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# **What Shall I Give Thee?**

**# 962-A**

**Series: God's Living Legends II**

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It is a fact that the pages of history are written in indelible ink! Unlike today's modern electronic marvels that, at a flick of a switch, go backwards and erase what's been written, the parchment upon which history is recorded is non-erasable bond, and it has been penned with a fluid that cannot be corrected.

History, then, is an accurate, permanent story, etched forever in the concrete of time. It is a Polaroid photograph of days gone by. Though sometimes slow in developing, once its colors have reached their full intensity, the pictures do not lie. That's why I hate to see myself in a picture. I can look in a mirror, and my limited vision, coupled with my unlimited imagination, overlooks the flaws and sees what it wants to see. But a photograph tells it like it is; and though at times it is depressing, at least you are dealing with truth. Such is the case with history. Not only is it permanent, it is honest as well.

You often read that "history will be kind to President So and So." Perhaps that's not really accurate. Some men's interpretation may be kind, but history is neither kind nor harsh. It is simply unashamedly honest.

*Scriptural history is even more so.* Penned in total by the Spirit of God, the Word of God says of itself that it is free from any "private interpretation." It is *absolute truth!* Therefore, it reveals the absolute truth about the men and women whose biographies unfold within its pages.

And because Scriptural biographies deal primarily with character, it is the early pages of those manuscripts, if carefully read, that usually reveal the tiny flaws which, when magnified through the lens of time, will ultimately bring about the cycle of grief and pain in that life. In the same way, certain basic strengths can be seen very early in life's stories that may well prophesy the positive course a man or woman's ministry will take.

All this to say that the first lesson on any Bible character may well set the stage for the drama itself. I believe such is the case

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in this lesson. Ascending to the throne in somewhat of a hurried ceremony, King Solomon, God's choice as David's successor, assumes his position as Israel's ruler, and his early decisions set the tone for the whole of his reign.

His first decisions, though we will not study them in detail, were a mixture of righteousness and revenge. They are recorded in I Kings, chapter two. There Solomon removed the mantle of leadership from the shoulders of unfaithful men and avenged the blood of those who played the role of traitor in the drama of David, his father. He now has his house in order. He is surrounded by like-minded leaders, and he is ready to march before God's people into an era of peace.

Now, with total unbridled honesty, the curtain of history goes up to reveal the life and times of King Solomon, the man whose very name was to become synonymous with the word "wisdom".

The first strokes of the Spirit's pen that form the backdrop for today's story are recorded in I Kings, chapter three. It is there that we will hear God ask the question that constitutes the title for today's lesson He asks Solomon, "What Shall I Give Thee?"

I suppose it's true that none of us would like our lives, our decisions, our conversations, or our secret faults catalogued and permanently engraved on the tablets of history for generations following us to examine in great detail. We don't even want those closest to us to know about us, let alone the whole world. But those who walked in the hallowed halls of Israel's elite had no choice in the matter. Since God had elected to use their lives as patterns with which to outline the causes and effects of obeying Scriptural principles, virtually every choice they made has been carefully recorded in perfect detail for us to examine. Perhaps had they known that, they would have given more thought to some of those decisions. We *do* know that the day is coming when, as Jesus said in Matthew 10:26, "there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known." Reading the lives of these Living Legends, then, ought to lead our hearts to careful consideration of the choices we make.

### I- SOLOMON'S CHARACTER

#### A- Peace At Any Price?

The story opens in verse one with an explanation of events that on the surface say very little, but in the character department,

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speak volumes. I Kings 3 begins like this:

Now Solomon made a treaty with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and married Pharaoh's daughter; and he brought her to the City of David, until he had finished building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the wall all around Jerusalem.

(I Kings 3:1 NKJV)

Solomon was known as a man of peace. He had been raised in a generation where emblazoned on the front pages of the daily newspapers were the tales of uprisings, wars, casualties, and revolutions. His father, though a man after God's own heart, had been a man of war from his youth. Again and again, Solomon had watched David leave home, sword in hand, armies of men at his side, never knowing if his famous father would return alive. War was a way of life in Solomon's youth. And as is so often the case, the pendulum of each generation swings with great force away from the seeming excesses of the generation just before.

Solomon had seen enough bloodshed. He was to be known as a man of peace. But the danger Solomon faced was the temptation to seek peace at any price. These opening verses confirm that, for we see Solomon, at the beginning of his reign, making an alliance with Pharaoh of Egypt, of all things, doing so by marrying one of his daughters. As we shall see, he violated a Scriptural principle in order to appease his enemies. It is the old story Satan sells that says, "The end justifies the means." God says on the other hand, "Walk in my ways and I will be accountable for the outcome." In other words, to God, the means is more vital than the end itself. Mark that. It is another place where the ways of the world and the ways of the Word are totally at odds, the one with the other.

