

06/08/15 - Becoming Pharaoh

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1 Chronicles 22:6-19

In the midst of immense blessing, Solomon lost his way. He seemed to break all God's decrees and laws.

- "The king ... must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself" (Deuteronomy 17:16), but Solomon did.
- "He must not take many wives" (Deuteronomy 17:17), but Solomon's 700 wives and 300 concubines are legendary ? as well as their result.
- "He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold" (Deuteronomy 17:18), but Solomon counted his gold by the ton.
- "Do not oppress a foreigner" (Exodus 23:9), but Solomon conscripted 153,600 foreigners as slaves to build the temple (2 Chronicles 2:17-18). Solomon used God's blessing to become a new Pharaoh over a new Egypt. His oppressive ways eventually tore the kingdom apart.

We face some earth-shaking questions here. What is on the inside of our God-projects? Is it possible that we have turned our calling in upon ourselves? Have we somehow missed God's way of humble justice? Have we kept God's blessing for ourselves instead of giving it away to bless others?

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