
**EDITED AND
ABRIDGED
DRAMATIZED
STORY**

**FROM A SERMON
OF
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THE QUEEN OF SHEBA



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Greater than Solomon is Here

In that great age of Solomon, his fame went everywhere throughout all the lands, and the passers-by heard of it. They carried it into other countries. The only way they had then, was not television, newspapers and things that they have today, it was from lip-to-ear. The caravans would come through picking up trade, and take it to the other nations.

Finally, his fame reached way down across the Sahara desert, into a place called Sheba. It's called here, "The Queen of the South." Let's talk about her. She was a little, heathen queen. She had been raised to worship idols. But, you know, "Faith cometh by hearing, hearing of the Word of God," and way down in there, the Word spread, that, "God, a living God, was living among His people." It made her little heart begin to jump for joy.

Every time a traveller would pass through, into her kingdom, to make trade of spice, jewels and whatever they had to swap, she would call them to the castle, and say, “Have you passed through Palestine?”

“Yes.”

“You went through Israel. Say, I want to ask something. Is it true that their God is among them?”

“Oh, I’ve seen it! You should. Why, you’ve never seen anything like it! Their God has come down and anointed one of their brethren, and they have made him the king. Oh, you ought to see the unity of the people! They’re all with one heart and one accord, and that God is just raining down blessings. And he has a great, powerful gift of discernment. When you come before him, it’s beyond human. It’s—it’s supernatural, how he can know things.”

Her little heart began to beat, “There is something real.” She wanted to see that.

Well, it went on and on. You know, faith cometh by hearing, and when God goes to dealing with the human heart, there is something that takes place inside, that you just can't account for.

Every day, she began to thirst. She wanted to see it. You know, the Bible said, "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Let's just dramatize it a little - I can think that one day she had made up her mind she was going to find out whether it was the truth or not. She had begun to maybe purchase a Bible, the Old Testament, with the parchments, the scrolls. And she began to read, to see what this God was, that they were talking about. She had seen how He worked in His nature, and then she finds out that the very nature and life of that God was being manifested through a man, making Himself known to His people, through the people, what He promised to do. Well, her heart began to hunger, to see it.

One day, she took a notion that she was going to go see it for herself. To do this, the little lady had a lot of hindrances. Now, the first thing she'd have to do was to go to her pagan priest and get permission, because she was a queen, a woman of honour. They had to give consideration, because she was going to leave her own religion, to go find out about another one that she knew nothing about, but was hungry to know about it.

I can imagine she walked up to the holy father of the pagan temple, and said, "Holy father, I hear that over in Israel they've got a great God over there, that's making Himself known through His people. They're doing great signs, and wonders, and miracles."

I can hear the priest say, "Now, my daughter, that's nothing but a bunch of holy-rollers. Don't you listen to that. See? Now, if there is anything going on, it would be right here in our own group. You see the great goddess Dagon and all these others here? You see these great gods we have here?"

The little queen walked a few minutes. You know, if God goes to dealing with the human heart, it's hard to talk anybody away from it.

She said, "But, look, sir. They tell me that actual results happen. There is something that takes place that God uses human lips with such wisdom that's supreme to any known person. It's beyond finding out, the power that God has given among His people. And they're all in one accord. I want to go see it."

"Why," he said, "You would lower your prestige, dear, if you left this church."

The first thing you know, she said, "Look. Now, look. I have been in this temple since I was dedicated here as a little girl. My mother was dedicated here. My grandmother was dedicated here. You've told me all about the power of that god. You've told me all the books you've read about him. And he hasn't made one move. All I've seen, some reading on a paper, just a dead bunch of creeds. But

they tell me there is something up there that's alive." Bless that little queen's heart!

"All I know is some creed that I said here. I haven't seen a move of supernatural or anything else. Surely, through some of our generation, there had been a move somewhere. Only, it's just a little emotion, to get us all to come in and worship. But they tell me that this is a living God that's living in His people. And that's a statue."

"Now, looky here dear. I'll have you excommunicated. Your name will be taken right off the book."