For instance, it means if you have to lie to get that promotion, that promotion is not of God, even if you think being in that place will multiply your opportunities to witness.

It means if you have to compromise God's principles in order to make a business deal, that deal is not of God, even if you give all the proceeds to Him.

It means, as in this passage, that to date or marry outside the family of God in order to appease the enemy is a shortcut to spiritual suicide. The end does not justify the means. Solomon entered into a treaty with Pharaoh by marrying his daughter. He ensured peace for a season, but planted a seed that carried with it the potential to blossom into a treacherous weed that could

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spread and destroy the garden of God's treasures in His Kingdom.

### B- Will The Cycle Be Unbroken?

You may be asking, "Why make such a big deal over who or why Solomon marries?" The answer is: "Because God does." Not only was Solomon making peace through compromise, this seemingly innocent wedding was the beginning of what became a perpetual march down the aisles of matrimony and what ultimately became the sin from which sprang Solomon's demise as God's man of the hour.

The sins of his father were being perpetuated by the son. Solomon had a choice. He could have seen the grief his father suffered as a result of his wrong relationships with women, and his violation of basic principles where marriage was concerned. The cycle could have been broken. Instead, Solomon multiplied the sins of his father where women were concerned, and it ultimately became his downfall spiritually. It will surface more in a later study, but just glance over to I Kings 11, and you'll see how the results of this one decision to compromise affected his entire life:

But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites—

From the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. [He gave his heart to them.]

And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.

For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David.

For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not fully follow after the LORD, as did his father David.

Then did Solomon build a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon.

And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned

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incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

So the LORD became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice.

And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the LORD had commanded. (I Kings 11:1-10 NKJV)

Solomon walked down so many aisles, he had the cadence down to a fine art. Rumor has it he finally tape recorded “Here Comes the Bride” so he wouldn’t have to pay an organist. Rumor has it he finally invented artificial flowers so he wouldn’t have to pay the florist. Rumor has it that he finally invented a word processor to print the invitations that would just substitute the name of the new wife like a form letter. He said, “I do,” so many times he didn’t even know he did. It no longer even dawned on him to say, “I don’t.”

And Solomon not only married much, he married wrong. He went after the women who belonged to the gods of this world. He defied the Word of God and ignored God’s direct warning on two occasions, not to be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. God’s warning was: “You will begin to worship their gods.” And Solomon, like so many others since, replied, “Others may, but not me, LORD.” Solomon, like so many others since, was wrong. We will deal with this more in detail as we proceed through his life, but it must be examined here only for us to see how this one little compromise, marrying outside the will of God for expediency, set the stage for a series of compromises that ultimately drew God’s man from the center of God’s will.

### C- Solomon Loved the Lord

So Solomon, early in his reign, made some wrong decisions that ultimately cost him spiritual power. It was not, however, because he did not love the LORD. It was because he did not understand that “to obey is better than sacrifice.” Solomon loved the Lord. The problem is, so many of us are hard of hearing when Jesus comes to us and says,

“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?” (Luke 6:43 NKJV)

The story proceeds in I Kings 3.

Meanwhile the people sacrificed at the high places, because

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there was no house built for the name of the LORD, until those days.

And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places. (I Kings 3:2,3 NKJV)

Solomon loved the Lord. Make no mistake about that. The Scriptures do not lie, and at this stage of his ministry, his love for God was so insatiable, that he was consumed with a desire to worship. Until the temple was finished, that meant sacrificing to the LORD using the “high places” often used to worship pagan gods. There is no definite statement made that this, in itself, displeased God. It was not the *place* they worshipped that concerned God, but the *heart* with which they worshipped that concerned God. That still is true today.

The key thought we must have engraved on our hearts at this time is that *at this time* Solomon dearly loved God. Later, other things would steal away his heart from being perfect towards God. As for now, however, Solomon loved God. That is important to the remainder of this study.

