

## 1 Kings 1

**THE ANOINTING OF SOLOMON AS KING**

## Introduction:

1. David's legacy as King of Israel would last throughout the ages of the world.
2. However, his time as King would come to an end.
3. As David's life began to draw to a close, the choosing of a successor was necessary.
  - a. This choice already had been made by God (2 Samuel 7).
  - b. This choice already had been stated by David to Bathsheba (1 Chron. 23:1).
  - c. However, no formal announcement had been made by the King.
4. By publicly declaring his successor, David would be stepping aside from his role as King and giving place to his son.
5. In this final act, David once again revealed his character as a man after God's own heart.

- I. David's Waning Strength (1 Kings 1:1-4)
  - A. As David grew older, approaching 70 (cf. 2 Sam. 5:4), his strength and health began to fail him.
  - B. Unable to be warmed, a young virgin named Abishag was brought to David to help care for him.
  - C. However, it became clear that David's life was nearing its end.
- II. Adonijah's Desire for the Throne (1 Kings 1:5-9)
  - A. Since David had not publicly appointed a successor to the throne, his son Adonijah decided to claim it for himself.
    1. Adonijah was David's fourth son, born to Haggith (2 Sam. 3:4).
    2. After the deaths of Amnon and Absalom, he was the oldest of David's sons still living.
  - B. Much like Absalom, he thought that looking like a king was more important than acting like one.
    1. He created a procession of horses, chariots, and 50 men to travel before him throughout the land.
    2. David did not discourage his acts of vanity.
  - C. Adonijah plotted with Joab and Abiathar the priest to have himself anointed as King.
  - D. He arranged a large, solemn, sacrificial feast at which he would be anointed King of Israel – inviting all his brethren except Solomon.
- III. The Counsel of Nathan and Bathsheba (1 Kings 1:10-27)
  - A. Nathan the prophet warned Bathsheba, David's wife, about what was happening and encouraged her to speak to David.
  - B. She reminded David of his promise to Solomon and informed him of the actions of Adonijah.
  - C. As she ended her counsel, Nathan arrived to further encourage the King.
  - D. They hoped that David would be persuaded to declare publicly that Solomon was to be his successor to the throne.
- IV. David's Humble Response (1 Kings 1:28-37)
  - A. In his humility, David agreed and declared that Solomon should be anointed as King of Israel.
  - B. Thus, David willingly gave up the throne for the reign of his son Solomon.

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- V. Solomon's Anointing as King (1 Kings 1:38-40)
- A. Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and David's loyal soldiers brought Solomon to Gihon.
  - B. There, Zadok the priest anointed him with oil from the tabernacle, sounded the trumpet, and declared Solomon King of Israel.
- VI. Adonijah's Fear of Solomon (1 Kings 1:41-53)
- A. In his moment of celebration, Adonijah heard the shout of the people as they proclaimed Solomon as their King.
  - B. When he learned what had happened, he feared for his life.
  - C. Thus, he fled to the tabernacle and took hold of the horns of the altar, pleading for his life.
  - D. Solomon declared that if he showed himself worthy, he would not be harmed.
  - E. However, if he had done wickedness, he would be put to death.