

## I KINGS 11; May 20; Solomon's Wives Corrupted Him

### ANALYSIS:

1. Why did the LORD forbid Israel (including Solomon) from marrying wives from the other nations? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. How many formal and informal marriages did Solomon make, and what was the result? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What was the religious practice of Solomon's strange wives?

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4. What three adversaries did the LORD stir up against Solomon?

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5. How many years did Solomon reign in Jerusalem, and who reigned after him? \_\_\_\_\_

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### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Solomon sinned in the sight of the LORD by marrying multiple wives (Deut 17:17). He added to his evil doing when his wives turned his heart after Ashtoreth, Chemosh, Molech, Milcom and other strange gods; and he even built high places to worship these abominations. Therefore the LORD said He would rend the kingdom from him and give it to his servant. However the LORD spared Solomon from the breakup of the nation during his lifetime, "for David thy father's sake" (v 12). The LORD referred to "David my servant" (vs 13, 32, 34, 36, 38) repeatedly as the reason for His gracious dealings with Solomon and the nation. David had his failures, but the LORD commends him for following the LORD with a perfect heart (vs 4, 6).

Love only what God loves, and hate everything that God hates. Do you wish to be married? Bestow your love only on one who loves the LORD so that you marry "only in the Lord" (I Cor 7:39).

### HELP:

1. They will turn away your heart after their gods (v 2).
2. 700 wives, princesses, 300 concubines; his wives turned away his heart from the LORD (v 3).
3. They burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods (v 8).
4. Hadad the Edomite (v 14), Rezon of Damascus (v 23), Jeroboam son of Nebat (v 26).
5. 40 years (v 42), Rehoboam (v 43).