

Did King Solomon ever repent and turn back to the One True God before he died? This has been the subject of much speculation over the centuries among biblical scholars.

One expositor narrates a popular tradition among some Jews. It says that Solomon in his old age went up to the Temple to worship and that, while there, death came upon him, but the staff upon which he leaned supported the corpse.

The priests saw that he was dead, but feared touching him because he was wearing the famous ring with which he had worked wonders of sorcery. The writer goes on to say that a mouse ran out from its hole and chewed away at the leather on the end of the staff until it slipped and threw Solomon to the floor, his crown rolling in the dust.

The Bible appears to tell a totally different story! Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Solomon composed the Book of Ecclesiastes at the close of his life, having been made aware through experience that no created thing can bring lasting satisfaction to the human soul apart from God. Solomon recorded his experiences exclusively for the benefit of others and to lead men to Christ.

This biblical truth also refutes the notion that the Song of Songs is just a mere poem depicting human love in all its various complexities. Until the nineteenth century, very few scholars ever opposed the view that the Book describes the on-going relationship between Christ and His Chosen People.

However, the higher critics have used some very convincing methods to counter this opinion. One of the more obvious concerns the misleading headings inserted above the various chapters in some modern Bible translations.