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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1524 ~ Solomon's Strange Women.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

From time to time, we are surprised to hear of the secret life of a prominent person coming to public knowledge. It might be a politician or sports person who presents a clean image to the world for many years and then, surprise, surprise, and with shock or disappointment, this person has been living a secret double life. It might have been unfaithfulness to their partner. It might have been drug abuse or some sort of illegal money matters. Such disclosures in the mass media make us all a little more cynical about trusting people to be who they appear to be.

Early in his reign, King Solomon made an alliance with Egypt and married an Egyptian princess. God had previously warned the Israelites not to intermarry with the pagan idol-worshipping people around them. Solomon disobeyed God in this matter although he seemed to obey God in everything else he did while building the Temple. But Solomon continued this practice of marrying heathen royal women to maintain peace on all the borders of his country.

Wise as Solomon was concerning others and their conduct, he unwisely ignored a downward trend in his own life. These royal wives were required to change their religion from idol worship to Judaism once married. They were to worship only the true God of Israel. However, He was the one they did not know and could not see. The wives found it extremely difficult to give up their idols that they had worshipped since childhood. The women persuaded Solomon to build places and idols where they could still worship their own gods. To keep the ladies happy, Solomon consented to their requests.

However, nothing went unnoticed by God and the people of Israel.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

At the start of Solomon's reign, God had favoured Solomon and for many years, Solomon had remained faithful to God. Over time, though, others became aware of Solomon's gradual apostasy and double standards. In Solomon's declining years of old age, his pride, luxury and worship of idols with his foreign wives caused God to give him a strong warning. Most of his kingdom would be taken away from his son and given to a much more faithful servant. Is anything too hard for God? A prophet met Solomon's servant and told him the news. Solomon sought to kill his servant so the man fled to Egypt and lived in exile there for a while.

Although we have reason to hope that Solomon repented and found mercy from God before he died, the Holy Spirit did not expressly record this happening in the Bible books of Kings and Chronicles. Instead, God left it doubtful that Solomon did as a warning to others not to sin and disobey God. The guilt may have been taken away in Solomon's life but God's reproach in Scripture remained. Solomon's example of doing the wrong thing by marrying unsuitable women caused others in Israel to sin and do the same also. Solomon's rich lifestyle caused fellow Israelites to stagger under great burdens of taxation. And God also allowed enemies to gather against him on his borders.

Solomon reigned as king for forty years. David and Saul also reigned that period of time but Solomon died younger than they did. If pleasure, wealth, luxury, power, fame and many wives could bring happiness, Solomon should have been a person of great joy. But at the end of his life, he wrote the Bible book of Ecclesiastes to convince us that worldly things can never make us happy inside. Happiness is found only in the proper respect, thankfulness and obedience to God alone.

Solomon also wrote the book known as The Song of Solomon, which follows straight after Proverbs and Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament. This is a story with an underlying meaning, as well as a literal one. The book describes the undying love between the Lord Jesus Christ and his church of true believers. It has been greatly misunderstood over time by European translators and preachers because they did not know the customs of the East. Many have only focused on the literal meaning of the passionate love between a man and his new bride.

The question is asked: do you have a secret life that you are ashamed of? Do you do things you don't want anyone to know about? Our Creator God sees everything, so you can't hide anything from Him. It is very important you confess your secrets to God and ask for His forgiveness. Then ask Him for the wisdom, power and strength to overcome this bad pattern of behaviour.

We human beings love predictable patterns of habit and repetition. This is why scientists can repeat experiments over and over again to get the same result every time. In recent years, science has become more a religion to many. But science does not have all the answers to life; only God the creator of science does. Even when science results may show the opposite of what some scientists want to think, they can twist the experiments to make the results appear just the way they were wanting them to. And at the end of the day, this is not science.

But the Lord Jesus, He did not follow the same pattern over and over again. In healing people, He touched some, others He spoke to and a couple of times He healed someone who was a long way away. No one could predict what Jesus was going to do next. He wanted everyone to have faith in Him. God's power in Him could rise above a sick person's circumstances to help those in need. In our journey through life, if we have the Holy Spirit living within us, we cannot predict where we will be guided to next. If we make ourselves available to do His will, we may be given an opportunity to speak to someone who would not normally listen to things about God. We can be confident God knows the way we should be taking and will help us walk in it.

Some years ago in the USA, a railway train went through a red light and smashed into the side of another train at a crossing. Both train drivers were killed and many of the passengers were injured. The driver who went through the red light had a secret. He had been going blind progressively for the previous nine years. He knew it.

His doctor knew it. He had had two eye operations and paid for them himself so no one at work knew he had a problem. To avoid losing his job, at his annual medical check-up done by his employer's specialist, he always denied he had any medical problems. The trouble with secrets is that they come out, and this time, in the most unfortunate way.

A cowboy western movie actor back in 1949 was known for his heavy drinking, brawling and popular radio show. He became a Christian in an evangelistic crusade and his behaviours changed. He was challenged by another movie star about his new-found faith. He replied that it is no secret what God can do. He went home and wrote the words of this well known song: "It is no secret what God can do; What He's done for others, He'll do for you. With arms wide open He'll pardon you. It is no secret what God can do." If you have not yet found this to be true in your own life, speak to the Lord and ask Him to change you so you will have no embarrassing secrets you need to keep hidden.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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