



Big Shot (Solomon)

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1. Solomon's wealth

- Richer than anyone before him
- Silver was like dirt

All of King Solomon's drinking cups were solid gold, as were all the utensils in the Palace of the Forest of Lebanon. They were not made of silver, for silver was considered worthless in Solomon's day!

1 Kings 10:21 NLT

2. Solomon's quest

- To experience and understand everything
- Use wisdom to figure out life

¹⁶ I said to myself, "Look, I am wiser than any of the kings who ruled in Jerusalem before me. I have greater wisdom and knowledge than any of them."¹⁷ So I set out to learn everything from wisdom to madness and folly. But I learned firsthand that pursuing all this is like chasing the wind.¹⁸ The greater my wisdom, the greater my grief. To increase knowledge only increases sorrow.

Ecclesiastes 1:16-18 NLT

⁴ I also tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards.⁵ I made gardens and parks, filling them with all kinds of fruit trees.⁶ I built reservoirs to collect the water to irrigate my many flourishing groves.

(continued on back)

⁷ I bought slaves, both men and women, and others were born into my household. I also owned large herds and flocks, more than any of the kings who had lived in Jerusalem before me.⁸ I collected great sums of silver and gold, the treasure of many kings and provinces. I hired wonderful singers, both men and women, and had many beautiful concubines. I had everything a man could desire!

Ecclesiastes 2:4-8 NLT

⁹ So I became greater than all who had lived in Jerusalem before me, and my wisdom never failed me.¹⁰ Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure. I even found great pleasure in hard work, a reward for all my labors.¹¹ But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind. There was nothing really worthwhile anywhere.

Ecclesiastes 2:9-11 NLT

3. Solomon's conclusion

- Wealth doesn't bring fulfillment
- Poor people have less worries

¹⁰ Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!

¹¹ The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what good is wealth—except perhaps to watch it slip through your fingers!¹² People who work hard sleep well, whether they eat little or much. But the rich seldom get a good night's sleep.

Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 NLT

Next Steps:

- Commit to listen to Solomon's wisdom and make/keep God the #1 thing in my life
- Devote my hobbies and interests to God. Enjoy the creation that the Creator has given to me
- Be thankful for what God has given me in life
- Read Ecclesiastes 2 (or whole book) this week
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