Mariner's DISCOVERY Church

OurMDC.org
(925) 354-1096
1641 Bixler Road,
Discovery Bay
California 94505

Program for Sunday, November 22, 2026.

Please welcome the worship music team this week!

Call to Worship: *God So Loved*
10,000 Reasons

Thanks for joining our Worship Service Today….

- **Please pickup your Operation Christmas Child boxes in the Carport. Today is the last day to return completed boxes at the Church.**
- **Please stay for today's Potluck.**
- **Christmas Tree Sales Begins today!! We had 100 trees delivered on Saturday. We still need volunteers for General Lot Help, Meals, and Tree Delivery. Please signup in the Carport. If you need more time to decide when you can help, please take the index cards home which has the schedules on them, check your calendars, and let us know. If you have any questions please contact Gary, Adrianna or Rodney.**
- **Please donate used clothing in the green bin** which is located in the parking lot, next to the portable restrooms, in our Christmas tree forest. We are supporting the "Recycle for Change Organization" who's mission is to fight against poverty in the world's most vulnerable communities. You can find more information on their website: **recycleforchange.org**
- **If you have any prayer requests,** please fill out a Connect Envelope and place it in the wooden offering boxes in the back. Also, during the week you can email requests at: **PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org**

Thank You for your Offerings!!

To Donate:

OFFERING BOXES **– In Back**

ONLINE

Go To: *www.OurMDC.org*

BY MAIL

Mariner's Discovery Church
P.O. Box 1667
Discovery Bay, CA. 94505

or *CALL THE OFFICE* – ***(925) 354-1096***

Adoration *Come Jesus Come*

Scripture Reading from 1 Kings 11.1–13, 28–40

Prayer for the Operation Christmas Child boxes.

Message: The High Cost of a Divided Heart

Affirmation: *Thank You, Lord*

Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues

1 Kings 11:1-13; 28-40 Solomon Turns from God

11:1 Now King Solomon loved many foreign women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, 2 from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the sons of Israel, "You shall not associate with them, nor shall they associate with you, for they will surely turn your heart away after their gods." Solomon held fast to these in love. 3 He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned his heart away. 4 For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the detestable idol of the Ammonites. 6 Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not follow the Lord fully, as David his father had done. 7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable idol of Moab, on the mountain which is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the detestable idol of the sons of Ammon. 8 Thus also he did for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

11:9 Now the Lord was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, 10 and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not observe what the Lord had commanded. 11 So the Lord said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and you have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you, and will give it to your servant. 12 "Nevertheless I will not do it in your days for the sake of your father David, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 "However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen."

11:28 Now the man Jeroboam was a valiant warrior, and when Solomon saw that the young man was industrious, he appointed him over all the forced labor of the house of Joseph. 29 It came about at that time, when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him on the road. Now Ahijah had clothed himself with a new cloak; and both of them were alone in the field. 30 Then Ahijah took hold of the new cloak which was on him and tore it into twelve pieces. 31 He said to Jeroboam, "Take for yourself ten pieces; for thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I will tear the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon and give you ten tribes 32 (but he will have one tribe, for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel), 33 because they have forsaken Me, and have worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the sons of Ammon; and they have not walked in My ways, doing what is right in My sight and observing My statutes and My ordinances, as his father David did. 34 'Nevertheless I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand, but I will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of My servant David whom I chose, who observed My commandments and My statutes; 35 but I will take the kingdom from his son's hand and give it to you, even ten tribes. 36 'But to his son I will give one tribe, that My servant David may have a lamp always before Me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen for Myself to put My name. 37 'I will take you, and you shall reign over whatever you desire, and you shall be king over Israel. 38 'Then it will be, that if you listen to all that I command you and walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight by observing My statutes and My commandments, as My servant David did, then I will be with you and build you an enduring house as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you. 39 'Thus I will afflict the descendants of David for this, but not always.'" 40 Solomon sought therefore to put Jeroboam to death; but Jeroboam arose and fled to Egypt to Shishak king of Egypt, and he was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

Devotional: **Psalm 42:11** Why are you in despair, O my soul?
And why have you become disturbed within me?
Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him,
The help of my countenance and my God.

