# Good News Solomon's request for wisdom

### SOLOMON'S REQUEST FOR WISDOM I Kings 3:3-14

Speaking as a king to his successor, an aged warrior to a young man of peace, a man of varied and rich experience to one of inexperience, and as a father to a son, David delivered a brief, pointed, impressive, and unforgettable charge to Solomon: "Shew thyself a man." He wanted Solomon to be Spirit-controlled, fearless, above bribery and corruption, and vitally identified with the best interest of the people, thereby glorifying God and being a blessing to his nation.

Solomon's rgein began with devotion to God and to duty. One of his first acts as king was to go to Gibeon, where the tabernacle was located, for the express purpose of worshipping God. There he placed 1,000 burnt offerings on the alter as a sacrifice unto the Lord. What an act of love and devotion! After a day at worship, Solomon fell into a deep sleep. Out of appreciation of his sincerity of purpose, God appeared to him in a dream, desirous of disclosing His will to him and of blessing him.

#### The Proposition

To Solomon God made a generous proposition: "Ask what I shall give thee." God, the Great Giver, Who always delights to give in large measure, was desirous that Solomon make it possile for Him to bestow upon him some wonderful gift, so He offered him his choice of blessings from the divine arehouse.

#### **The Prayer**

Solomon's response to God's gracious offer was prompt. In his prayer the element of thanksgiving came first. He expressed appreciation for the mercy and faithfulness of God in dealing with his father, David. Solomon acknowledged that God had bestowed upon him the high privilege of reigning over his people as their king. He was truly grateful for every

Whitesville, W.Va. and the late Frank Burnett. He was the husband of Mrs. Ruth Duling Burnett and a member of the Baptist Temple of Charleston, W.Va. Navy in World War II and was retired from Exxon

Richard Barker of Lanham, Md.

"How Great Thou Art" was sung during the ser-

The casket was draped with the American Flag.

Pallbearers were Don Henderson, John Spence,

his father and himself. His genuine humility was revealed in his admission of a lack of wisdom for the proper administration of the stupendous task which had been committed to him. Realizing his limitations and his dependence on God, Solomon made the confession: "I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in." Neither can we perform the tasks assigned to us without the help of God.

### **The Petition**

When God gave Solomon the privilege of asking what he would, he carefully considered his needs before making his request. There were many things for which he might have asked - pleasure, prosperity, happiness, success, honor, renown, riches, glory, and long life, - but he did not do so. He simple asked for "an understanding heart." With becoming modesty and commendable earnestness he acknowledged his inadequacy for the assignment that God had given to him. His immediate need was the gift of discernment o know how to be a good king and thereby please and honor God, to Whome he was greatly indebted for his excellent opportunity for signal service.

God was highly pleased with Solomon's wise and unusual request, as was evidenced by His memorable reply: "Behold I have done according to thy words." Because Solomon asked for wisdom, God graciously and joyously gave it to him, and then to that wonderful blessing God generously added honor, riches, and victory over his enemies, those excellent blessings which he had not quite even requested . Let us, too, ask God for an understanding heart to discern between good and evil in order that we may always choose the best! That course of conduct will prove to be profitable, nd will never be a cause of regret. God-given insight enables us to make wise decisions which result in

## 30th anniversary is held

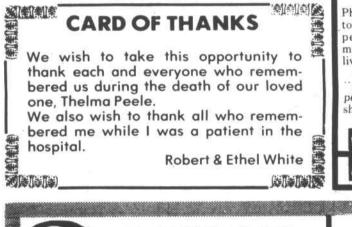


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - The pastor of this church located at the corner of King St. and Hyde Park is the Rev. John London. Sunday worship services are at 11 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. The church

## **Renovation** of senior building under way

With renovation under- Wooten led the commitway on the Hertford tee on a tour of the MultiPurpose Senior renovation site. Center, steps are being

taken to secure equipment. At a meeting last mittee are Bill Cox. week of the Senior Center Mayor of Hertford; Rosa Committee Pam Whitley, Gibbs, president, Hertgrant writer for the



was founded in 1866. A special musical program will be presented at the church at 8 p.m., June 23 featuring the "21st Century Singers," from Eli 1beth City. Carolyn Griffin will be the organist for the program.

### Recital is announced There will be a piano 100 cases. recital at New Bethel

Baptist Church, Sunday, June 24, 1979, at 4 p.m. This recital will feature Members of the comstudents of the area. The public is cordially invited to attend. Rev. S.L. Lawrence is pastor.



## Miller is outstanding president

Archie Miller, past president of the Perquimans County Jaycees, was named an Outstanding Local President at the annual Jaycee state convention recently.

Presenting the award was Harold Herring, past president of the North Carolina Jaycees.

The Northwestern Bank, who sponsored the awards program, has 178 offices in 44 counties in western and piedmont North Carolina. With headquarters in North Wilkesboro, N.C., it is the largest state chartered bank in North Carolina.

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