



[1 Kings 11:4-6](#)

(4) As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. (5) He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molech the detestable god of the Ammonites. (6) So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the LORD; he did not follow the LORD completely, as David his father had done.

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Notice that this occurred when he was old and his heart had almost stopped following the Lord. He did go after the Lord, but he did it in a haphazard way. Solomon is perhaps the most vivid example of a [Laodicean](#) in the entirety of the Bible ([Revelation 3:14-22](#)).

His downfall began with laxity toward being careful about keeping God's commands regarding [idolatry](#). Laxity is the first stage of lawlessness. The more lax he became, the more double-minded he became. A double minded person loses his grip. It is like trying to grasp two different objects in one's hands. If one is not really sure which he wants to hang onto, and his mind is playing back and forth between them, his grip will loosen on one or the other, because he will want to let go of the one in order to secure the other, if he feels he has a better chance with the other.

In Solomon's case, it is his mental, spiritual grip that is suspect. He gradually came to the place where he was not really hanging onto anything but straddling between choices. This made him become increasingly unstable, unsettled, and even deceitful until he became completely reintegrated into [the world](#). He began to be moved almost entirely by human nature once again.

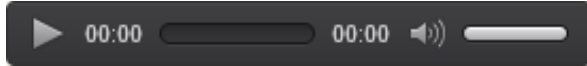
Why is the [first commandment](#) listed first? It is the most important of all the commandments. [God](#) wants to draw special attention to it because it is the one that is also most easily broken.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for 1 Kings 11:4-6 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

To learn more, see:

[Deception, Idolatry and the Feast of Tabernacles](#)



Related Topics:

[Ashera; Ashtoreth; Astarte](#)

[Double Mindedness](#)

[Idolatry](#)

[Laodiceanism](#)

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[The First Commandment](#)

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