-2; 8:54-61; 9:3-9; 10:14-22; 11:1-3. What hints do we get that Solomon's heart was divided?
5. Read Deuteronomy 17:14-20. How does this compare with Solomon's life?
6. Read 1 Kings 11:9-23. What are the consequences of Solomon's divided heart for himself? For Israel?

The Scriptures – 1 Kings 1-11 as a portion of the Scriptures

1. Read Matthew 12:38-42. What do you think Jesus means when he says, "one greater than Solomon is here?" How does Solomon's reign anticipate Jesus?
2. Read John 10:22-30. What do we learn about Jesus' character and heart here? How does this contrast with Solomon?
3. Read Acts 2:5-12; 42-47. How does Jesus' kingship begin to shape this new kingdom of believers?

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to 1 Kings 1-11 as a portion of the Scriptures

1. What do you think the book of 1 Kings teaches about the typical pattern of rulers and leaders in our world?
2. With this in mind, what should our attitude be to rulers and leaders? How might we respond to disappointing or frustrating decisions?
3. What do you think it might look like for our church family to mirror the heart and character of our true king?