

PART 3: SOLOMON BECOMES KING

- 1 Kings 1:1-4 David is old, Attended to by nurse
- 1 Kings 1:5-10 Adonijah's Attempt At Taking The Throne

David had many sons. Although Adonijah is not a "well known" son of David (like Solomon or Absalom), it makes some sense that he would attempt to be David's successor:

"Adonijah was the fourth of David's sons born in Hebron (2 Sam. 3:2–5), and the eldest surviving. The first, Amnon, and third, Absalom, have died by this point in the story (2 Samuel 13–18), and the second, Chileab, is presumably also dead (unmentioned after 2 Samuel 3)." (ESV Study Bible on 1 Kings 1:5-6)

- 1 Kings 1:11-14 Nathan Informs And Instructs Bathsheba
 - v. 11 Nathan informs Bathsheba of these events,

We learn here for the first time in Scripture that Solomon was the divine choice for successor. It is possible that this was not widely known in Israel, nor in David's immediate family - but Nathan tells us that is was know by David, Bathsheba, and the LORD. We can see the confirmation of this from 1 Chronicles 22:

1 Chronicles 22:7-11 - David said to Solomon, "My son, I had intended to build a house to the name of the LORD my God. 8 "But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars; you shall not build a house to My name, because you have shed so much blood on the earth before Me. 9

'Behold, a son will be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side; for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days (the name Solomon comes from the Hebrew word for "peace"). 10 'He shall build a house for My name, and he shall be My son and I will be his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.' 11 "Now, my son, the LORD be with you that you may be successful, and build the house of the LORD your God just as He has spoken concerning you...

Apparently this prophecy was given (probably by Nathan?) around the time David first inquired to build a house/temple for the LORD (2 Samuel 7). Thus, Adonijah's actions were not of the LORD, nor were they in line with David's own wishes.

1 Kings 1:15-21 - Bathsheba informs David of Adonijah's actions

The presence of the royal family, the leading general, and Abiathar the priest would have given tremendous legitimacy to Adonijah. We cannot underestimate this. While he is a small footnote in the overall narrative of David and Solomon, this moment in real time must have been incredible. David's successor, his own son, is proclaimed king, with all of his brothers and sisters, except one (political leaders), the leader of the Army of Israel (military leaders), and one of the leading priests (religious leaders) all making sacrifices, with the lame-duck king in hospice care. Meanwhile Solomon, the rightful successor needs his mom to advocate for him. This would have been quite the compelling moment for Adonijah's campaign to succeed David.

- **v. 20** "the eyes of Israel are on you" David may be in his final days, but he is still king, and still beloved by the nation. Bathsheba makes her appeal for Solomon with this in mind.
- **1 Kings 1:28-35** David confirms Solomon as his successor and calls for his immediate anointing and proclamation
 - **v. 34** Solomon is to be anointed as king by the priests and prophets. This was the way the LORD would have his king's identified. It was not by them amassing great wealth, military strength or even the popular favor of the people. But it was by the divinely appointed anointing by the priest and/or prophet of the LORD.

REMEMBER, THE KING WAS THE "ANOINTED ONE" OF GOD. "TO ANOINT" COMES FROM THE HEBREW WORD MASHACH. "THE ANOINTED ONE" IN HEBREW IS HA MASHIACH, WHERE WE GET OUR ENGLISH "THE MESSIAH." THE GREEK WORD FOR MESSIAH IS CHRISTOS WHICH IS WHERE WE GET OUR WORD "CHRIST". THE KING OF ISRAEL, GOD'S NATION, WAS THE MESSIAH. THIS IS A TYPE/FORESHADOW OF THE ONE WHO WILL RULE GOD'S KINGDOM FOREVER, THE MESSIAH/CHRIST/ANOINTED KING - JESUS.

- 1 Kings 1:36-40 Solomon Anointed King
- 1 Kings 1:41-49 Adonijah and his dinner guests hear of Solomon's anointing
 - **1 Kings 1:42-43 (NLT)** And while he was still speaking, Jonathan son of Abiathar the priest arrived. "Come in," Adonijah said to him, "for you are a good man. You must have good news." 43 "Not at all!" Jonathan replied. "Our lord King David has just declared Solomon king!

This is an unusual event. Typically, a new king takes the throne of their father upon their Father's death. But because of the controversy, Solomon is anointed king while David is still alive.

Just before David dies, he calls all of Israel together again and confers to Solomon the Davidic Covenant

1 Chronicles 28:1-8 - Now David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the commanders of the divisions that served the king, and the commanders of thousands, and the commanders of hundreds, and the overseers of all the property and livestock belonging to the king and his sons, with the officials and the mighty men, even all the valiant men. 2 Then King David rose to his feet and said, "Listen to me, my brethren and my people; I had intended to build a permanent home for the ark of the covenant of the LORD and for the footstool of our God. So I had made preparations to build it. 3 "But God said to me, 'You shall not build a house for My name because you are a man of war and have shed blood.' 4 "Yet, the LORD, the God of Israel, chose me from all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever. For He has chosen Judah to be a leader; and in the house of Judah, my father's house, and among the sons of my father He took pleasure in me to make me king over all Israel. 5 "Of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons), He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. 6 "He said to me, 'Your son Solomon is the one who shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him to be a son to Me, and I will be a father to him. 7 'I will establish his kingdom forever if he resolutely performs My commandments and My ordinances, as is done now.' 8 "So now, in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the LORD, and in the hearing of our God, observe and seek after all the commandments of the LORD your God so that you may possess the good land and bequeath it to your sons after you forever.

The reign of Solomon begins a time in Israel that is unparalleled in their history. There will be peace, prosperity, abundance, and the exclusive worship of Yahweh, the true God.

But what we have here is the son of David, the king of Israel, riding into Jerusalem on a donkey with crowd's shouting out "long live the king..."