



# "Solomon's Monologue"

**Scripture:** 1 John 2:16, 17

"For everything in the world--the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes, and the boasting of what he has and does--comes not from the Father, but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."

**Dramatic Category:** A Monologue in a skit (*Also a "Skermon."*)

**Topic:** Obedience to God is all that gives life meaning.

#### **Objective:**

To present the "perspective of Solomon" with regard to the value of accumulating possessions, pleasures, and prestige: everything is meaningless! Only obedience to God's commands brings value to one's life.

**Cast:** Solomon dressed in kingly lounging robes

**Synopsis:** Three categories of Solomon's wealth are presented on the screens. Each time a category of his wealth is listed, the screens fade out and Solomon is spotlighted at center stage. He reads excerpts from Ecclesiastes which reveal his wisdom in declaring everything a man owns, enjoys, and achieves to be mere vanity, and therefore, meaningless. Finally, he declares what truly gives meaning to life: Obedience to God by keeping His commandments.

#### **Props:**

An ornate chair for Solomon A draped table A piece of parchment A quill pen

#### **Technical Considerations:**

**Set:** Solomon is seated center stage at his chair, writing Ecclesiastes

**Lights:** Center spot on Solomon,

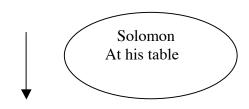
**Screens:** List the possessions, pleasures, and achievements of Solomon.

**Music:** Instrumental music swells as the wealth, pleasures, and achievements of

Solomon are listed on the screens.

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## **Staging Suggestion:**



### The Script:

## The Stage darkens

**MUSIC:** builds and swells as achievements continue

**SCREENS:** List Solomon's wealth line by line

## Solomon's Wealth

100,000 pounds of gold each year
500 golden shields
1,400 chariots
12,000 horses
A throne inlaid with ivory, gold, and precious jewels
Solid gold goblets and household items
A fleet of trading ships bringing gold, silver, and jewels
Richest king in the entire known world
Built his palace with opulent gardens, fountains, and courtyards

#### **SCREENS off**

#### **SPOTLIGHT on Solomon**

**Solomon:** (looking over his writing)

"He who loves money will not be satisfied with money,

nor he who loves abundance with its income. (pause) This too is vanity." (Ecc. 5:10)

#### **LIGHTS out on Solomon**

**MUSIC:** builds and swells as pleasures continue

**SCREENS:** List Solomon's pleasures line by line

## **Solomon's Pleasures**

700 wives
300 concubines
Gourmet meats
Finest produce in the land
Exquisite drink
Banquets that lasted for weeks!
Each of the 12 tribes of Israel was assigned one month per year to cater to his physical needs.

#### **SCREENS off**

#### **SPOTLIGHT on Solomon**

**Solomon:** (looking over his writing)

"I said to myself, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure.

So, enjoy yourself and behold,

(pause) it too was futility." (Ecc. 3:1)

**LIGHTS out on Solomon** 

MUSIC: builds and swells as achievements continue

**SCREENS:** List Solomon's achievements line by line

## **Solomon's Achievements**

Ruled the most extensive Kingdom in Israel's in History Kings of the world traveled to learn his justice and marvel at his wisdom Wrote 1,005 songs

Gave lectures as a world renowned naturalist & zoologist

Wrote 3,000 proverbs of wisdom

Fulfilled the promise of God to build the "Temple of the Lord" housing the "Ark of the Covenant."

Sat on the throne of his father, David, as promised by the Lord His power and fame were the envy of all the world's kings.

### **SCREENS off**

### **SPOTLIGHT on Solomon**

**Solomon:** (looking over his writing)

"And I have seen that every labor and every skill which is done

is the result of rivalry between a man and his neighbor.

(pause) This too is vanity and striving after the wind." (Ecc. 4:4)

(Solomon gets up, walks back and forth, stares at the parchment. Walks behind his chair, faces the audience, collects his thoughts and declares:

## MUSIC up; down and under this speech:

**Solomon:** Remember your creator in the days of your youth.... (*Ecc.* 12:1a)

Remember Him--before the silver cord is severed...(*Verse 6a*) and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. (*Verse 7*)

Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless! (Verse 8)

... here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. (*Verse 13*)

#### LIGHTS out

MUSIC swells...tones down....

**LIGHTS: Sermon lights up** 

#### **Sermon Option:**

This skit sets up the contrast between the "things of this world" and the "things of God." Which one will consume our attention? The three categories of Solomon's reflections match up with the three categories listed in 1 John 2:16 & 17:

Each time Solomon makes it clear, through his reflections in Ecclesiastes, that such endeavors are "meaningless," and the only thing that gives life meaning is to "fear God and obey His commands."

<sup>&</sup>quot;the cravings of sinful man," = Solomon's pleasures

<sup>&</sup>quot;the lust of his eyes" = Solomon's wealth

<sup>&</sup>quot; and the boasting of what he has and does" - Solomon's achievements.