

2 Chronicles 9:17

Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold.

I recently heard of a sheik that had a Mercedes and that the entire outside of it was white gold instead of being painted. But that was nothing compared to the riches King Solomon had. Every time I read about this throne in today's devotional verse that he had made. I am in awe, and I wonder what it looked like.

† **2 Chronicles 9:17-19** *Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold. The throne had six steps, with a footstool of gold, which were fastened to the throne; there were armrests on either side of the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the armrests. Twelve lions stood there, one on each side of the six steps; nothing like this had been made for any other kingdom.*

Not only that, but also:

† **2 Chronicles 9:20** *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.*

And these things just barely scratch the surface of king Solomon's riches. You can read about them for yourself in 2 Chronicles. But just reading about his throne and gold drinking vessels. Have you ever wondered, where are they now? If you read 2 Chronicles, you will find that after king Solomon died, that there were wars in Israel, and when Israel was defeated, these kings would ransack everything and carry them off. Sure, we have little remnants of a few things, but the bulk of it is gone, scattered throughout the world, melted down to make other things or just buried in the ground. Even when king Solomon died, how much of his riches did he take with him to heaven? Not one single item, nothing, nada, zilch, zero.

Yet how much emphasis do we put on material things? Notice I said we because I am just as guilty as everyone else. I'm an electronic junkie, wanting and getting the latest gadget. But when I am gone from this earth, what will happen to it all? Sure it will go to my wife and kids, grandkids and family, and some friends, but eventually it will be tossed in the garbage. That's why Jesus taught us.

† **Matthew 6:19-21** *Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

If you lost everything, your job or business, all your stuff and even your family, would you still cling to God, or reject Him because all your stuff is gone. It actually happened to one man in the bible, and what was his wife's response and his?

† **Job 2:9** *Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!"*

But what was Job's response when it happened?

† **Job 1:20-22** *Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD." In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.*

So, let's look around at all our "stuff" and ask ourselves, Am I a Mr. or Mrs. Job?

† **Job 13:15** *Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.*

† **James 5:11** *Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord--that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.*

† **Job 1:1 (MSG)** *Job was a man who lived in Uz. He was honest inside and out, a man of his word, who was totally devoted to God and hated evil with a passion.*