



BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS INC.

www.bibleradio.org.au

BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1525 ~ Solomon's Reward for Foolishness.

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

A fourteenth century duke owned land where Belgium is these days. This duke had a big problem – he was grossly overweight. His younger brother, Edward, revolted against his rule and took the duke prisoner. But Edward did not harm him. Instead, a room in the castle was built around the duke and Edward promised his brother he could regain his title and property when he left the room. This would not have been difficult for most people, since the room had several windows and a door of nearly normal size, and none of them were locked or barred. But the duke was too large to fit through any of the openings. To regain his freedom, the duke had to lose considerable weight.

Edward knew his brother well. Every day he sent quantities of delicious food to the room. Instead of dieting, the duke became fatter. Whenever Edward was accused of cruelty, he had the ready answer that his brother was not a prisoner. He could leave the room whenever he wished. The duke stayed in that room for 10 years and wasn't released until after Edward was killed in battle. By then the duke's health was so ruined that he died within a year. He had been a prisoner of his own appetite.

King Solomon had a serious problem. He had 700 wives and 300 secondary wives. Just accommodating all these women and their children must have needed a very large palace. Apart from their accommodation, food and clothing needs, how could so many rivals live so closely together and have peace reign in such a place? King Solomon had become a prisoner of his own system of decision making. To keep the peace with many of these wives, Solomon had allowed sinful practices such as idol worship, to occur in his own city.

Foolishness is the opposite of wisdom. It is far easier to do foolish things than wise ones. We learn wise ways by gaining knowledge from the Bible. Solomon's pagan wives, however, turned away his heart from following the Lord. They were an influence for evil and overcame Solomon's godly influence for good. In the New Testament book of Romans, Chapter 12, it says: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

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

At the end of his life, Solomon reflected on his forty-year reign as king. God had promised him he would be a great king and there would be no other king in the world like him, either before or after him. These forty years made up the second great period of the united kingdom of Israel and a time of peace. Solomon had workmen build many buildings and his navy of ships traded well with other nations. But his grand lifestyle was supported by heavy taxation on his people. In his declining years, Solomon neglected the most important thing of all – to worship and obey God.

Doing many great things for God does not purchase for us a freedom to commit sin and then get away with it. It didn't work for Solomon or anyone else. We have to reject a false idea that at the end of our lives, God will weigh our good deeds against our bad ones. If we did more good than bad we will get into heaven. No one can work their way to heaven by doing good deeds. In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, it says: "For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it."

King Solomon's household must have been so different from the normal one-husband and one-wife households that most people understand these days. The king may have had favourites that he spent more time with than the rest. But just going around to speak with each of 1,000 wives and their children would have taken a long time. Each wife would have had little quality time and communication with her king.

How should husbands and wives behave towards each other? In Colossians, Chapter 3, it tells how all true believers in the Lord Jesus should treat one another: "You must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity." Husbands and wives are not to forget to use good manners and respect with each other. They should live to make life less difficult for their partner. Sadly, however, many people give more respect to strangers than they do their own family.

An elderly man told the story of his long and happy marriage. He was raised in an orphanage, so he did not have the example of loving parents to teach him about how he should conduct himself when married. When a young man, he had to earn everything he got, so he didn't have time for dating girls. But one day, he met lovely Sarah and in time, they decided to get married. On their wedding day, Sarah's father gave him a present. Inside was a watch with a cover over the glass face. Every time he opened the watch to see the time he saw the inscription underneath. It said: "Say something nice to Sarah." A few words of encouragement made a big difference in their lives together.

Solomon wrote over 1,000 songs besides his many proverbs. He wrote the Bible book called "Song of Songs", which is sometimes called "The Song of Solomon." The Jewish people thought these songs are a picture of the relationship between God and His Jewish people. Christians see it as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His redeemed people. The great affection written there shows Christ's love towards His people. His love is more valuable and desirable than the best this world can give.

Have you thought about the love of the Lord Jesus? When He came to earth, Jesus showed us a new way of living by His love. God the Father and Jesus His Son loved us so much that Jesus sacrificed Himself to die for the sins of the whole world. Have you understood what this means? Apart from Christ, there is no way we can have a complete and true relationship with God. Our many sins and wrongdoing create an impossible barrier and only Christ can remove it. Do you know how to ask for this? Tell Jesus how sorry you are about your rebellious ways and ask for His forgiveness. Invite Him to be the Lord of your life and thank Him for all His love and kindness to you.

Each year at Christmas, we celebrate Jesus coming to earth but this day is not Jesus' real date of birth. No one knows for sure the exact date. After Jesus rose from death and showed Himself to His disciples, He went back to heaven. Jesus had promised earlier in His ministry that one day, He would return for all those who love Him. In Mark's Gospel, Chapter 13, we are instructed: "Take heed, watch and pray: for you do not know when the time is." So in faith and hope we await His coming. Only God knows when the right time will be. Are you ready to meet Jesus when He returns?

MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

That was Perry Coleman singing "That You May Know."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

< END OF SCRIPT >
