

Solomon

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

*Is it reasonable to assume that Solomon was adversely affected by being a son of the king?
How?*

Do you think he was pampered? Why?

Is there Scriptural evidence that David did not pay enough attention to his children?

What is the lesson for those of us who have been privileged to be parents?

The Psalms transparently reveal David's emotions and thoughts – anger and disappointment as well as joy and praise. David is called a man after God's heart. What does that tell us about God's expectations for us and the value of honestly looking into our own heart?

We do not write inspired scripture, but can we journal or write notes in our Bible that might inspire, warn or teach our own children as well as others who learn from us?

Is it likely that Solomon's brothers taunted him about the circumstances of his birth?

How must it feel to hear bad things about your own family – even your parents?

What does Solomon's ascension to the throne and place in the genealogy of Jesus Christ tell us about the way God does things?

What other evidence of that principle do we see in Scripture?

What did Solomon do right when he was selected to be the next king?

How much of that was influenced by the example of his own father?

Where did Solomon go wrong?

Did God use even Solomon's failure for God's own purposes?

Is it potentially spiritually dangerous to be greatly gifted and used by the Lord?

Do you agree with the double edged sword of the fact that God uses imperfect people?

Is it credible that Solomon skated close to danger because he felt that because of his great wisdom he could handle it?

How can a man be led astray by a woman?

Can a "good goal" like forming political alliances with other countries to preserve the peace lead to dangerous compromise?

Think about the consequences of our decisions and God's purpose for our lives – did God gift Solomon to write Proverbs, Song of Solomon and even Ecclesiastes?

His son, Rheoboam, not only did not follow the Lord, he was not wise. Does it appear that, like his father David, Solomon neglected parenting his sons effectively?

Is it possible to be a great man, even be spiritually productive and have significant areas of personal failure?

What does this teach us about the spiritual disciplines?

What does this tell us about the attitude we should have when getting praise for things we have Accomplished – about believing our own "press clippings"?

Could it have possibly been different for Solomon?

Can we say that it is never too late to return to God?

How does facing the consequences of bad decisions serve as a witness?