

Christ Church sermon questions 24 November 2019

Solomon

Read the passages:

- 2 Samuel 7:11b-16 (God's promise to David - the introduction to the talk)
- 1 Kings 3:1-15
- 1 Kings 11:1-13

1. In the 2 Samuel 7 passage, what does God promise David? What part of this promise is fulfilled:

- for David?
- through his son Solomon?
- through Jesus Christ?

2. In the reading from 1 Kings 3, what are some of the things that would give you hope that Solomon's reign was going to be good one?

3. God's command to Solomon in 1 Kings 3:5 is hugely generous. What would you ask God for in Solomon's circumstances? What would you ask God for in your own circumstances?

4. God certainly blesses Solomon with wisdom. However, his wisdom does not ultimately protect him from his unfaithfulness to God in his later life (detailed in 1 Kings 11). Why do you think this might be?

5. David was "a man after God's heart" but Solomon eventually allowed his heart to become unfaithful to God. What things might keep our hearts focused on God?

6. Solomon's reign was hugely successful from a worldly perspective (wealth, power, stability, peace) yet his legacy was a divided kingdom. How does Solomon's reign contrast with Jesus' life?

7. How does Jesus' kingdom contrast with Solomon's kingdom?

8. What are some of the pressures that our current rulers face?

9. Given the current political turmoil, what should we be praying for them (1 Timothy 2:1-2)?