Comparing Solomon and Jesus

Kings on earth represent the Lord because kingship has qualities and functions that are similar to the qualities and functions of the Lord, our King. It is not the person who represents the Lord, but the **role** of king. However, people have noticed similarities between Solomon, the man, and Jesus, the Lord on earth.

Write your ideas on the lines below. Choose similarities and/or differences to discuss. Knowing that Jesus was the son of Mary may help you to understand and even explain some of the similarities. Knowing that Jesus was the Lord on earth, may help you to understand and possibly explain some of the differences.

A Comparison of Solomon and Jesus—Challenge

Solomon

Jesus

Son of David

So it was, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly and said, Blessed be the Lord this day, for **He has given David a wise son** over this great people! (1 Kings 5:7)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the **Son of David**, the Son of Abraham. (Matthew 1:1)

And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, **Son of David**, have mercy on me!" (Luke 18:38)

A Beloved Son

And (David) called his name Solomon. Now **the Lord loved him**, and He sent word by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah ["**Beloved by Jehovah**"], because of the Lord. (2 Samuel 12:24, 25)

[At Jesus' baptism] And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)[When Jesus was transfigured:] And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" (Luke 9:35)

Wisdom

And **God gave Solomon wisdom** and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. (1 Kings 4:29)

And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, **came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.** (1 Kings 4:34)

And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, **filled with wisdom**; and the grace of God was upon Him. (Luke 2:40, 52)

And when He had come to His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? (Matthew 13:54; Mark 6:2)

Hailed as King

So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites went down and **had Solomon ride on King David's mule**, and took him to Gihon.... And they blew the horn, and all the people said, "**Long live King Solomon!**" And **all the people** went up after him; and the people played the flutes and **rejoiced with great joy**, so that the earth seemed to split with their sound. (1 Kings 1:38-40)

"Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey." They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David!
'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:5-9)

The Queen of Sheba's Testimony

And when the **queen of Sheba** had seen all the wisdom of Solomon... she said to the king: "...**Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard**. Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! (1 Kings 10:4-8)

The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here. (Matthew 12:42; Luke 11:31)

Solomon

Jesus

The Throne of His Father David

Then Solomon sat on **the throne of his father David**; and his kingdom was firmly established. (1 Kings 2:12)

He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him **the throne of His father David**. (Luke 1:32)

Rulers Bring Gifts

Hiram the **king** of Tyre had supplied Solomon with **cedar and cypress and gold**, as much as he desired. (1 Kings 9:11)

The **queen** of Sheba **gave** the king one hundred and twenty talents of **gold, spices** in great quantity, and **precious stones**. (1 Kings 10:10)

And when they had opened their treasures, **they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh**. (Matthew 2:11)

The **kings** of Tarshish and of the isles **will bring presents**; The **kings** of Sheba and Seba **will offer gifts**. (Psalms 72:10)

Anointed

Then Zadok the priest took a horn of oil from the tabernacle and **anointed** Solomon. (1 Kings 1:39)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has **anointed** Me To preach the gospel to the poor. (Luke 4:18) He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the **Messiah**" (which is translated, the **Christ**). (John 1:41) ["Christ" and "Messiah" mean "**Anointed**."]

Women Bringing Spices

There never again came such abundance of **spices** as the **queen of Sheba** gave to King Solomon. (1 Kings 10:10)

As He sat at the table, a **woman** came having an alabaster flask of very costly **oil of spikenard**. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head. (Mark 14:3) Now when the Sabbath was past, **Mary Magdalene**, **Mary** the mother of James, and **Salome bought spices**, that they might come and anoint Him. (1Mark 16:1)

Raising Up the Temple

So the Lord has fulfilled His word which He spoke; and I have filled the position of my father David, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the Lord promised; and I have built a temple for the name of the Lord God of Israel.... But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built! (1 Kings 8:20, 27)

But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its **temple**. (Revelation 21:22) Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days **I will raise it up**." Then the Jews said, "It has taken fortysix years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" But He was speaking of **the temple of His body**. (John 2:19-21)

A Home for Himself

But Solomon took thirteen years **to build his own house**; so he finished all his house. (1 Kings 7:1)

In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 14:2, 23)