




## THE RISE AND FALL OF SOLOMON, PART 2 | 1 KINGS 11 | TODD STILES



UNFAITHFUL

### INTRODUCTION

On February 5, 2017, the New England Patriots and Atlanta Falcons played Super Bowl LI from NRG Stadium in Houston, TX. New England, an NFL power house with quarterback Tom Brady and coach Bill Belichick, were favored to win the game.

The first quarter was scoreless as each team struggled offensively. Then, during the second quarter, the Falcons behind quarterback Matt Ryan found their mojo. They scored 21 unanswered points. New England was able to score a last-second field goal as the first half came to an end with a score of 21-3.

Halfway into the third quarter, Atlanta scored another touchdown, extending their lead to 28-3. The game had lost all momentum as it appeared the Falcons were going to cruise to an easy Super Bowl victory, their first in the team's franchise history.

Then Tom Brady started connecting, and New England started scoring. Over the remaining quarter and a half, the Patriots would score 25 unanswered points to tie the game at 28-28 as time ran out on regulation play. In overtime, the Patriots won the coin toss and went on to score the winning touchdown, beating the Falcons 34-28. It marked the first time

in NFL postseason history that a team leading by 17 points or more at the start of the fourth quarter went on to lose the game.

What in the world, you may be wondering, does Super Bowl LI have to do with Solomon? Simple. It's all about finishing well.

Solomon did not finish well. We will see this week that in the eyes of God, Solomon lost the game. His choices led him on a path that ultimately brought the judgment of God upon him and his son and successor, Rehoboam..

### MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

1 Kings 11:9-10 – And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods. But he did not keep what the Lord commanded.

## INTRODUCTION

**What are some things you have way too many of? How did you come to possess so many of these?**

**Has this been a problem in your relationship with your family or neighbors? What, if any, compromises have you had to make to deal with the problem?**

**Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?**

## DIGGING DEEPER

**What were the two sins Solomon committed?**

**How was Solomon not "fully devoted" to the Lord his God?**

**What does intermarriage look like today?**

**Where do we see compromise within the church today?**

**If you were Solomon, how would you justify your choice to have 1,000 wives?**

**What does this last chapter of Solomon's life tell us about his heart?**

## NEXT STEPS

Questions to consider as you continue to reflect on what you learned this week:

- **Take Action:** Is your heart fully devoted to the Lord your God? Has the Spirit convicted you of areas in your life where you are flirting with spiritual adultery or perhaps already crossed the line into spiritual infidelity? Nothing this world offers is worth the price of spiritual infidelity. Confess and repent to the Lord right now your sin and begin today to remove the worldly temptations from your life.
- **Take Courage:** It is easier to continue walking with the Lord than it is to try and recover from a spiritual shipwreck.

Work to memorize this week's memory verse: 1 Kings 11:9-10 – And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods. But he did not keep what the Lord commanded.

This week's Core Practice is Faithfulness (Proverbs 3:3-4): I have established a good name with God and with others based on my long-term loyalty to those relationships.

Remember to use the Daily Bible Reading plan as part of your walk with Christ, taking the time to reflect on each passage and what it means for your lives.

## SERMON NOTES

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### TAKE HOME TRUTH

"Cutting spiritual corners—compromise—ends in disastrous consequences, and only God's wisdom can help us steer clear of its subtle and erosive trap."