

No. 25 Do Not Imitate Disloyal Ones (Symposium)
-Solomon

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video]

HOW SOLOMON DISPLAYED DISLOYALTY (1 min.)

Solomon was uniquely blessed by Jehovah with wisdom and material prosperity

In later life, Solomon did not obey Jehovah's commands (1Ki 11:9, 10)
Solomon amassed thousands of horses and hundreds of foreign wives
and eventually practiced false worship

WHAT LED SOLOMON TO DISLOYALTY (2 min.)

Solomon did not take to heart his own inspired words [Read Ecclesiastes 4:13]

Solomon may have rationalized his decisions (w11 12/15 10 ¶13)
His foreign wives gradually inclined his heart to abandon true worship (1Ki 11:4-7)

AVOID FOLLOWING SOLOMON'S EXAMPLE OF DISLOYALTY (3 min.)

Solomon's example highlights the dangers of (1) overconfidence and (2) gradual moral decay

Overconfidence can lead us to ignore Jehovah's guidance

True Christians must never consider themselves to be above theocratic direction and counsel on matters such as misuse of the Internet and inappropriate contact with a member of the opposite sex (w12 8/15 14-15 ¶10-12; w98 1/15 15 ¶9)

Those with special privileges of service or many years in the truth must avoid rationalizing that such warnings do not apply to them (1Co 10:12)

Gradual moral decay involves a breakdown of moral boundaries in thought and action (w14 1/15 30 ¶11)

Ignoring Jehovah's direction with no immediate negative consequence does not mean that there will be no sad outcome later (w11 12/15 11 ¶15)

[Read Proverbs 6:27]

Flirting, in person or by electronic messaging, can lead to serious wrongdoing

Viewing pornography fuels wrong desires and poisons loving relationships

Dating or marrying an unbeliever puts our spirituality at risk

In the following video, note a circumstance that could easily test a Christian's loyalty

VIDEO (2 min.)

BE KNOWN FOR YOUR LOYALTY (1 min.)

As shown in the video, we must safeguard our loyalty

Minimizing warnings jeopardizes our special standing with Jehovah

Humbly recognize your need to depend on Jehovah and not on yourself (Pr 3:5, 6)

Brother _____ will now present the last part of this symposium, "Do Not Imitate Disloyal Ones—Judas Iscariot"

TO BE COVERED IN 9 MINUTES