### D- High Places and Heavy Offerings

So in love with God was Solomon that the very act of worship or sacrifice became a thing of excess,

Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. (I Kings 3:4 NKJV)

In case you are interested in numbers, a thousand burnt offerings amounts to at least \$325,000.00. Solomon was consumed with giving to God what was His. Like the young man who wants to rededicate his life every Sunday, he may be guilty of excess, but he is doing the one thing he thinks will please God the most, and he is following the logic that if a little is good, a lot is a lot better. God, of course, looked beyond the magnitude of the offering, to the heart. And he liked what he saw...which led, of course, to that amazing dream, in which God appeared to Solomon and asked him the question He has been asking men and women since the beginning of time. Solomon liked the question, and God liked Solomon's answer.

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### II- SOLOMON'S CHOICE

#### A- God's Great Question

In verse 5, we see the encounter between God and His man that builds the foundation for the rest of King Solomon's life.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?"

(I Kings 3:5 NKJV)

No greater question can be asked of man by God than that one. In essence, God said to Solomon, "If you could ask for one thing in life...anything...what would that one thing be?"

#### B- Solomon's Great Answer

Solomon's answer is a classic response for the child of God who has the Mind of God to make. Listen to how he replied.

And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, and I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.

[Here is his request] Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

(I Kings 3:6-9 NKJV)

Solomon's response is the key to this lesson. He answered: "Lord, if there is only one thing I can ask for, it is this: Give me wisdom. Give me godly discernment so that I can have an effective ministry. I want to be used of You, and only if I can think like You can that happen." This was no phony prayer on Solomon's part. We know that because God was impressed, and God looks on the heart. Solomon could have asked for wealth. He could have asked for long life. He could have asked for the absence of warfare. He could have asked for revenge. God knew that, and Solomon knew that. Instead, Solomon asked for the



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one thing that only God could give...an understanding heart. He ignored the pull of the flesh to ask God for things and asked God for God's heart instead. Needless to say, God was delighted.

The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing.

And God said unto him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice,

Behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.

And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.

So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

Then Solomon awoke; and indeed it had been a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

(I Kings 3:10-15 NKJV)

So the question was: If you could ask God for one thing, and only one thing, what would it be? Solomon's answer: I would ask Him for His heart. I would ask Him to let me think like He thinks. God replied, "I love that in a man or woman. Solomon, you will have that and more." Here, in essence, is what God said to Solomon.

1- He said, "Solomon, you have made me happy. That is what I want from man. I want him to want me more than anything else. Then I can use him to change his world."

2- He said, "The reason I am so pleased is because you had a choice between that which would satisfy you and that which would satisfy Me, and you chose the better part." He said, "Because you have asked this thing, and *not* asked for yourself, I'm pleased." Mark that.

3- He said, "I will honor your request beyond your imagination. (Exceeding abundantly, above all that you ask or think.) God did

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not simply add to Solomon's wisdom, He multiplied his wisdom beyond comprehension. He didn't just make Solomon wise. He made Solomon the wisest man who has ever lived, was living, or would ever live. Mark that, too. It is important. So pleased is God when someone genuinely chooses His higher ways, that He literally empties the foundations of Heaven into their basket. Solomon was to be the wisest man who had ever lived. That, Beloved, is grace.

4- He said, "Since you *didn't* ask for riches, or honour, I'm going to give you both. And, Beloved, to say that God gave Solomon riches and honor does not even do the statement justice. Such riches, such honour, are indescribable. God's heart was so pleased that Solomon chose the *better part*, He emptied the portals of heaven and gave Solomon the things he could have asked for but didn't.

5- Finally, God said, "The wisdom is unconditional; the wealth is unconditional; the honour is unconditional. The other thing you didn't ask for is long life. If you are obedient, that too, will be granted. If not, don't count on being great-grandpa Solomon. I'm giving you everything I can give a man. Obey me, and you'll have many years to enjoy it. Disobey and your life will be cut short." Solomon did the latter, and at the age of 60, which was young indeed, he went home to be with God. But in the interim, God gave him a combination of spiritual and physical blessings unparalleled in history.

### C - Man's Great Choice

This incident in Solomon's life stands out as the touchstone of all that will happen during the years of his reign as king. Nothing else will be of any relative consequence compared to this one encounter with his God.

It is not an incident to be taken lightly. Let's look at The Background, The Basis, and The Blessings that accompanied this monumental decision of his, and then let's fast-forward the videotape of history to Jesus' day and see what the Master has to say to us about that incredible choice.

#### The Background

The background of Solomon's decision is this: It is the beginning of his ministry. The die has not yet been cast in his reign as king. His world will include virtually everything imaginable on

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this earth. As king he will have access to wealth, to power, to pleasure, and to temptation. He will be called upon to make a multitude of decisions. Some will change the course of his life; others will change the course of the whole nation. In essence, *what he determined to be important could alter the very course of the destiny of his people.* As a believer and as a leader of believers, he had to live in one world while, in essence, giving his life to another. What God was asking him to do was to choose which of those worlds would control his life.

