

The Seven Mountains

Key Verse

Duet 4:5-8 - See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

Exploring the Bible

I. What Are the Seven Mountains

A number of years ago two Christian leaders got together. Both of them shared with each other what God had shown them that morning. They found that God had showed them the same thing, a vision of seven mountains. To one of them God had called the seven mountains, the seven kingdoms. To the other He had called them seven mind-molders. Here are those seven mountains.

Church/Religion

Family

Government

Education

Arts/Entertainment/Sports

Financial/Business

Media

The message that God communicated to both of these men is that the Lord wants His people to take control of these seven mountains throughout the world. As believers take control of these various mountains of influence whether locally, nationally, or internationally, we begin to have influence over an increasing number of people. As believers we can then mold the minds of these people and influence them with the good news of Jesus Christ. The remaining task of reaching all the nations with the good

news of the Kingdom might be big, but this is God's practical plan for tackling the task. As we pursue our destiny with the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit and with the abundant resources of the Kingdom together we will accomplish the task.

The question is, did God give us a picture in the Bible of how this might look and what effect it would have on the world?

II. A Closer Look

The reign of King David and his son King Solomon gives a glimpse of what it looks like when these seven mountains come under control God's control.

A. Church/Religion

Read *2 Chronicles 7:1-3*

Question: What two things happened after Solomon finished praying his dedication prayer (verse 1)?

Answer:

After Solomon dedicates the new temple, God responds with fire and His Glory. Israel has the worship of the God of the Universe as the center of their religion and their land.

B. Government

Read *2 Chronicles 1:7-12*

Question: What did Solomon ask for from God (verse 10)?

Answer:

Question: What does God give Solomon (verse 12)?

Answer:

2 Chronicles 9:23 - And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind. (ESV)

Question: Who came to visit Solomon?

Answer:

At the beginning of his reign, Solomon asks for wisdom to govern Israel. God gives him wisdom, knowledge, wealth, and long life. The result is that the kings of the earth come to visit Solomon in order to experience the wisdom of God.

C. Financial/Business

1 Kings 10:27 - And the king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stone, and he made cedar as plentiful as the sycamore of the Shephelah. (ESV)

Question: What was as common as stones in Jerusalem?

Answer:

1 Kings 10:14-15 - Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold, besides that which came from the explorers and from the business of the merchants, and from all the kings of the west and from the governors of the land. (ESV)

Question: How much gold did Solomon receive every year?

Answer:

Imagine an economy where a precious metal such as silver is almost worthless because it is so plentiful and gold flows into the country by the ton. All the countries around Israel are benefiting from the trade and commerce that is taking place.

D. Education

Ecclesiastes 12:9-10 - Not only was the Teacher wise, but he also imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs. The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true.

Question: What does the teacher impart to the people (verse 9)?

Answer:

Solomon writes most of the proverbs in the book of Proverbs. He teaches all the people of Israel the wisdom that God has given him. The country is educated by the wisest man who ever lived.

1 Kings 4:32-33 - He spoke three thousand proverbs and his songs numbered a thousand and five. He described plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls. He also taught about animals and birds, reptiles and fish. (ESV)

Question: What does Solomon teach the people?

Answer:

While the rest of the nations around Israel are worshipping animals and using their religious rituals to carry out gross sin and immorality, the Israelites are getting a college level education in botany and zoology. This is the kind of difference God wants to make.

E. Media

2 Chronicles 9:1- Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to Jerusalem to test him with hard questions, having a very great retinue and camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. (ESV)

Question: Who hears about Solomon's fame?

Answer:

There was no television, radio, or Internet to spread news. The media of that day was the trade caravans. The Queen of Sheba lived in Africa, probably somewhere around Ethiopia. The wisdom of Solomon and the greatness of God were the topics of the media of that day as evidenced by kings coming from all over the earth to visit Solomon.

F. Family

1 Kings 4:25 - And Judah and Israel lived in safety, from Dan even to Beersheba, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, all the days of Solomon.

Question: What is the description of the people's lives under king Solomon's reign?

Answer:

The description of every man living in safety under his own vine and fig tree speaks of the success of each family. As an agricultural society the vine and fig tree represented the fact that each family was doing the thing that God had created them to do.

G. Arts/Entertainment/Sports

Read *1 Chronicles 25:1, 6-8*

Question: What were all these people assigned to do?

Answer:

The best musicians in Israel were recruited to use their skills on a rotating basis to worship and praise the Lord in the new Temple. The arts and entertainment in Israel during Solomon's reign centered around the worship of God.

When God's Kingdom has control of the 7 mountains of influence, all aspects of society are lifted up. Instead of oppression there is abundance and not just for one person or society, but for the whole world. God wants His people to take these 7 mountains so that He can demonstrate His goodness and that the message of the Good News of Jesus Christ can be freely proclaimed.

Practical Exercise

When you look at your talents, supernatural gifts, and your passion, which mountain do you think is your mountain?

Where on that mountain do you see yourself operating?