

# ***World Religions and The Solomon Connection***

by S.G. Smith

## **The Evolutionary Distortion**

An underlying issue concerning the evolutionary framework, which confronts modern science, is the historical perspective upon which this philosophy is built. As Heisenberg observed in *Physics and Philosophy* Darwin was attempting to unite science with history. Following Charles Lyell, Darwin adopted the scenario of long ages and gradual geological change in the development of his biological component of evolution. It was history, not science, which was first crafted into conforming to an alternate worldview.....a history which could not be empirically confirmed and was alien to the European Christian culture which nurtured the scientific revolution.

We have seen how evolutionary thought has affected modern science and social policy. However, we may be confused or miss the slide into accepting a historical view (perhaps a false view) when arbitrary evolutionary stories are concocted to reinforce a philosophic perspective in the

absence of any concrete empirical evidence.

It is certainly one thing to assume a biological and geological scenario of millions or even billions of years. But it is an even a more presumptuous exercise to concoct an evolutionary story for religion (the apparent enemy of evolution itself). Here a typical story is made to tell how religion testifies of the advancement of simple to complex through its primitive origins in nature worship, progressing to a more advanced polytheism, until a monotheistic or, ultimately, a humanistic religious worldview is reached. Despite how this story may vary, it is certainly at odds with both Biblical and documented secular histories and an awareness of cultural developments in the ancient world.

## **A Critical Difference**

In the globalist environment of today many fail to appreciate the significance of the ancient global influence of the Solomonic empire. Sadly, in counties such as America, this is due in large measure to the practical suppression of Biblical scholarship in the public sector. Furthermore, the importance of history itself is not generally understood, particularly the impact of a false history which we have mentioned.

The Bible makes clear that king Solomon, a son of David, was the third sovereign who reigned over a united Israel. God had granted Solomon great wisdom and his genius was legendary. His influence was such that all the kings of the earth

desired to generate friendly ties with Israel for their personal benefit. The multitude of wives from other nations that Solomon had were no doubt equivalent to contractual family agreements much like intermarriage between European royalty, yet on a global scale. Long before the United Nations, God used Solomon's indirect influence to apparently usher in an era of global peace and prosperity for the whole earth. Contrast this to the war torn environment of our day despite the best so-called efforts of the UN.

There is little doubt that the reign of Solomon represents a partial yet significant fulfillment of the Abrahamic and Davidic contracts that God had made with Israel. Solomon, as a son of David, reigned over Israel and was bringing blessings to the nations of the whole earth. Most significant among these blessings was the testimony for the supremacy of the oracles and economy of God. Here was the first open global exchange which served to spread the word of God through Moses and the prophets.

Under Solomon the whole earth is evangelized so to speak, yet the problem of universal sin and death remained unresolved. This fact seems to be reflected in Ecclesiastes, as Solomon *the preacher* bemoans how the reality of death has made life vain. Furthermore, Solomon deviated from God's will in his intermarriage with pagan women corrupting the purity of his influence and adversely affecting both Israel and the world. The Bible makes clear that his wives turned the heart of Solomon as he eventually permitted the worst forms of idolatry to flourish in Israel. Of all the historical records of global unification

through covenant or conquest, the Biblical history of Solomon's empire is surely one of the greatest, yet it is the least discussed in the public classroom. As recorded in the Scriptures, Solomon's personal genius and documented wisdom through his proverbs became legendary. Sadly however, his legacy, though great, was significantly contaminated. Eventually, his moral failure lead to the division of Israel and diminished the true light from the oracles of God to the nations.

### The Fallen House

The fallout in the post Solomonic history of Israel is sufficiently recorded in the Bible. Solomon's son Rehoboam ends up in dispute with Jeroboam, a chief bureaucratic administrator who served under Solomon. This conflict results in the prophesied division of Israel into the northern sector of ten tribes (generally referred to as Israel) and two southern tribes (commonly referred to as Judah). The Old Testament contains four books dedicated to the history of this continuing civil conflict recorded in terms of the regal dynasties for these northern and southern camps. Ultimately, the moral slide of this entire national complex ends in their essential destruction through conquest and captivity by the Babylonians. Much of the rest of the Old Testament scriptures are even classified with reference to this overall demise and exile of the nation in what are described as pre-exilic, exilic, and post exilic prophesies.

The Babylonian captivity is a central theme in Biblical history, but what was

happening to the rest of the world? What was the historical international reaction in response to the demise of the great kingdom which was bringing light to the nations? The eventual fall of Babylon is a great prophetic theme which reaches into the New Testament scriptures, but at this point in ancient history it is *Israel* which has fallen and how did the world react?

### The Rest of the Story

In virtually any set of encyclopedias one can find a general history of ancient world religions. Perhaps you might consider some of these more as schools of philosophic thought. Interestingly enough however, a number of these great religions seem to abruptly appear as a cluster within a brief 300 year period. Despite historical uncertainties, note the general time frame for these following religious/philosophical movements:

Zoroastrianism*	600 BC
Jainism	600-530 BC
Confucianism	550-500 BC
Buddhism	550-500 BC
Shinto	500 BC
Taoism	500-300 BC

Is it not odd that this 300 year period follows the Babylonian captivity of Israel

\*some scholars suggest Zoroaster lived much earlier, but his religious ideas perhaps only gained preeminence during the time of the Persian empire.

around 585 BC? Is it not a reasonable consideration that perhaps a world cut off from the divine revelation, due to the moral failure of Israel, was doing its best to substitute human inspiration in striving to achieve and maintain spiritual wisdom necessary for civilization? Is it not more likely that elemental commonalities shared by world religions is a result which bears witness to the prior history of a common global influence as opposed to some gradual evolutionary emergence of religious philosophies? It seems, taken together, the facts testify that these humanly inspired religions were secondary attempts to preserve remaining fragmented truths which were being sought and spread during the reign of Solomon. Of additional interest is that following this period the progressive influence of Greek philosophy served to eventually secularize religious thought much like materialism has done in our own day since the time of Darwin.

### The Conclusion of the Matter

How does the history of Israel and Solomon compare with an evolutionary story suggesting primitive religious sentiments of nature worship are transformed into a unified (personal or abstract) monotheism? I believe the abrupt appearance of ancient religious movements, like the abrupt appearance of fossils in the Cambrian, suggests a different history from the typical evolutionary fabrication with which we are generally presented.

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