



L3L39: Jeroboam

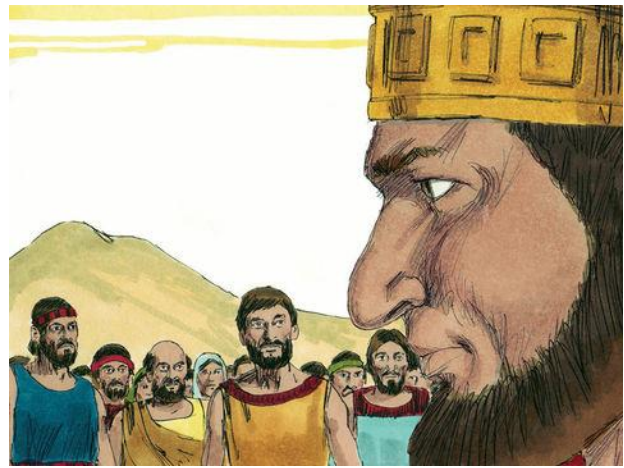
1 Kings 11-12

As Solomon grew older, he began to turn from God and His laws and statutes. Before Solomon's death, God warned him that his actions would result in the loss of half of his kingdom to Jeroboam, an energetic leader who oversaw many of Solomon's building projects. God promised that this break-up of the kingdom of Israel would not occur until after Solomon died, but that his son Rehoboam would inherit the consequences of his sins. Despite Solomon's best efforts to kill Jeroboam, his plans failed. More importantly, Solomon failed his kingdom when he turned his back on God, creating the ingredients for strife between Israel and Judah. Would Solomon's son, King Rehoboam, learn the lesson that Solomon did not? And would Jeroboam obey God and establish a dynasty that would rule Israel down through history?

Read 1 Kings 11-12 and find out!

Discuss:

- Why did God take the majority of the tribes from Rehoboam, Solomon's son?
- When Solomon learned that God was going to give part of the kingdom to Jeroboam, he tried to thwart God's plan by having him killed. Can anyone stop God from carrying out His plans? How did Jeroboam escape? What made him return to Israel?
- What special opportunity and blessing did God offer to Jeroboam and his descendants?
- Jeroboam set up idols for the people to worship, made priests of anyone, and established different holy days than those that God had ordained. What was his excuse for doing this?
- How did God respond to Jeroboam's actions taking Israel into idolatry?
- When we disobey God, what do we expect will happen? What would we expect God to do?



Memory Challenge:

1 Kings 11:31

And he said to Jeroboam, "Take for yourself ten pieces, for thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will tear the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon and will give ten tribes to you...'"