

Achievement

Developing a biblical view of success (Part 1)

1 Kings 7:1-12; 9:10-28; Ecclesiastes

- I. Solomon achieved everything he attempted to do (1 Kings 9:1; 7:1-2; 9:15-28).
 - A. Incomparable building projects
 - Built the temple (1 Kings 5-8)
 - Built the palace and grounds (1 Kings 7:1-12)
 - Built Israel's fortifications and cities to store arms, chariots, horses and food (1 Kings 9:15-20)
 - B. Impressive labor force (1 Kings 9:20-23)
 - C. International shipping, trade (1 Kings 9:26-28)

- II. Solomon's sober thinking: Achievements are meaningless apart from God (Ecclesiastes).
 - A. Achievement alone is meaningless and leaves us empty and restless.
 - It's all been done before and will again (2:12).
 - We all die and leave our achievements to others (2:15-23).

 - B. Achievement at our work can be enjoyed as a gift from God.
 - If we work to please God, we have satisfaction, wisdom, joy as God's gift (2:24-25; 3:12, 22: Colossians 3:22-24).
 - If we work grateful to God, daily accomplishments can truly satisfying and enjoyable (5:18-20).
 - Start now to become God-focused (12:1).