

HOW TO KEEP OUR HEARTS FROM DRIFTING:**DON'T RUN OUT OF DREAMS.****When You Are Between Dreams . . .****REJOICE in the fulfilled dream.**

1 Kings 9:3 (NLT) The LORD said to him, “I have heard your prayer and your petition. I have set this Temple apart to be holy this place you have built where my name will be honored forever. I will always watch over it, for it is dear to my heart.

REMEMBER the importance of obedience.

1 Kings 9:4-5 (NLT) “As for you, if you will follow me with integrity and godliness, as David your father did, obeying all my commands, decrees, and regulations,⁵ then I will establish the throne of your dynasty over Israel forever. For I made this promise to your father, David: ‘One of your descendants will always sit on the throne of Israel.’

RESIST the temptation to DRIFT.

1 Kings 9:6-9 (NLT) “But if you or your descendants abandon me and disobey the commands and decrees I have given you, and if you serve and worship other gods,⁷ then I will uproot Israel from this land that I have given them. I will reject this Temple that I have made holy to honor my name. I will make Israel an object of mockery and ridicule among the nations.⁸ And though this Temple is impressive now, all who pass by will be appalled and will shake their heads in amazement. They will ask, ‘Why did the LORD do such terrible things to this land and to this Temple?’⁹ “And the answer will be, ‘Because his people abandoned the LORD their God, who brought their ancestors out of Egypt, and they worshiped other gods instead and bowed down to them. That is why the LORD has brought all these disasters on them.’”

DON'T FALL OUT OF LOVE.**He loved POWER above God.**

1 Kings 3:1 (NLT) Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and married one of his daughters. He brought her to live in the City of David until he could finish building his palace and the Temple of the LORD and the wall around the city.

He loved POPULARITY above God.

1 Kings 3:3-4 (NLT) Solomon loved the LORD and followed all the decrees of his father, David, except that Solomon, too, offered sacrifices and burned incense at the local places of worship.⁴ The most important of these places of worship was at Gibeon, so the king went there and sacrificed 1,000 burnt offerings.

He loved POSSESSIONS above God.

1 Kings 10:26 (NLT) Solomon built up a huge force of chariots and horses. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horses . . .

1 Kings 10:21;27 (ESV) All King Solomon’s drinking vessels were of gold . . . None were of silver; silver was not considered as anything in the days of Solomon.²⁷ And the king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stone . . .

1 Kings 10:14 (NLT) Each year Solomon received about 25 tons of gold.

He loved PASSION above God.

1 Kings 11:3 (NLT) He had 700 wives of royal birth and 300 concubines. And in fact, they did turn his heart away from the LORD.

DON'T BACK OUT OF COMMITMENTS.

1 Kings 11:4 (ESV) For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.