

# 2 Chronicles 1:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:

## Analysis

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God's commendation of Solomon's request: 'And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king.' God evaluates the heart, not just the request. Solomon could have asked for personal benefit but sought kingdom good. The fourfold negative (not riches/wealth/honor/life) contrasts with the positive (wisdom/knowledge). God's response demonstrates He delights in prayers prioritizing His kingdom over personal gain, echoing Jesus's teaching 'seek first the kingdom' (Matthew 6:33).

## Historical Context

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God's approval (c. 970 BCE) validated Solomon's priorities and established the basis for his legendary wisdom. This encounter shaped Solomon's entire reign, though his later requests for personal gain (many wives, excessive wealth) showed even wise beginnings don't guarantee faithful endings.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. What do your prayers reveal about your heart's true priorities - kingdom purposes or personal comfort?
2. How can you cultivate Solomon's early wisdom of seeking spiritual gifts over material benefits?



LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

**James 3:13** (Parallel theme): Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

**1 Kings 3:28** (Judgment): And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment.

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