### The Basis

The basis for his decision then was simply this: he could have everything in the physical realm and it would not equip him in any way to survive in the spiritual realm. Conversely, if he had the Mind of God, the spiritual realm under control, there was virtually nothing he could not do in this physical world that needed to be done.

So he chose the better part. He asked God simply to give him His heart. Look at his reasons in I Kings 3:

#### 1- He recognized that God had placed him in power. He said,

You have made Your servant king instead of my father David,  
(I Kings 3:7b NKJV)

#### 2- He recognized his inadequacy for the task.

but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.  
(I Kings 3:7c NKJV)

Not only had God placed him in a place of unbelievable responsibility, God had for some reason chosen him, knowing that he was inadequate for the task.

#### 3- He recognized the awesomeness of the job.

And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.  
(I Kings 3:8 NKJV)

4- He recognized that only God's mind working through his could ever make him adequate for the task. He asks:

Therefore give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people,  
(I Kings 3:9a NKJV)

With those facts in mind, he made a logical, irreversible choice. He chose to become rich in one world at the possible expense of the other. It was only God, in His incredible mercy who chose to

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give him both.

### The Blessings

He elected to ask God for spiritual authority. God gave him more than he could even grasp, and in turn gave him all he ever needed in the physical realm as well. The magnitude of his kingdom was proportionate to the magnitude of his decision. He was blessed beyond measure, because he chose beyond measure to follow His King at whatever the cost. He would rather be wise than famous; he would rather be wise than wealthy; he would rather be wise than powerful. God immediately gave him wisdom, as we shall see next week, and he began entrusting him with riches as well, both spiritual and physical, once he had been given the wisdom to handle them.

You may be saying, “That’s nice.” “Let’s hear it for Solomon.” Or you might be saying, “Boy, am I glad God isn’t asking me to make a choice like that.” Before you say that, turn to Matthew chapter six. There the Master is confronting his young band of disciples and us, as well, with an almost unthinkable choice. In verse 24 He outlines the problem.

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? (Matthew 6:24-26 NKJV)

The problem is that though man *can* live in two worlds simultaneously, he cannot serve two masters simultaneously. Therefore, at some point in time, he must make a choice. The choice seems to boil down to serving the god of this world, and thus giving one’s life to the things of this world, or serving the God of eternity, and giving one’s life to the things of the Spirit. Further, the inference is that if you choose to give your life to this life, the results are up to you. Therefore, whatever does or doesn’t happen is your problem.

Jesus goes on to describe the life of those who have either by choice or default given their lives to this life. It is one of worry,

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fear, and frustration. “What will I eat? What will I drink? Will I have enough clothes to wear?” Jesus, adds, “Is that all there is to life? Or isn’t life more than enchiladas or roast beef? And isn’t there more to life than a new suit of clothes? If that’s all there is, no wonder you’re worried.” Jesus goes on to say,

Which of you by worryingt can add one cubit unto his stature?

So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor do spin;

And yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. [Who, Lord? Oh, Solomon.]

Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Therefore do not worry, saying ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or what shall we wear?’

For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.  
(Matthew 6:27-34 NKJV)

Jesus says, “Children, I have a choice for you. You can choose to become responsible for your own life and set your priorities and your sights on becoming successful, becoming wealthy, becoming powerful; you’ll worry yourself sick, work yourself silly, and end up with nothing.”

“Or—you can seek first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; you can choose, like Solomon, to give your life to having the Mind of Christ and let the Living God become responsible for how this life treats you. You’ll never go hungry, even the birds don’t. And you’ll never be without clothing, not so long as a God who clothes the lilies of the field is in charge of your life. Why, even Solomon, the man who had everything, was not clothed with such majesty and grace as the flowers God cares for. Aren’t you more important than birds and flowers? Of course you are.”

God is saying, every man, every woman is a Solomon. And God has appeared to us through His Word and confronted us,

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like Solomon, with a choice. He has asked us quite simply, "What shall I give you?" We can cry out, "God, I want to serve you, provided I am successful." Or, "God, I want to serve you, provided I am affluent." Or, "God, I want to serve you, provided I am respected." Or, "God, I want to serve you, provided that *in this world*, I am recognized as the one who can." The problem is, the Prince of this World can give us all those things. He offered them all to Jesus in the wilderness on a silver platter. All Jesus had to do was alter His objectives slightly, and change His priorities from one world to another, and they were His.

