**Walking in the footsteps of our Forefathers: seeking a redeemed world**

**From Covenant to Fulfillment - Abraham to Shlomo**

**Class # 1 – King Solomon: If you had one wish…**

Senior Fellowship Leadership Program - Rabbi Pinny Rosenthal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jU4TtLnGV6M>

Scene # 1 – The young, newly appointed King Shlomo [Solomon] has a prophecy…..

**3** And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father; only he sacrificed and offered in the high places. **4** And the king went to Givon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place; a thousand burnt-offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar

Scene # 2 Hashem startling request

**5** In Givon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said: 'Ask what I shall give you.'

Scene # 3 - Shlomo’s response

**6** And Solomon said: 'You have shown unto Your servant David my father great kindness, according as he walked before You in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; and You have kept for him this great kindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. **7** And now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child; I know not how to go out or come in. **8** And Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. **9** Give Your servant therefore an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this Your great people?'

Scene # 4  - Hashem’s reply

**10** And the speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing. **11** And God said unto him: 'Because You have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life; neither have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies; but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice; **12** behold, I have done according to your word: lo, I have given you a wise and an understanding heart; so that there hath been none like you before you, neither after you shall any arise like unto you. **13** And I have also given you that which You have not asked, both riches and honor--so that there hath not been any among the kings like unto you--all your days. **14** And if You wilt walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David did walk, then I will lengthen your days.' **{S}**

Scene # 5 – Shlomo’s response

**15** And Solomon awoke, and, behold, it was a dream; and he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt-offerings, and offered peace-offerings, and made a feast to all his servants. **{P}**

Scene # 6 - The two Prostitutes and the baby

**16** Later two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him.

The first woman said, “Please, my lord! This woman and I live in the same house; and I gave birth to a child while she was in the house.

On the third day after I was delivered, this woman also gave birth to a child. We were alone; there was no one else with us in the house, just the two of us in the house.

During the night this woman’s child died, because she lay on it.

She arose in the night and took my son from my side while your maidservant was asleep, and laid him in her bosom; and she laid her dead son in my bosom.

When I arose in the morning to nurse my son, there he was, dead; but when I looked at him closely in the morning, it was not the son I had borne.”

The other woman spoke up, “No, the live one is my son, and the dead one is yours!” But the first insisted, “No, the dead boy is yours; mine is the live one!” And they went on arguing before the king.

The king said, “One says, ‘This is my son, the live one, and the dead one is yours’; and the other says, ‘No, the dead boy is yours, mine is the live one.’

Scene # 7 Shlomo’s response

So the king gave the order, “Fetch me a sword.” A sword was brought before the king,

and the king said, “Cut the live child in two, and give half to one and half to the other.”

But the woman whose son was the live one pleaded with the king, for she was overcome with compassion for her son. “Please, my lord,” she cried, “give her the live child; only don’t kill it!” The other insisted, “It shall be neither yours nor mine; cut it in two!”

Then the king spoke up. “Give the live child to her,” he said, “and do not put it to death; she is its mother.”

Scene # 8 - The people of Israel’s reaction

When all Israel heard the decision that the king had rendered, they stood in awe of the king; for they saw that he possessed divine wisdom to execute justice.

**Laws of Kings and Wars Ch 12:4-5**

The Sages and the Prophets did not long for the days of the Messiah because they wanted to rule the world or because they wanted to have dominion over the non-Jews or because they wanted the nations to exalt them or because they wanted to eat, drink and be merry. Rather, they desired this so that they would have time for Torah and its Wisdom. And there would be no one who would oppress them or force them to be idle (from Torah). This, in order that they may merit the World to Come, as we have explained regarding the Laws of Repentance.

At that time there will be no famines and no wars, no envy and no competition. For the Good will be very pervasive148. All the delicacies will be as readily available as is dust. The world will only be engaged in knowing G-d149. Then, there will be very wise people150 who will understand the deep, sealed matters. They will then achieve knowledge of the Creator to as high a degree as humanly possible, as it says, *“For the Earth shall be filled of knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea*