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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1522 ~ The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon.

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

In today's Bible Adventure, we meet the Queen of Sheba in the 1st book of Kings in Chapter 10. The Queen had heard rumours of Solomon's remarkable wisdom and wanted to meet him in person. But to do this, she and her party had to travel 1,200 miles from south western Arabia to get to Jerusalem. She had large gifts prepared for Solomon for her to give to him when they met.

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Solomon graciously received the Queen of Sheba and showed her around Jerusalem. He answered all her questions and told her about the true God of Heaven. The Queen listened and learnt all she could before returning to her own country. She placed her faith in Solomon's words about his living God and went home to change her way of life.

Solomon's fame had certainly spread around that part of the world. Solomon acknowledged his fame and wealth came from God and gave God the glory for this. If God raises us up to high social standing in our community, we must remember it was God who provided this. We must remain humble and honour God in all we do.

The Queen of Sheba was a very special person. In the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 12, the Lord Jesus spoke of this queen when answering a question of the religious leaders to perform a miracle. Jesus knew their hearts and that they had no faith in Him. He replied to them: “On the Judgment Day, the Queen of Sheba will stand up and accuse you, because she travelled all the way from her country to listen to King Solomon’s wise teaching; and I assure you that there is something here greater than Solomon!”

This must have been a great shock to these men, who thought they were so important. Jewish men were very grateful that they were not born a woman. Here was the Lord Jesus raising the status of women so high that one would speak before God and the angels to accuse these religious men of failing to believe in God’s own Son.

At the time of her reign, the Queen of Sheba lived in a very wealthy country. It is estimated she brought 4½ tons of gold to Solomon as a gift. She may have wanted trading opportunities, as Solomon controlled all the trade routes through his country. In the Bible, there are a few well known people who were considered wealthy. They led a group of people who all benefited from the wealth the leader controlled. Abraham was one of these people and Solomon another. Should we as Christians want God to give us great wealth as well?

Be assured, wealth brings many troubles and burdens. It also brings with it increased power, responsibility and accountability to God. If we have the means to help others, we are accountable to do so. Even without wealth, we need to consider seriously and prayerfully our obligations to those in need, including the poor.

The rich are secure in their wealth and often feel no sense of need to depend on God for their outward requirements. We too can be deceived by a sense of self-sufficiency. We also may not be wise enough to manage the temptations that come our way due to our increased wealth. Having the goal of getting and keeping wealth as our primary focus is a spiritually dangerous thing to do. Psalm 62 says: “Though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.”

In the book of Proverbs, Chapter 30, a man called Agur wrote about being rich or poor and asked God to let him be neither. He said: “So give me only as much food as I need. If I have more, I might say that I do not need you. But if I am poor, I might steal and bring disgrace on my God.” This is the right attitude to have. Wealth brings expectations and often a wrong attitude: A wealthy person demands all his needs be met and quickly. This is not how the Lord Jesus Christ behaved when He was on earth. He never demanded people bow down to Him or serve Him, even though He was Creator of the universe. Jesus said He came to serve and all genuine disciples of His serve others too. We are not to live lazy lives of pleasure and ease but look for opportunities to help those in genuine need. If we are poor we should work hard to provide for ourselves so we avoid being a burden on other people.

The Apostle Paul warns us in 1 Timothy, Chapter 6 that false teachers will come claiming that goodness is a means to great financial gain. Such people are devoid of the truth and knowledge regarding true riches.

Instead of seeking wealth, Jesus teaches in Matthew’s Gospel, Chapter 6, that we should first seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness. God does promise to show us His faithfulness by providing for our needs. In the book of Hebrews, Chapter 13, it says: “Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, ‘I will never leave you. I will never abandon you.’”

What are true riches? In the New Testament book of Philippians Chapter 3 the Apostle Paul listed all his worldly deeds keeping the Law as a loss so he could have the ultimate best of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord by faith. Are you like Paul keeping your priorities straight? Our time on earth is short; our time in the next world so exceptionally long. We need to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord Jesus because all earthly wealth will disappear. Only treasure in heaven will be of any value then. Ask the Lord Jesus to guide you so you will have treasure laid up for eternity.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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