But there is another alternative. Like Solomon, we can recognize that it is God who has placed us here; that we are inadequate for the task; that we have before us an awesome mission; that only God's mind working through ours could ever make us adequate. Therefore, the only logical thing for us to seek after, to choose to ask God for is...His Heart. The only reasonable choice is to say, "Lord, what would it profit me if I gained the whole world, but never gained your mind? Lord, I don't care if I ever get wealthy, successful, or powerful. Lord, I just want the ability to discern the things of the Spirit from the things of the world. Give me that, Lord, and nothing else will matter. I choose to seek your mind first, before anything else in life. If I do, you have promised that I will be fed like the birds and clothed like the lilies, even more wonderfully than Solomon was." Does that mean steaks every day and a new suit every month? It didn't for Jesus. But little loaves and fishes went a long way. It didn't for the children of Israel in the wilderness. But their shoes had eversoles, and that seemingly monotonous diet never ran out.

What do you want out of life? A better job, a nicer car, a happier life, filled with pleasures and treasures? Or if you could only have one thing and nothing else, would you be willing to forsake all of the above in order to be able to think God's thoughts, have God's perspective, and respond to life with God's kind of love. Your choices and mine are more subtle than Solomon's. But they are no less vital.

God is asking us today; "What shall I give thee?" And He will step back and free Satan to give us what we want, circumstantially, if we insist. And if that's what we're seeking, we may gain the whole world. So what? Big deal! Satan has that and what has it gotten him? Or we can honestly bow before a God who is Spirit and pray, "Lord, I don't care what it costs me in this life, all I

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want in this life is to progressively come to think your thoughts, demonstrate your life, and reflect your love. Whatever it takes, Lord, make me wise.”

God may say, “But child, what if it means long, hard days?” Answer Him, “Lord whatever it takes, I want your heart.” He may say, “But child, what if it means loss of friendships, family or acceptance?” Answer Him, “Lord, whatever it takes, I want your heart.” He may say, “But child, what if it means being sent to the far corners of the earth, without all those modern conveniences you’ve build your life on?” Just answer Him, “Lord, whatever it takes, I want your heart.” He may even say, “Child, what if it means losing your life?” Quietly, lovingly, look at that Cross, and reply, “Lord, whatever it takes, I want your heart.”

Have you ever consciously made that choice? Not the choice for God to save you from the eternal punishment of hell. That’s easy. I mean the choice for God to take your life, like a piece of soft, pliable clay, and do with it whatever He chooses, just so long as the end result is that you will have His heart, do His will, and live His life. At some point in your life, you must choose. What it will cost you, I cannot tell. It cost Solomon very little. It cost Paul his freedom. It cost Jesus His life. There is, however, according to Matthew, chapter six, an incredible by product. Once you make that choice, you no longer have anything to worry about! Since you have deliberately chosen to seek first the Mind of God and the Holiness of God, God has agreed to become responsible for seeing that you get enough Big Macs to eat, and enough clothes to wear. You will have traded your worries for God’s provision, by trading your priorities for His life.

What freedom! What power! What joy! It’s called *lordship*. It’s called Wisdom! It’s called “Solomon’s choice.” God is asking you even this moment, “What shall I give thee?” Like Solomon, may we answer, “Lord, just give me your heart.”

*(See closing poem next page.)*

What Shall I Give Thee?

WHAT SHALL I GIVE THEE?

What shall I give thee? Houses and lands?  
Treasures filled up with gold?  
What shall I give thee, my child, only ask  
And it shall be given, we're told.

Satan so subtly speaks to our minds  
And whispers, "Ask him for things."  
Tell Him to turn the stones into bread;  
Ask for the joy pleasure brings.

Ask him to give you acceptance and fame,  
Ask him to see that you're known,  
Ask him to give you a world full of friends,  
So that you're never alone.

Ask him to give you a place in the sun,  
Ask him for all you can see—  
If you ask, you'll receive, says Satan to you,  
But, ah, child, just what will you be?

Would not our Savior tenderly say  
Ask not for that which won't last.  
Ask not for things with no lasting reward  
Which will perish when this life is past.

Ask, rather, my child, for that which God seeks  
And which Jesus alone can impart  
When God asks, "What shall I give thee, my child?"  
Just answer, "Lord, give my Thy Heart."

Whatever the cost, whatever the price,  
'twill be worth it one day when you find  
In exchange for the things you chose not to seek  
You have been given—His Mind.

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