The Heart That Hears:

1. **Solomon: A heart burdened/ divided by culture. (3:1-4)**
    - God meets Solomon (flawed man) at Gibeon (flawed place), makes Solomon an offer.

2. **The Gracious God Who Initiates (1 Kings 3:5).**
    - God's question tests the heart. God reveals what we treasure.
3. **Solomon: Humble servant who asks (1 Kings 3:6-9).**
    - A hearing heart is built by hearing: in the Word, in prayer, in obedience
4. **Solomon: God is pleased and God blesses (1 Kings 3:10-15).**
    - It is God Who works in us both to will and to work for His good pleasure.
5. **Solomon: A Wise King Who Judges (1 Kings 3:16-28).**
    - Biblical wisdom is moral insight into how human beings actually are.
    - One Who is wiser than Solomon.
    - Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God. He is the perfect hearer. He is the perfect judge.
    - Respond: Ask and receive.

Theological implications:

1. God takes the initiative, gives generously, delights in the prayers of His servants.
2. Wisdom is received, relational, moral, and practical. Wisdom is submission to divine truth. It is the God-given ability to apply truth rightly.
3. Discernment: Believers need spiritual discernment.
4. Humility: begins with dependence on God.
5. Covenant: The promise to David stands, but the blessing of each king depends on his faithfulness. God keeps His promises.
6. Heart: The heart is the decisive center of a human's life.
7. Worship: The character of God determines the conditions of acceptable worship.
8. Leadership: Leadership is stewardship. The people belong to God.
9. Justice: The wisdom of God protects the weak.
10. Jesus Christ: Jesus is the greater Solomon and the wisdom of God.

God gives wisdom generously to servants who humbly ask, and He calls them to steward it in obedience.

Reflection questions and thoughts:

- Can I ask God for a hearing heart? Build the hearing heart by grappling with the Word.
- Can I ask the Holy Spirit to search my heart to see if there are any compromises I have tolerated? Name the "only."
- Are there gifts that I have been given that I can use for the good of others/
- When I am in a quandary, do I first ask God for wisdom?
- What does my prayer list say about my heart, my treasure, what I love?
- Do I let scripture shape my asking? Am I asking for wisdom, holiness, faith, and love?
- This week, what does it mean to "Walk in God's ways" in the home, in school, in work, in church?
- Is there a place in my life where/ when I can stand with the vulnerable?
- What would it mean to "learn from Jesus" in this next week?

Background and Overview:

- Solomon inherited a unified Israel from King David.
- God has appeared to Solomon twice
    - 1st in a dream, 2nd after the temple dedication and prayer.
- Solomon's building program required conscripted labor.

    - Bred resentment in the north, explodes when Rehoboam threatens to increase the burden.
- Jeroboam: came to the attention of Solomon, who appointed him to oversee the forced labor of the largest northern tribes (house of Joseph: Ephraim and Manasseh).
- Ahijah of Shiloh: home of the old tabernacle, Adijah is outside the royal court.
    - Prophetic sing: tearing the garment links back to previous torn robes.
- Egypt and Shishak
    - Jeroboam flees to Shishak (Shoshenq, Sheshonq) of Egypt. Biblical narrative and Egyptian record match.
    - Egypt later invades. The kingdom that sought security through Egyptian marriage ended up with Egypt on the doorstep.
- The region is in relative calm. Egypt and Mesopotamia are relatively weak.
- The temple was the visible center of Israel's covenant life.
- Marriage: an act of diplomacy in Near East. Treaties are sealed by marriages.
    - 700 wives and300 concubines is royal diplomacy on an unprecedented scale.
    - Marrying is a way of securing the border without trusting the LORD to secure it.
- Covenant prohibitions (Exodus 34, Deuteronomy 7, 17)
    - Forbidden to marry with Canaanites because it leads to idolatry. Spiritual, not ethnic.
    - King must not multiply horses, wives, or silver. Solomon accumulates all three.
    - Must write out and read the law all his life so that his heart would not turn away.
- Gods and high places
    - Ashtoreth (Astarte): Canaanite and Phoenician fertility and war goddess.
    - Molech (Milcom): Ammonite bod (child sacrifice).
    - Chemosh: Moab god. Misha Stele notes both this God and Israel's God.
    - High Places: East of Jerusalem (later: Mount of Olives).

