

The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon

1 Kings 10: 1 - 13

Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. ² She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. ³ And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her. ⁴ And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, ⁵ the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more breath in her.

⁶ And she said to the king, “The report was true that I heard in my own land of your words and of your wisdom, ⁷ but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I heard. ⁸ Happy are your men! Happy are your servants, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! ⁹ Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD loved Israel for ever, he has made you king, that you may execute justice and righteousness.” ¹⁰ Then she gave the king 120 talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices and precious stones. Never again came such an abundance of spices as these that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

Jesus speaks about Solomon

Luke 11: 29 - 32

²⁹ When the crowds were increasing, he [Jesus] began to say, “This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. ³¹ The queen of the South will rise up at the judgement with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgement with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

**What superpower
would you choose?**



Heroes with Unusual Superpowers

Squirrel Girl



Matter-Eater Lad



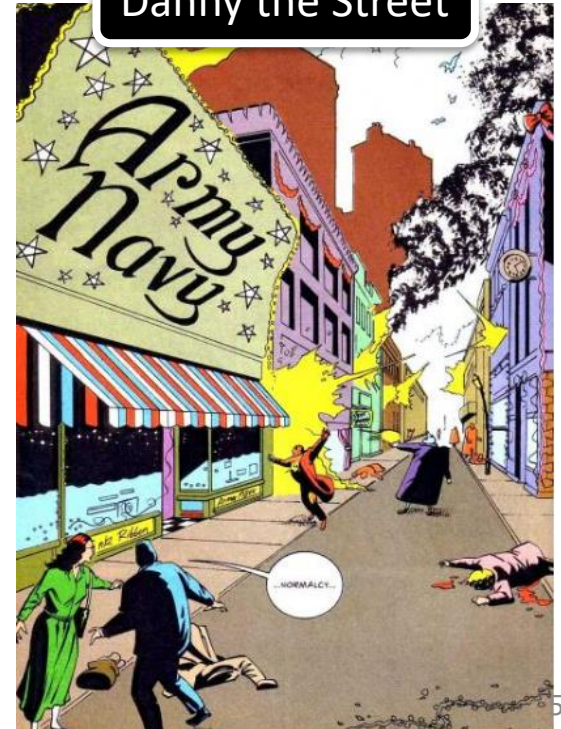
Fruit Boy



Eye-Scream



Danny the Street



1 Kings 3: 9 - 14

“Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”



It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this ...“Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days.”

King Solomon

1 Kings 4: 29

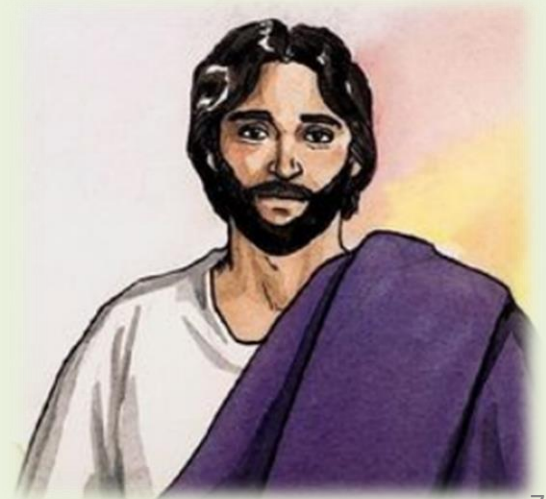


And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt.

?

Jesus

“Behold, something greater than Solomon is here.”



Genesis 1

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.



Genesis 2

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”



Genesis 2, 3 – Adam & Eve in the Garden of Eden



The tree of the knowledge of good and evil

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.



King Solomon



“Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil”

MOSES

All Israel ... perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to do justice.

1 Kings 3: 28



King Solomon

ADAM

He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish.

1 Kings 4: 33 - 34

Judah and Israel were as many as the sand by the sea. They ate and drank and were happy.

1 Kings 4: 20

ABRAHAM

King Solomon – how it all went wrong



Rules for Israel's Kings

(Deuteronomy 17)

Don't acquire many horses. *✗ Got 40,000 horses*

Don't send people to Egypt to get horses.

✗ Bought horses from Egypt

Don't get many wives. *✗ Marries 700 wives*

Don't acquire excessive silver and gold. *✗ Silver 'common as stone'; lots of gold*

Do write in a book a copy of God's law. *✗ Not done*

King Solomon

Heart of his failure = failure of the heart

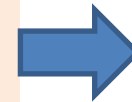


“You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and cling to him” **Deut. 10: 20**



Good decisions

Solomon clung to his wives in love ...
And his wives turned away his heart. **1 Kings 11:2, 3**



Bad decisions

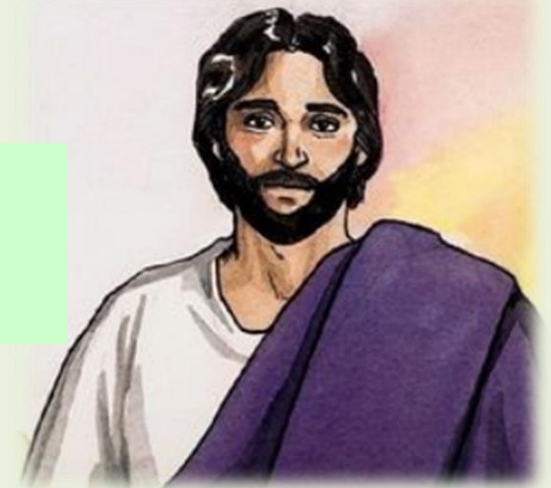
Solomon



“Behold, something greater than Solomon is here.”

We are in Christ – who became to us the wisdom from God. **1 Corinthians 1: 30**

Jesus



And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.

As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.



BIG DECISION

Little decision

Little decision

Little decision

Little decision

Little decision

Little decision

35,000 decisions every day

One husband after a year of marriage reported to a friend, "We decided that she would make the little decisions and I would make the big ones, and we are getting along fine; no big decisions have come up so far."



Do the BIG things right

**Do the next thing right
(especially the small things)**

Hold fast to God