But it made no difference to her. You know, she had a lot of hindrances, but her faith didn't have any. Your faith doesn't have hindrances. I don't care where it's at, what it is, no matter who says what.

No matter how many creeds that priest could recite, how well educated he was, how he could bow, or how he could prostrate himself before the idol, that didn't make one bit of

difference to her. She was thirsting for God. She wanted to find out, and she wasn't going to be satisfied until she found out for herself. She had seen in the Scripture, that's what He was supposed to be.

Now, another thing she would have to confront if she went up there, was a desert was full of Ishmael's children - they were fleet-footed riders and robbers. The whole desert was full of robbers in them days.

Well, the little lady, she thought, "I'm going up to find out if it's true. I'm going to take some offering, and if it's right, I'll support it. If it isn't right, I can bring my offering back." She had some common sense. She said, "If I find it's the truth, it's worth everything to me. But if it isn't the truth, then I'll know it isn't the truth. I'll go and see for myself."

She loaded camels with frankincense, and myrrh, and gold, and silver, and costly spices, and things that were valuable. Remember, she didn't go up on an air-conditioned

Cadillac. She had to go on the back of a camel, through the Sahara desert.

Measure how far it is from Jerusalem, down to where she was. Do you know how long it took them? Three months, on the back of a camel, through a burning hot desert. And what did she have? She just had a few eunuchs and her maids with her. The direct heat of that Sahara desert is terrible. It will scorch you right down, so she had to travel by night.

But, you know, there is something about it, that if your heart begins to hunger and thirst for God, you don't pay any attention to dangers or somewhere.

On she went, travelling by night, day in and out, day in and out, reading those scrolls.

“Now let's see what Jehovah is, what He was, what He promised, and what He will be, and I'll find out whether that's Him in this man. I know what men are and I believe I'll know

what the God is, because I've read what He was."

Now we find out, finally, after all her troubles and so forth; her heart, thirsting. As she begins to near the city of Jerusalem, I can see her eyes brighten up. She put the scrolls away, and she pitched camp right outside, maybe at the palace gate somewhere, getting ready for the meeting. Maybe they arrived in the evening time.

The next morning, early, she went to the church where the pastor was going to speak. When she came to the church, she saw all the people taking their places, and the music beginning to play. After a while, Pastor Solomon walked out. Maybe she had a seat way back in the back of the church, but she was willing to stay, to see what was to be said. She wasn't like people of today. You say one thing that somebody doesn't agree with, and they haven't got patience as long as a second. So that's the reason they get nowhere. But she wanted to be satisfied.

Now we find out that this woman, she came not just to stay for one message, she came to stay till she was convinced whether it was right or wrong. She took her place, and she waited.

The first person came up before Solomon. She noticed that the wisdom of that discernment told that person just exactly all the secrets of the heart. Her heart began to jump. She knew that there was something real. Then the next case came by, and it was the same thing. Then she began to thirst, herself.

The scripture tells us she had many problems, she wanted to know about. Maybe, finally, she got her a prayer card. Maybe her number was called. However way it was, when she got up before Solomon, the Bible said that there was nothing that wasn't made known to Solomon that he didn't reveal to her. All the things that she had hidden in her heart, Solomon revealed it by the Spirit of God. When she saw this happen,

all the life almost went out of the little queen.

She stood up among the people, and said, “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel. Blessed be the Lord God Who has chosen Israel for His people, and has put His Spirit upon His king and has showed this wisdom. Blessed are the men that are with you all the time, that see this great gift operate. Blessed are you, and to see you.” She wanted, even, to take some of the dirt from up in Israel down to her country. She was thoroughly convinced that it was God.

She said, “All that I have been told about it, I didn’t know whether to believe it or not. But now I’ve seen it work on others, and now it’s worked on me, and I know that it’s right.”

No wonder Jesus said, “She’ll rise in the Day of the Judgment and condemn this generation. And, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.”

Solomon was a man with a gift of discernment. What made that little woman say that? She had seen something real. She had seen something that wasn't just a bunch of creeds. She had seen something was manifested and genuine.

Source:

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