

The Request for Wisdom by Solomon: A Lesson on the Assurance of Answered Prayer 1 Kings 03:04–15

1. *Solomon worshipped God:
Travelled to Gibeon
to offer sacrifices*

2. *Solomon was confronted
by God in a dream:
God appeared in a dream
and told Solomon to ask
for whatever he wanted*

3. *Solomon acknowledged two
great facts*

a. That God had been very kind
to his father David: Because
of David's righteousness
and upright heart

b. That God had given a son
to continue David's dynasty

4. *Solomon displayed a very
essential spirit: Humility*

a. He had a deep sense of
helplessness and inadequacy
for the task given him

b. He sensed a desperate need:
God's chosen people were
too great for him to serve

5. Solomon made
a striking request

a. The request:
For an understanding,
discerning heart

4 The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices,
for that was the most important high place,
and Solomon offered
a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon
during the night in a dream, and God said,
“Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

6 Solomon answered,
“You have shown great kindness
to your servant, my father David,
because he was faithful to you
and righteous and upright in heart.
You have continued this great kindness to him
and have given him a son
to sit on his throne this very day.

7 “Now, LORD my God,
you have made your servant king
in place of my father David.
But I am only a little child
and do not know how to carry out my duties.

8 Your servant is here
among the people you have chosen,
a great people,
too numerous to count or number.

9 So give your servant a discerning heart
to govern your people and to distinguish
between right and wrong.
For who is able to govern
this great people of yours?”

b. The reason: That he might govern God's people and discern between good and evil 6. Solomon pleased the LORD immensely with his request a. The LORD reviewed, confirmed Solomon's request • It was not for long life • It was not for wealth • It was for an understanding, discerning heart b. The LORD made an astounding promise to Solomon • He would be given a wise and discerning heart — one that never had been nor ever would be surpassed • He would be given wealth and honour — above all his contemporaries • He would also be given a long life: But this promise was conditional, based upon obedience 7. Solomon awoke from his dream and returned to Jerusalem a. He was stirred to worship before the Ark because of God's promise b. He gave a feast for his court officials	10 The LORD was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. 11 So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, 12 I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. 13 Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for — both wealth and honour — so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. 14 And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life." 15 Then Solomon awoke — and he realized it had been a dream. He returned to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord's covenant and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court.
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