## The Golden Kingdom

Read 1 Kings 10:1-9

God blessed King Solomon with

wisdom,

wealth, and

luxury beyond description.

Even other kings and queens,

accustomed to all the best.

found Solomon's kingdom beyond imagining.

But the whole story is not so glorious.

This wisest of kings married many foreign women, and they led him into idolatry.

Political and military troubles increased in his later years.

Solomon's son reaped the bitter fruit of some of Solomon's practices:

ten of the tribes of Israel broke away and formed their own country, leaving Solomon's heirs with only two tribes to govern.

The Golden Kingdom was gone as quickly as it had come.

The wisest and richest of kings left a tarnished legacy.

But Solomon's kingdom,

however imperfect and short-lived,

foreshadowed Christ and

pointed us to Him.

The greatest of earthly wealth and wisdom proved to be

only a foretaste of the boundless gifts

God gives to His people in His Anointed One, Jesus Christ.

In Him

"are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3, NASB).

In Him

"something greater than Solomon is here" (Matthew 12:42, NASB).

Father, may what little I do, no matter how flawed and temporary in itself, point people to Jesus Christ.

Hymn: O Father, Give Us Jesus Christ

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