

**Story Time - Read the story to the children**  
**Lesson 88: SOLOMON IS MADE KING**  
**1 KINGS 1:5-53**

Adonijah was one of King David's sons. He used to brag and tell everyone that he was going to make himself king one day because his father King David was getting very old. He went away in secret with his other brothers (except Solomon) and invited Abiathar the priest, Joab and the captains of the army, and he sacrificed some sheep, cattle and fat calves and made himself king without telling his father David. Nathan the prophet went to Bath-sheba, one of King David's wives, and told her that she should go and tell King David that he promised to make their son Solomon king, but Adonijah had already made himself king without telling anyone. Nathan the prophet told Bath-sheba that if she didn't do this, that both she and Solomon would be killed, so Bath-sheba went and told King David everything. She told him that Adonijah was already made king, and that all of Israel was waiting for David to announce who he was going to make the next king, and if he didn't tell them that it was supposed to be Solomon, everyone would think that Bath-sheba and Solomon were rebelling against them and they would kill them.

While she was talking to David, Nathan the prophet came in and bowed down before David and asked him if he knew that Adonijah had made himself king, and that right now all the captains, Abiathar the priest, and others were having a feast and shouting, "God save King Adonijah!"

Then King David said, tell Bath-sheba to come here close to me. She came and took her place before the king. And the king made an oath (which is a promise), and said, "By the living Lord, who has been my Savior from all my troubles, As I took an oath to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, saying, "Certainly Solomon your son will become king after me, seated on my seat in my place; so will I do this day." Then Bath-sheba bowed down with her face toward the ground before the king giving him honor, and said, "May my lord King David go on living for ever." And King David said, "Send for Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada." And they came before the king. And the king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord the king, and put Solomon my son on my mule, yes - mine - and take him down to Gihon; And there let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet put the holy oil on him to make him king over all of Israel; and sound the horn and say, God save King Solomon! Then come up after him and he will come in and take his place on the seat of my

kingdom; for he is to be king in my place, and I have given orders that he is to be ruler over Israel and over Judah." And Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, answering the king, said, "So be it: and may the Lord, the God of my lord the king, say so. As the Lord has been with my lord the king, even so may he be with Solomon and make his kingdom and his authority greater than that of my lord King David." So Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, went down and put Solomon on King David's mule and took him to Gihon. And Zadok the priest took the vessel of oil out of the Temple Tent, and put the holy oil on Solomon. And when the horn was sounded, all the people said, "God save King Solomon!" And all the people came up after him, piping with pipes, and they were all happy with great joy, so that the earth was shaking with all the sound they were making. And Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it when their meal was ended. And Joab, hearing the sound of the horn, said, "What is the reason of all this noise? It's like the town is all excited!" And while he was still saying this, Jonathan, the son of Abiathar the priest, came; and Adonijah said, "Come in; for you are a man of good faith and the news which you have for us will be good." And Jonathan, answering, said to Adonijah, "It is not good, but our lord King David has made Solomon king: And he sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and they put him on the king's mule: And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet put the holy oil on him and made him king in Gihon; and they came back from there with great joy, and the town was all excited. This is the noise that you have heard. And now Solomon is seated on the seat of the kingdom. And the king's servants came to our lord King David, blessing him and saying, 'May God make the name of Solomon better than your name, and the seat of his authority greater than your seat'; and the king was bowing down low in worship on his bed. Then the king said, 'May the God of Israel be praised, who has given one of my seed to be king in my place this day and has let my eyes see it'".

And all of Adonijah's guests got up in fear and every man went away to his own house. And Adonijah himself was afraid and full of fear because of Solomon; and he got up and went to the altar, and put his hands on its horns, which were four points going up on the corners of it. People would grab the horns of the altar for protection if they were accused of a serious thing. No one could hurt them while they were holding onto the horns of the altar.

And they told Solomon about it, saying, "See, Adonijah is so afraid of King Solomon, that he has put his hands on the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon first give me his promise that he will not put me, his servant, to death with the sword'". And Solomon said, "If he is seen to be a man of good faith, not a hair on him will be touched; but if any wrongdoing is seen in him, he is to be put to death." So King Solomon sent for him, and they took him down from the altar. And he came and gave honor to King Solomon; and Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."

**88. SOLOMON IS MADE KING**  
(1 KINGS 1:5-53)



“And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there king over Israel: and blow the trumpet, and say, ‘God save King Solomon!’” 1 KINGS 1:34

# **88. SOLOMON IS MADE KING**

**1 KINGS 1:5-53**

## **MEMORY VERSE:**

"As the LORD has been with my lord the king, even so may He be with Solomon."

