

SOLOMON
SOUND ADVICE FROM AN OLD REBEL
ECCLESIASTES 11:9–12:7



The Heart of the Matter

In the twilight of his life, Solomon took up his pen and wrote a memoir of sorts—of how his life had been lived in vanity, in spite of his wisdom, his power, and his achievements. Unlike Proverbs, which instructs young people how to live, the book of Ecclesiastes offers instructions on how *not* to live. And some of the best advice is found in the last section of the book. Unfortunately, Solomon's son failed to heed his father's wisdom. We would be wise not to be so foolish.



Discovering the Way

1. Solomon's Closing Years (1 Kings 11:40–43)

Though he made many contributions to his people, Solomon's life drew to an end under the punishment of affliction and frustration.

2. Solomon's Advice to the Young (Ecclesiastes 11:9–12:7)

Solomon offered four pieces of advice: you are accountable to God (11:9–10); God should be the priority of your life (12:1); age works against you (12:2–6); and death is inevitable (12:7).

3. Solomon's Carbon Copy (2 Chronicles 10:1–15)

Solomon's son didn't follow his father's advice. He resisted counsel, he rebelled and escaped responsibilities, and he brought on national anarchy.



Starting Your Journey

Solomon's message for us today is simple: the time to walk with God is NOW ...not later!



Tools for Digging Deeper



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compact disc series



Wisdom for the Way
by Charles R. Swindoll
softcover book



Living on the Ragged Edge
by Charles R. Swindoll
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