The Slow Drift of a Divided Heart (11:1-8)

- The love that went wrong (vs 1-2).
    - Solomon loved many foreign women.
    - 1 Kings 3:3 "Solomon loved the LORD. Same verb. Same man.
    - "Clung" is "cleave" in Genesis 2.
        - Designed to cling to God; clung to something else.
- The excess that became normal (v 3).
    - 700 wives. 300 concubines. Political marriages.
        - Good for the kingdom. Good for the temple. Good for worship of God.
        - End justifies the means?
    - Deuteronomy 17 says the king is not to multiply wives, horses, or gold. Solomon accumulated all three.
    - His wives turned (bend, stretch, incline) away.
- The apostasy that took decades (vs 4-8).
    - When Solomon was old, after 40 years of public ministry. Temple finished for decades.
- His heart not wholly devoted to the LORD
    - Word play: Solomon's named for wholeness of heart.

- Standard is David (adulterer, conspirator, murderer).
    - Sins leads to repentance. His heart, even after the fall was oriented to the LORD alone.
- Solomon's heart had room for Ashteroth, Chemosh, and Molech.
    - Built the shrines east of Jerusalem (Mount of Olives, where Jesus weeps).
    - Public compromise, done for all of his wives (v 8). He financed idols.
    - He never renounced the LORD. He kept the temple. He just added to it.
        - Today, it is called sophistication, wisdom, inclusion.

The Righteous Anger and Rich Mercy of God (11:9-13)

- The anger of God is righteous (vs 9-10).
    - This is the response of holiness to betrayal.
    - To not care, be indifferent, is not love.
    - Reason for anger:
        - Appeared to Solomon twice (At Gibeon in a dream, after the prayer of the dedication of the temple).
        - To whom much is given, much is required (Luke 12:48).
        - God had commanded Solomon concerning this thing.
            - Command (not a suggestion) is plain, repeated, and explicit.
- The judgment is just (v11).
    - God will tear the kingdom from Solomon. Give it to Solomon's servant.
    - Deuteronomy 28 laid out blessings of obedience and curses of disobedience. The LORD is faithful to His promises, and His warnings.
- Irony: Solomon's servant.
- The mercy (within the words of judgment) are real.
    - Nevertheless, for the sake of your father David,
        - I will not do it…
            - Not because Solomon earned it.
            - For the sake of another, for the sake of a promise.
        - However, I will…
    - Judgment and mercy in the same breath.
    - The LORD disciplines Solomon. The LORD holds on to Solomon.
- This is the gospel concealed.
    - Why does God not consume us in our wanderings?
        - Because of a promise made to a Son; not because we have earned it.
- 1 Kings 11:14-27
    - God raises up adversaries (Hadad, Rezon) against Solomon.
    - These external pressures show the cost of dependence on political alliances.
    - Jeroboam is a man who "lifted up his hand against the king."

The Word of the LORD Cannot Be Stopped (11:28-40)

- The unlikely recipient (v28-29)
    - Jeroboam (Ephraimite) is a "mighty man of valor," and "industrious.
    - Solomon notices him and make him foreman over the conscripted labor of the house of Joseph.
    - Irony: Solomon promoted the man that would take a part of his kingdom.

        - Solomon spotted the talent, missed the heart.
- Prophet from Shiloh: Ahijah found Jeroboam on the road.
- The torn cloak (vs 30-33).
    - Ahijah tears his new cloak into 12 pieces. Gives 10 to Jeroboam.
    - Given to Jeroboam. Not earned.
    - Reason: "They have forsaken Me." Plural. Nation followed Solomon.
- Solomon had armies, wealth, and wisdom, and none of them could stop what God had decreed.
- The offer to Jeroboam and the condition (vs 37-38)
    - Condition: Walk in God's ways.
    - Promise: ? A rebel from outside the royal family is given the opportunity that David received: a sure house.
    - Chapter 12: Builds golden calves at Bethel and Dan because he is afraid
        - People will go back to Jerusalem to worship and be drawn back to house of David
        - Security apart from trust (sin of Saul, sin of Solomon, now sin of Jeroboam).
- The futile resistance (v 40).
    - Solomon was the man who asked God for a hearing heart.
    - Now Solomon is fighting the word of the Lord with a sword.
        - Instead of repenting. Prayed in the temple. Now plotting in the palace.
    - Jeroboam flees to Egypt (Shisak) and waited.