**1 KINGS 1:37**

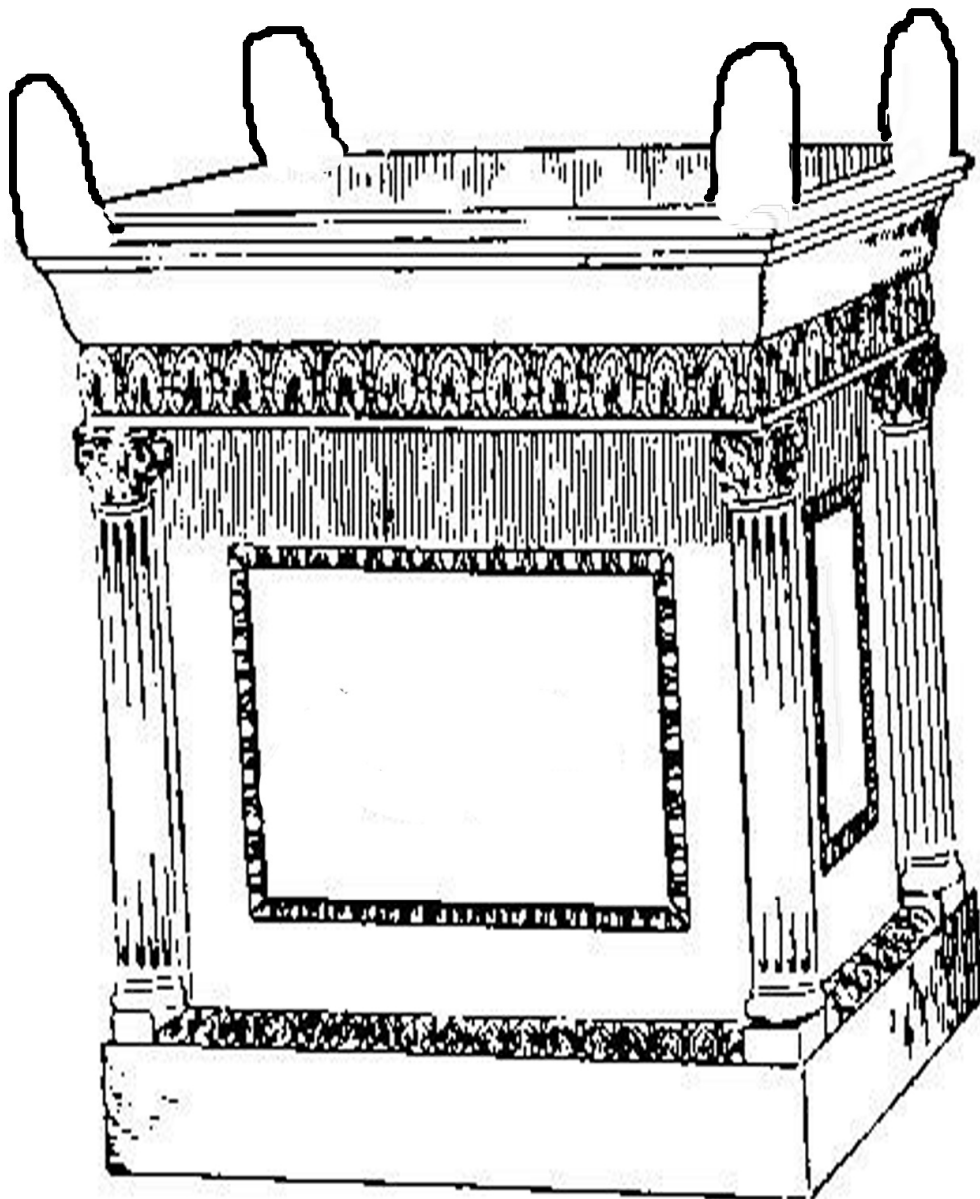
## **TRUE OR FALSE**

1. King David made a promise that his son Solomon would be the next king of Israel. TRUE or FALSE
2. Adonijah, David's other son, didn't want to be king at all. TRUE or FALSE
3. Nathan the prophet and Bath-sheba came and told David that Adonijah had made himself king without David knowing about it. TRUE or FALSE
4. David told Nathan the prophet, Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Johoiada to tell Adonijah that he was happy that he made himself king. TRUE or FALSE
5. The people were very happy that Solomon was made king and shouted very loudly. The ground shook because of all the noise they were making. TRUE or FALSE

## **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

1. Did King David want Adonijah to be king after him? Who did he promise would be the next king?
2. Did Nathan the prophet tell Bath-sheba to go tell her husband the king about Adonijah and what he had done?
3. When Adonijah heard the noise of the people shouting because they were so happy that Solomon was made king, was he afraid? Why do you think he was afraid? Did he think that maybe Solomon was going to punish him or kill him because he tried to make himself king?
4. What did Adonijah do for protection from King Solomon? Did he go and hold onto the horns of the altar?
5. When David had Adonijah brought before him, did he punish him? What did he do? Did he tell him to go home?

## Lesson 88 - Altar with horns



## **Lesson 88 - Optional game if weather/time permits (if time/weather do not permit, see bottom of page)**

Adonijah ran away and held onto the horns of the altar for safety. This is very much like the game of 'hide and seek', except it's only one child that hides & the rest are the seekers, so if weather permits, you can have the children (quietly) go outside with you and play a version of the game 'hide and seek' - Pick one child to be Adonijah. Tell Adonijah that he is afraid that Solomon's guards will come and find him and take him to Solomon to be punished.

Group all the children except for the one playing Adonijah together with their backs to Adonijah so they can't turn around and find him. Give him a bit of a head start, like 30 seconds - then tell them when you say "Go!" to try to find catch Adonijah before he reaches the altar (you can pick a piece of playground equipment to be the altar, point out the part that is the "horns"). Let the children run around in all directions trying to catch Adonijah, but warn them not to be rough.

If time and/or weather do NOT permit the children to go outside to play the game, talk to the children and ask them if they've ever played a game of hide and seek. Talk about how Adonijah ran to the altar like the ones who are hiding run to 'home base' or 'safety' in the game of hide and seek.

## Lesson 88 Optional Craft/Activity

### Crown Puzzle

Make enough copies of the enclosed "Crown Puzzle" template enclosed with your curriculum for each child to have a crown. Allow the children to color them and using scissors, cut around the outer edges of the crown. Next, cut along the thin lines on the crown. After cutting the pieces out, allow the children to mix up their pieces and put together the puzzle.

Use this craft to help reinforce today's theme. Ask the children what it took for Solomon to become a great king (humility). What does it take for us to become a great man or woman of God?

Helpful hint: Use a paper clip when finished to attach the pieces together for the children to take with them.

### PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer to forsake pride and to commit to walking humbly before God and pursuing His will for their lives. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them the opportunity.



