



Main Point: As the people of God, the nation of Israel & the king who ruled them were witnesses of the True God and represented Him to the pagan world around them. Ideally, they were supposed to show the world what blessings obedience to God yielded both individually and nationalistically; but, when the people strayed into disobedience and idolatry, God's punishment of Israel was used as a witness to the world of righteous judgment. In 1 Kings, God's dealings with Israel give witness to four critical things we need to learn as fellow children of God: "There is Blessings in Obedience", "There is Glory in God's Presence", "There is Consequences to Man's Sin" & "There is Authority in God's Judgments".

1. Witness: Blessings in Obedience.... 1 Kings 1-10

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| a. King David Finishes Strong | 1 Kings 1:1-2:12 |
| b. King Solomon: Glory Years | 1 Kings 2:13-10:29 |
| - Enthroned | 1 Kings 2:13-46 |
| - Asks for Wisdom | 1 Kings 3 |
| - Organizes Government | 1 Kings 4 |
| - Building Projects | 1 Kings 7:1-12; 9:10-24 |
| - Glory of the Kingdom | 1 Kings 10 |

2. Witness: Glory in Gods Presence.... 1 Kings 5-9

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| a. Building of the Temple | 1 Kings 5-6; 7:13-51 |
| b. Temple Dedicated | 1 Kings 8:1-9:9 |

3. Witness: Consequences to Mans Sin.... 1 Kings 11-16

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| a. King Solomon: Downfall | 1 Kings 11 |
| - Heart Turns from God | 1 Kings 11:1-13 |
| - Leadership Rebels | 1 Kings 11:14-40 |
| - Solomon Dies | 1 Kings 11: 41-43 |
| b. Kingdom Divided | 1 Kings 12-16 |
| - Role of Rehoboam | 1 Kings 12:1-24;14:21-31 |
| - Role of Jeroboam | 1 Kings 12:25-14:20 |
| - Series of Wicked Kings | 1 Kings 15-16 |

4. Witness: Authority in Gods Judgment.... 1 Kings 17-22

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| a. Elijah the Prophet: Life & Ministry | 1 Kings 17-22 |
| - Drought & The Widow | 1 Kings 17 |
| - Challenging Baal | 1 Kings 18 |
| - King Ahab & Queen Jezebel | 1 Kings 19-22 |

Important Passage....

"If you walk before me.... then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever.... but if you or your sons at all turn from following me.... then I will cut off Israel from the land...." - 1 Kings 9: 4-9



Day 1: Enthroning Solomon.....

1 Kings 1 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What was it about the way Adonijah claimed the throne that made this so wrong? (2). In regards to this story, what was the most effective way for King David to dethrone Adonijah? (2). If Adonijah is a picture of “self” and Solomon is a picture of the “spirit”, what’s the best way to dethrone self?

Day 2: Requesting Wisdom.....

1 Kings 3 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What is revealed when a person is given the opportunity to have whatever they desire? (2). What is wisdom and why would Solomon want this more than anything else? (3). Why was God so please with his request?

Day 3: Witness Either Way.....

1 Kings 9: 1-9 // THINKING POINTS: (1). God makes some wonderful promises to Solomon, but these promises are made with what conditions? (2). How were the Israelites a witness to the nations concerning God’s blessings & God’s judgments? (3). As a Christian we are held to the same standards, what kind of witness are you being?

Day 4: All You Can Eat.....

1 Kings 17: 8-16 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What is the main objects by which our story seems to revolve? (2). In both scenarios we find the same vessels, so what was it that made these vessels yield incredible provisions? (3). The Bible calls us “earthen vessels”, what does this story tell you about your purpose & potential effectiveness?

Day 5: Show Down.....

1 Kings 18: 20-40 // THINKING POINTS: (1). The people had been playing the fence between Baal & God, ultimately what was the heart behind the challenge issued by Elijah? (2). How would you describe the worship of the priests of Baal? (3). What significance do you find in fire coming down from heaven to consume the sacrifice?

Day 6: Still Small Voice.....

1 Kings 19: 11-18 // THINKING POINTS: (1). God spoke to Elijah in a way that was most unexpected - the still small voice.... what does this tell us about the way God communicates? (2). If you were Satan and you wanted to keep people from hearing God speak, what would be your strategy (3). Could it be the issue isn’t God speaking to you, but rather you giving yourself an opportunity to hear?

DEVOTIONS

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