

1 Kings 10:21

All King Solomon's drinking vessels were gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. Not one was silver, for this was accounted as nothing in the days of Solomon.

I remember reading I Kings chapters 9-10 just the other day. (I would encourage you to read them along with chapter 11) As I did, I'm sure my mouth was wide open in awe of how the Lord had prospered King Solomon. There was nothing that King Solomon didn't have or couldn't get.

But then I read this part in chapter 11.

† **1 Kings 11:1-3** *But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites-- from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.*

That's over a thousand women; but after reading this, my excitement for Solomon turned sour, wondering what in the world would make Solomon go after other women who would turn his heart from the Lord?

Today as I was praying, and thinking, and pondering more about this, it came to mind that we all think if we just had this or that, or more of this then we would serve the Lord so much better. But Solomon had everything, and still he didn't serve the Lord like his father King David did.

I then thought about what I read in chapter 9.

† **1 Kings 9:25** *Now three times a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar which he had built for the LORD, and he burned incense with them on the altar that was before the LORD. So he finished the temple.*

Three times a year it seems was all the time that king Solomon had to spend with the Lord in worship. It's sort of like a lot of people today, who get so caught up in what they have, and trying to keep it that they spend more time at work and keeping up their possessions, that they soon have less time for the Lord.

That's when it finally hit me, we shouldn't be making time for the Lord because we have so much stuff to take care of, and having to work long hours to keep it or even get more. We should be spending more time with the Lord, and then if we can find the time, then we can play with our stuff.

It's all about a matter of priorities.

So where is your priority; In your stuff or in the Lord.

How do you know which has top priority? Look at who or what do you spend more time with or maintaining each day? Read this last line from today's verse that caused king Solomon's heart to be turned away from the Lord, "***and his wives turned away his heart.***" Now, replace the word "***wives***" with whatever is turning your heart away from the Lord. Then ask yourself, are these things, or this person, or this job, or making that much money, or watching that show or, _____ more important to me than God is?

If it is, then what are you going to do about it?

† **Exodus 20:3** *You shall have no other gods before Me.*

† **Mark 12:32-34 (NLT2)** *The teacher of religious law replied, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God and no other. And I know it is important to love him with all my heart and all my understanding and all my strength, and to love my neighbor as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law."*

*Realizing how much the man understood, Jesus said to him, "**You are not far from the Kingdom of God.**" And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.*