God's purposes do not depend on our protection. They depend on His word.

The Lamp That Will Not Go Out (11:13, 32, 34-36, 39)

- The lamp (vs 34-36)
    - Promise: David may have a lamp always before God.
    - A lamp in the window in the ancient world, "The family has not died out." Extinguish the lamp is to end the family line.
    - God is saying, even when I tear, even when I judge, I will leave a lamp burning for David.
    - For those in exile in Babylon who were the first readers. They lost the temple. They lost the land. The king was in chains. It looked like the lamp had gone out. These verses were the LORD saying that the story of Solomon is not the end of the story. The lamp was still burning.
- The discipline is not forever (v 39).
    - "But not always." The rod of discipline is not eternal. Discipline has an end. For the child of God, every season of discipline has a sunrise.
- The greater Son of David
    - The lamp is pointing through Solomon, through the wicked and the faithful, through the exile, through obscurity, until a young woman in Nazareth said yes to God.
    - The promise to her (Luke 1:32-33) was that she would have a Son "who the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."
- Solomon's heart was not wholly devoted; instead it was divided.

- Jesus' heart was perfectly devoted, obedient to the point of death.
- When Jesus said, ; "Something greater than Solomon is here," He was not just saying He was wiser. He was saying He was the faithful King whom Solomon could never be.
- The judgment that fell on Solomon, fell undeservedly on Jesus Christ. This is why the believer's hope is secure. It is not our wholeheartedness. It is Jesus'. He did what we could not do. And through His Spirit, He gives us hearts that cling to Him.

Theological Implications:

1. Idolatry is a worship problem that begins as a love problem.
2. Gifts and privileges do not immunize against apostasy of heart.
3. The holiness of God demands exclusive allegiance. The first and second commandments are not negotiable (Exodus 20:3–5). Syncretism, adding other gods alongside the LORD, is not a milder form of faithfulness. It is a form of rebellion.
4. God is faithful to His covenant, both blessings and curses.
5. God's sovereignty and human responsibility run together.
6. Judgment is tempered by the unconditional Davidic covenant.
7. The lamp points to Christ.
8. Conditional and unconditional promises interact.
9. The perseverance of the saints is not in tension with the warnings of Scripture. 10. Sin has generational and corporate consequences.

Jesus said, Something greater than Solomon is here (Matthew 12:42). No one can supply the wholly devoted heart that God requires, except Jesus Christ.

Takeaways:

- Solomon's story teaches us that the greatest danger is not the sudden storm but the quiet drift. A divided heart is always costly. It tore a kingdom.
- Guard what you love. Sin begins with disordered affection. What would be hard to give up? To what are you clinging?
- Beware of the slow drift. Past usefulness does not guarantee present faithfulness.
- Do not trust your wisdom to protect you. Knowing the bible well can coexist with a divided heart. Obedience, not knowledge, is the evidence.
- Make no peace with a "small" idol.
- Accept that discipline is a sign of love.
- Believers are to marry in the Lord (spiritual allegiance). A spouse's deepest loyalties will shape the home.
- Resist the temptation to compromise through inclusivity that compromise the gospel.
- Influence with the whole counsel, both promises and warnings.
- Leaders (fathers, mothers, government, etc.) are accountable to God.

You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.

Prayer Request: PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org
Pastor Larry: PastorLarry@OurMDC.org

Information: Info@OurMDC.org

Office Location: 1641 Bixler Rd., Discovery Bay
Mailing: PO Box 1667,
Discovery Bay, CA 94505
Church phone: (925) 354-1096