I. Transition of Power takes place in chapters 1 – 4.

A. David Dies.

B. Solomon’s reign begins.

C. The Golden Age of Israel begins as a prelude to the future kingdom.

II. A Temple and a Palace are compared and contrasted in chapters 5 – 8

A. God’s perspective on a house of worship is not always man’s perspective.

B. God’s perspective on a house of residence is not always man’s perspective.

C. The Prayer of Dedication reveals Solomon’s wisdom (chapter 8).

D. The Prayer of Dedication sets up the contrast which follows.

III. God’s Response to Solomon’s Prayer reveals the Plan of Providence (Chapters 9 – 10).

A. God’s lessons in love and its connection with discipline are reaffirmed.

B. God’s lesson in prosperity and its connection with discipline are set forth.

C. The Queen of Sheba’s visit portrays the extent and influence God allowed Solomon.

IV. The word, “**however**,” is as important to note in Bible study as the word, “**therefore**.”

(Chapter 11)

A. “King Solomon, however***,***  loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh’s daughter.”

B. God’s response is revelatory of His Character and His Plan and His Power.

1. The word, “**nevertheless**,” takes center stage. Vv. 12ff

2. The word, “**one**,” joins “**nevertheless**” in its importance.

3. The word, “**adversaries**,” connects with God’s intentions for us.

V. Solomon dies with God, not Solomon, singing the swan song to Jeroboam.

A. “But Not Forever” would be a good title for the song.

B. “Forever” is a good title for the contrasting song being sung to Judah.

1. The “Lion of Judah” will sit upon the throne forever.

The Advent application is to allow these times to frame the times of today. The forever plan of God all rests on the invasion of this world by the only begotten Son of God who emerges as a descendant of David as He put on flesh. This communion table tonight brings this to our remembrance.

**See Communion Hymn on Back**

**Fairest Lord Jesus**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,  O thou of God and man the Son,  Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  Thou, my soul’s glory, joy and crown.  **2.** Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,  Robed in the blooming garb of spring;  Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer  Who makes the woeful heart to sing. | **3.** Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,  And all the twinkling starry host;  Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  Than all the angels heaven can boast.  **4.** Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!  Son of God and Son of Man!  Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  Now and forevermore be thine. |