

The Wisdom of Solomon

1 Kings 3: 5-7, 9-12, 14

Old
Testament
Story Time

Solomon was a young man when his father, King David, made him King over the nation of Israel. Before anointing Solomon as king, David instructed his son to “be strong and be a man!” David told him to always keep the commands of the Lord and to act with all the wisdom he possessed.

But Solomon was young and did not have a lot of experience. So one night, when God came to Solomon in a dream and said to ask for whatever he wanted, Solomon responded:

“Now, Lord, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed David my father; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. Give your servant, therefore, a listening heart to judge your people and to distinguish good and evil. For who is able to give judgment for this vast people of yours?”



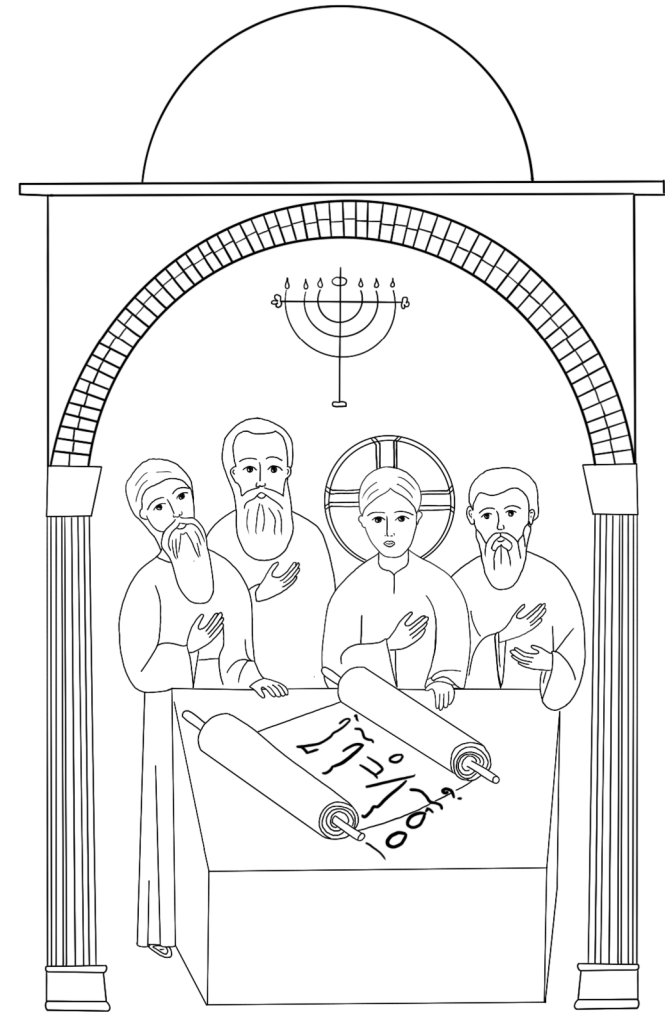
The Lord was very pleased with Solomon’s request. Because King Solomon asked for wisdom to be a good ruler, rather than for power or great riches, the Lord bestowed an abundance of gifts upon Solomon. Not only did the Lord give Solomon wisdom to judge his people, but he also promised Solomon he would have great riches and a long life, as long as he always kept God’s commandments.

King Solomon took good care of his people and made wise decisions. Soon people from all over the world began to come to see the great wisdom of Solomon.

As King of Israel, Solomon began to build a great Temple for the Lord God in the capital city of Jerusalem. It took seven years to build the Temple. When the Temple was complete, the Ark of the Covenant was placed inside the Holy of Holies of the Temple. God remained with His people there inside the Temple.



Finding of Our Lord in the Temple, Vol 1, No.13



In the temple, still yet a boy,
to his mother Jesus said:
“From on high does my Father call
and I ought to be with him.”





Gospel Corner

Luke
2: 41-52

Today's Gospel reading is the same story that we contemplate when we pray the fifth joyful Mystery of the Holy Rosary. Did you hear the reading? Do you know what this Mystery is?

It is the "Finding of the Boy Jesus in the Temple." In this story, Jesus is twelve years old and he and his parents have gone to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. This was about a four day's walk from their home in Nazareth. They traveled in a caravan (a group of many travelers) because the route was not very safe.

Mary and Joseph left for home and assumed that Jesus was also somewhere in the caravan. After one day of travel, Jesus wasn't anywhere to be found, so they hurried back to Jerusalem to find him.



After searching anxiously for three days, Mary and Joseph finally found Jesus in the temple, talking with the teachers. They exclaimed, "Why did you do this?"

Jesus told his parents that the temple was where he belonged. Because he was the Son of God, and the temple was God's house, Jesus was at home in the temple.

However, even though Jesus was God, he had also come to earth as a human and was placed in a human family with a mother and a foster father. He was at home in the temple as God, but he also showed obedience to his earthly parents by going home with them to Nazareth where he continued to live and grow in "wisdom and age and favor with God and men."

Just as Mary and Joseph have been examples of obedience the last few weeks, this story continues to highlight the importance of obedience through Jesus' example.



Did you know?

One of the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit:
WISDOM



The gift of Wisdom is both the knowledge of and judgment about the things of God and the ability to judge and direct human affairs according to God's truth.

Therefore, wisdom helps us to see things as God sees them, and to use this understanding to make better decisions to live our life and glorify God.

What you can do



Pray and ask God for wisdom to help guide you through each day.

Read your Bible to learn more of the wisdom and teachings of Holy Scripture.

If you don't have a Bible, ask your parent or priest to help you get one!



Where's Jesus?

Search through the temple to find Jesus as well as the other hidden objects in the list.

