Dear Heavenly Father,

Praise

The queen of Sheba was so moved by Solomon's wisdom that she exclaimed, "Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel!" (1 Kgs 10:9). She realized that you were the true source of Solomon's greatness, and it caused her to praise your name. I join with her and exalt you today, for you are great and greatly to be praised!

Today in Your Word

Today you told me about the power, the wealth and the wisdom of Solomon, Israel's greatest king. Even Jesus would later refer to "Solomon in all his glory" (Matt 6:29). Solomon ruled over all the kings from the Euphrates River to the border of Egypt. They paid tribute to him and served him all the days of his life. He became so wealthy that silver was as plentiful as stone and cedars were as common as sycamores. His knowledge and wisdom became legendary, and his fame spread across the world. Kings sought his presence and longed to hear the wisdom you had given him. The queen of Sheba, not believing the fantastic reports of Solomon's fame, came to test him with difficult questions. "Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her" (1 Kgs 10:3). She marveled at Solomon's wisdom, and she envied his servants, for they had the privilege of standing before him and hearing him every day. As I read, I wished I could have heard his wisdom too! And then I realized—I have the privilege of hearing such wisdom on a daily basis, for Solomon's wisdom came *from you*. I am blessed to have your complete revelation in written form, and I can read and study it anytime I want. How wonderful to have such knowledge and understanding!

Reflection

Solomon carefully followed your instructions for building the temple (2 Chr 8:13–15), but he ignored what you said about acquiring many horses (cf. 2 Chr 9:25 with Deut 17:16). Am I obeying you in most areas of life, but keeping some small sin for my own pleasure?

Request

Father, help me to be obedient in *every* area of life, especially my relationships. Enable me to have victory over sin. Don't let it gain any foothold in my heart.

Thanksgiving

Thank you for the depths of wisdom that you have graciously shared with me. Through your Word, I have the honor of standing in your presence and hearing your wisdom!

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Suggested Hymn: "<u>From Sheba a Distant Report</u>" – Hymns of the Christian's Duty. Meditation Verse: 2 Chronicles 8:11.