



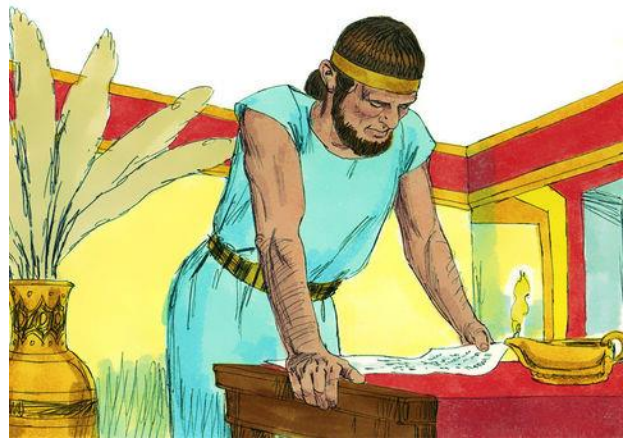
## L3L38: Rehoboam Ascends to the Throne

### 1 Kings 12

*When King Solomon died, his son Rehoboam was made king over all of Israel. The Kingdom of Israel had prospered under Solomon. However, there were problems that needed to be resolved. Rehoboam knew it was wise to seek counsel (Proverbs 1:5), but to whom would he listen? Would he listen to the counsel of the men who had advised his father, or would he listen to his friends? The future of the Kingdom of Israel hung in the balance.*

#### Discuss:

- The people complained to Rehoboam about how much they had been taxed by his father, Solomon. Why do you think the taxes were so high during Solomon's reign? For what purpose was Solomon using all that money?
- The scripture says that we should seek "wise" counsel. What does it mean to seek counsel? Where can we go for wise counsel?
- Were Rehoboam's friends **wise** counselors? What can we learn from this example?
- Rehoboam wanted the people's respect. He tried to show that he was ready to rule by being harsh. Does bullying others in this way earn their respect?
- How did Solomon's former advisers say Rehoboam could earn the respect of the people?
- Rehoboam decided not to listen to the wise men. He decided to tax the people even more, as his friends had advised. What happened to the kingdom of Israel because of Rehoboam's poor decision?



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#### Memory Challenge:

##### Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.



## L3L39: Jeroboam

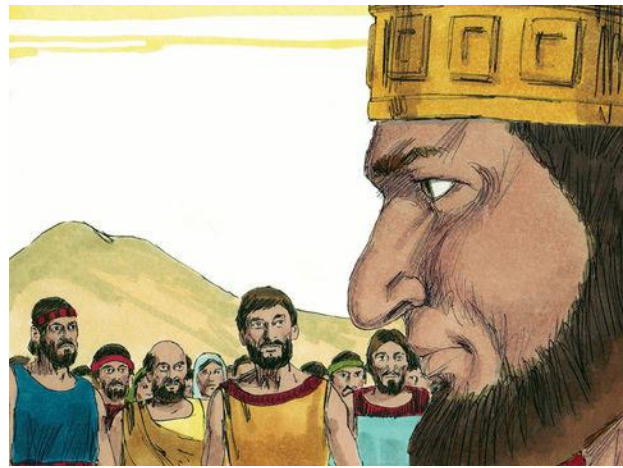
### 1 Kings 11-12

*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?



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#### 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...'"



## L3L40: Rehoboam's Reign

### 2 Chronicles 11-12

*Rehoboam, the son of King Solomon, was selected to be king after Solomon's death. Rehoboam was 41 years old when he took the throne. His first instinct when the ten tribes declared their independence was to declare war on Israel and bring them back under his rule. Would he succeed and rule over Judah and Israel? What type of king would Rehoboam be? In this lesson, we will learn more about King Rehoboam and the legacy that he left.*

#### 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?
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#### Memory Challenge:

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## L3L41: Israel and Judah

### 1 Kings 14

*From the time that the ten tribes rebelled against Rehoboam, Israel was no longer one nation. The nation was split into the Kingdom of Judah and the Kingdom of Israel. Ten tribes kept the name Israel, and the tribes of Judah, Levi, and Benjamin became known as the Kingdom of Judah. Each nation was given God's laws, but neither followed His ways consistently. Though ruling over separate kingdoms, Jeroboam and Rehoboam both lead the nations on paths away from God into idolatry and disobedience. What would God do to His people who turned away from Him?*

#### Discuss:

- What are the names of the two kingdoms that were formed after Solomon died?
- The Bible compares each of the kings of Israel and Judah to King David. Their legacy is summarized as to whether they did or did not follow his footsteps. Why do you think God used David as an example? (Acts 13:22).
- What were the reasons God gave Jeroboam's wife for the punishment that He was planning to bring upon the people of Israel?
- What happened to Judah in the fifth year of Rehoboam's reign? Why did God allow this to happen?



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#### Memory Challenge:

##### 1 Kings 14:15

For the Lord will strike Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water. He will uproot Israel from this good land which He gave to their fathers, and will scatter them beyond the River, because they have made their wooden images, provoking the Lord to anger.