

The Solomon Narrative in 1 Kings

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| Chapters 1-2: | The succession: Adonijah's team vs. Solomon's team: series of assassinations gains Solomon the throne |
| Chapters 3-4: | Propaganda in support of his reign: Solomon's "dream," the parable of the two street prostitutes, and the royal system of tribute and labor |
| Chapters 5-7: | Financing, building and decorating the "house of YHWH" featuring Hiram of Tyre: treaty with the Phoenicians secures Jerusalem against the threat of Egyptian invasion and decorates the house with pomegranates, an Egyptian symbol of fertility and prosperity. |
| Chapter 8: | Temple dedication ceremony: Solomon's self-justifying speech and sacrifice of 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep |
| Chapters 9-10: | More royal propaganda, featuring Hiram of Tyre and the Queen of Sheba, who offers Solomon typical Middle Eastern royal praise |
| Chapter 11: | DH judgment on Solomon and the raising up of "adversaries"; Solomon's death: his foreign women led him astray so YHWH will take away (almost all) the kingdom |

What there isn't:

War, sex, children, adventure

"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these."

(Matthew 6.28-29)