

The Miracle of Life

“As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother’s womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things” (Eccl. 11:5.)

Ecclesiastes, as you know, was written by Solomon. He was the 10th son of David and became the King over Israel in Jerusalem.

- Solomon was destined to be king before he was even born (1 Chron. 22:9.)
- God also named him “Jedidiah” meaning “beloved of the Lord” (1 Sam. 12:24-25.)
- God appeared to him in a dream and Solomon asked for wisdom (1 Ki. 3:1-14.)
- The Lord was pleased, answered his prayer, and also gave him riches and honour.
- Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Ki. 11:3.)
- Apparently, Solomon had only one son, Rehoboam (1 Chron. 3:10.)
- Rehoboam was conceived the year before Solomon became King (1 Ki. 11:42; 14:21.)

Hebrew men were proud of their sons. Gideon had seventy sons (Jud. 9:56.) Ahab had seventy sons (2 Ki. 10:1.) David had “many sons” (1 Chr. 28:5.) Only one son, however, is mentioned for Solomon. There had to be at least one son for the promise of God to be true. Christ, as you know, was the seed of David (Acts 2:30.)

Rehoboam, as we mentioned, was born the year before Solomon became King. Solomon reigned 40 years, and Rehoboam began reigning when he was forty-one. Having children seemed quite easy for the young Solomon.

After he became king, however, no more sons were born. He moved feverishly from one marriage to another. At least two daughters were born, but no more sons. Perhaps this is the reason that the book of Proverbs, written by Solomon, contains so many references to arguments between a husband and wife. Solomon was blaming his wives, and the were blaming him.

Solomon is credited with writing two Psalms. (72 and 127.) It is significant that the 127th Psalm begins: **“Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain . . .”** Later in the Psalm Solomon acknowledged: **“Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one’s youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.”**

The book of Ecclesiastes reflects this same awe and respect for the miracle of life. We cannot understand or control the wind, nor can we control and understand the way a child is formed inside of the womb. We can plant seeds, but we do not only which ones will grow. As Paul would write many years later, man can plant and water, but only God can make things grow (1 Cor. 3:7.)

Ps. 139: also acknowledges that God is the giver of this miracle we call life: **“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”**

Now let us advance to the miracle of spiritual life. If physical life is beyond the control of mortal man, even more so is the spiritual. Man can repent and be baptized, but only God can add to His Body those who were being saved (Acts 2:47.)

Solomon was wise, rich, and powerful. He was however, completely incapable of producing life. No matter how hard he tried, the miracle of life remained in the hands of God. You may also be wise, rich and powerful. You cannot be saved, however, without God. You could not have been born the first time without Him, and certainly you cannot be “born again,” without Him.

Let us deny ourselves, take up our cross, and seek to know God through Jesus Christ. Such knowledge is described in Scripture as “Eternal Life” (John 17:3.)