

## *Tell Me What You Really Want*

*1 Kings 3:2-15*

Solomon was a young man when he was anointed king. He was probably between twelve and fifteen years old. He was about twenty years old when his father, David, died and he became king over the nation of Israel. In experience and practical wisdom, he was a very young king. It's important to notice a few things about Solomon that are mentioned in verse 3. First, it says that "Solomon loved the Lord..." Secondly, that he walked in the ways of the Lord. Since God's house was not yet been built and there was no central place to worship, Solomon performed his burnt offerings to the Lord in high places above the town (vss. 2 & 4). After sacrificing in Gibeon, the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and asked him an important question.

### 1. God's Question (vss. 4-5)

- "Ask what I shall give thee." Matthew 7:7-8, John 15:7, James 1:5

### 2. Solomon's Answer (vss. 6-9)

- "I am but a child" vs. 7
- He was 20 years old and had no experience in being a king. He knew that he couldn't do it on his own and needed someone greater than him. 1 John 4:4
- Lord, give me understanding, wisdom, Why? vs. 9
  - Lead Thy people
  - Judge, discern between right and wrong (example: 1 Kings 3:16-28)

### 3. God's Reply (vss. 10-15)

- Solomon's answer "pleased the Lord." vs. 10
- I want the Lord to be pleased with my answers, attitudes, responses.
- He wasn't selfish. He didn't ask for himself: long life, wealth, fame or revenge of his enemies.
- Though, God made all of those available to him.
- Side Note: Long life was the only one that was conditional. Unfortunately, Solomon did not fulfill the condition (he "forsook the Lord" see 1 Kings 9:9). He died before his sixties.

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