

If the Almighty God suddenly appeared to you and told you to ask for anything and it would be yours, what would you ask for? Good health? Security for you and your family? Long life? Winning the multi-million dollar lottery? (*Don't forget 10% ought to go to the church!*)

This is what happened to Solomon. God appeared to him and told him to ask for anything he wanted. What he asked for made him famous and even today we refer to it as *The Wisdom of Solomon*.

Solomon was King David's son, and the heir to the throne of Israel. King David is still considered the greatest king Israel has ever had. He united the kingdom and laid the foundation many years of prosperity for God's people. When Solomon took over the throne from his father he inherited a pretty good situation. At the beginning of his reign he tried to walk closely in the footsteps of his father. The Lord God was pleased with him, and then told him to ask for whatever he wanted, and it would be given.

Solomon could have asked for riches and glory, or for many years as the King of Israel, or a permanent deliverance from all his enemies, but he didn't. He asked for wisdom to lead and guide God's people. Solomon knew he had big shoes to fill, and much was expected of him. He knew he wasn't responsible for all that was handed onto him. He had inherited it all from his father David. Solomon asked for wisdom, and God was pleased.

Solomon's request came from a humble heart, and the Lord God is a lover of humility. Solomon's request came from a generous heart, and the Lord God is a lover of generosity. Solomon's request came from a love of God's people, and the Lord God loves His people.

God does not have to appear to you or me for us to ask Him for what we need. Jesus gives us the assurance when he said: "*Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*" Matt.7:7 Whatever we ask for, though, should follow Solomon's example. We must ask with a humble heart. We must ask from a generous heart. We must ask from a love for God's people.

If we have the *Wisdom of Solomon* we would know that all good things come from God, and that we build on the foundations given to us. We would also be selfless, knowing it is better to give than receive. And, we know that any gift given to us individually is meant to be shared communally with God's people.

Solomon pleased God because he asked for wisdom that would be for the good of all, and the Lord God gave him many more things besides. Jesus tells us the same. He tells us: "*Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*" Matt.6:33

When you come before the Lord, ask for things that will really please Him.