

# Bible Stories for Adults

## The Divided Kingdom

1 Kings 11 - 13

### Opening

Gathering: How do our actions influence the faith of others?

Today's Focus: Solomon's unfaithfulness as the leader of God's people led to the division of Israel and the falling away of many.

Key Verses: *If you do whatever I command you and walk in My ways and do what is right in My eyes by keeping My statutes and commands, I will be with you.* 1 Kings 11:38

*Love the Lord your God with all of your heart and with all of your soul and with all of your strength and with all of your mind, and, Love your neighbor as yourself.* Luke 10:27

Opening Prayer

### Lesson

Last Week - Solomon's Reign (1 Kings 1-10)

How did God bless Solomon's reign?

1 Kings 3:12-14

Did Solomon attempt to obey God as David had?

1 Kings 3:3-4

What was Solomon able to do that David longed to do but couldn't?

1 Kings 5:2-5

Solomon's Tax Burden (1 Kings 4)

What things did Solomon import besides construction materials?

1 Kings 10:22

1 Kings 10:28-29

How many chariots and horses did Solomon get from Egypt?

1 Kings 10:26

Besides the trade deficit, what was wrong with this Egyptian horse trading?

Deuteronomy 17:16

What provisions did Solomon's government require on a daily basis?

1 Kings 4:22-23

How were these extensive provisions supplied?

1 Kings 4:27-28

Solomon's Labor Burden (1 Kings 9:20-23)

Where did Solomon get the laborers he needed for his building projects?

1 Kings 9:20-21

How many laborers did Solomon enlist?

1 Kings 5:13-16

Where did Solomon get the foremen and his soldiers?

1 Kings 9:22-23

Although they were drafted, why was it important that they were not called slaves?

Leviticus 25:42

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### Solomon's Downfall (*1 Kings 11:1-8*)

What command had God given Israel that Solomon completely ignored?

1 Kings 11:1-2

Was God's command not to intermarry new to Solomon?

Deuteronomy 17:17

Did Solomon take many foreign wives, or did he just fall in love with many foreign women?

1 Kings 11:3

How was Solomon led astray by his wives as God had said would happen?

1 Kings 11:4-8

### God's Judgment on Solomon (*1 Kings 11:9-26*)

How did God decide to punish Solomon for this evil?

1 Kings 11:9-11

Did God revoke His promise to David of a descendant on the throne forever?

1 Kings 11:12-13

While God protected Solomon's reign, did He also keep things peaceful?

1 Kings 11:14, 23, 26 (14-27)

Adversaries included Hada in Edom (south), Rezon in Aram (north), Jeroboam (within)

### God Chooses Jeroboam (*1 Kings 11:28-31*)

Who was Jeroboam?

1 Kings 11:28

Did Jeroboam rebel against Solomon on his own?

1 Kings 11:29-31

### God Decides to Split Israel (*1 Kings 11:32-40*)

What reason did Ahijah give that God was taking these tribes from Solomon's family?

1 Kings 11:33

Why didn't God keep all of Israel together and give it all to Jeroboam?

1 Kings 11:32

Would Jeroboam take these tribes from Solomon right away?

1 Kings 11:34-36

What promise did God make to Jeroboam?

1 Kings 11:37-38

What happened to Jeroboam after Solomon found out what had happened?

1 Kings 11:40

### King Rehoboam (*1 Kings 12:1-4*)

Did Israel immediately accept Solomon's son Rehoboam as the next king?

1 Kings 11:42-12:1

Who did Israel choose as spokesman and what request did they make?

1 Kings 12:2-4

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### Rehoboam's Advisors (1 Kings 12:5-15)

What advice did Rehoboam receive from the royal elders?

1 Kings 12:5-7

What advice did Rehoboam receive from his friends?

1 Kings 12:8-11

Which advice did Rehoboam follow?

1 Kings 12:12-14

Why had Rehoboam taken this approach?

1 Kings 12:15

### The Split (1 Kings 12:16-24)

How did the Israelites react to Rehoboam's response?

1 Kings 12:16 (16-17)

How strong was this rejection?

1 Kings 12:18 (18-19)

What did the northern tribes of Israel do for a leader?

1 Kings 12:20

Did Rehoboam accept the results of this rebellion?

1 Kings 12:21

How was this battle between Judah and Israel stopped?

1 Kings 12:22-24

### Capitals of Israel (1 Kings 12:25)

Where did Jeroboam select for the capital of Israel?

1 Kings 12:25

Where was Israel's capital for most of the nation's existence?

1 Kings 16:23-24

What eventually happened to the nation of Israel and why?

2 Kings 17:6-8

What happened to the land of Israel, Samaria?

2 Kings 17:24-25, 28-29, 41

Did the people of Judah accept the people of Samaria as brothers?

John 4:9

### Temples in Israel (1 Kings 12:26-30)

Where had God selected to put His name?

1 Kings 14:21 (11:36)

What problem did Jeroboam have with the city where the Lord had chosen to put His Name?

1 Kings 12:26-27

How did Jeroboam handle this problem?

1 Kings 12:28-30

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### Jeroboam's Religion (1 Kings 12:31-33)

Was Jeroboam intentionally creating his own religion?

1 Kings 12:31-33

How carefully did he select priests for his new religion?

1 Kings 13:33

How were Jeroboam's actions accepted by the faithful people in Israel?

2 Chronicles 11:5, 13-17

Did later kings of Israel return to God?

2 Kings 17:21-23

### God Warns Jeroboam (1 Kings 13)

How did God make it clear to Jeroboam that what he was doing was very wrong?

1 Kings 13:1-6 (1-32)

Did this cause Jeroboam to change his evil ways?

1 Kings 13:33-34

### Rehoboam's Faithfulness (2 Chronicles 12)

How faithful did Rehoboam remain?

2 Chronicles 12:1

How did God respond to Rehoboam's rejection?

2 Chronicles 12:2-5

What was Rehoboam's reaction to his punishment?

2 Chronicles 12:6

How was this reaction taken by God?

2 Chronicles 12:7-8

What did Shishak do when he attacked Jerusalem?

2 Chronicles 12:9

How might Shishak have known about these treasures?

1 Kings 11:40

Did Rehoboam feel safe during the rest of his reign?

2 Chronicles 12:10-11

Was Rehoboam threatened by anyone other than Egypt?

1 Kings 14:30

### Closing Prayer

### Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. Have I found it easier to be faithful in plenty or in want?  
(1 Kings 11:1-13; Matthew 6:19-24; 19:16-26; Romans 5:3-5; James 2:1-7)
2. How are we to deal with the great wealth God has given?  
(1 Kings 10:14-29; Genesis 12:2-3; Proverbs 3:9-10; Luke 12:13-21, 32-34, 48b; 19:12-27)
3. To whom do I look for advice?  
(1 Kings 12:1-15; 2 Samuel 16:23; Psalm 1:1-3; 73:24; Proverbs 12:15; 19:20)
4. When has God entrusted me with a responsibility that I squandered?  
(1 Kings 11:37-38; 12:25-33; 14:7-9; Matthew 25; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2)
5. When have I recognized a warning sent by God?  
(2 Chronicles 12:1-8; Jeremiah 11:7-8; Luke 16:19-31; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15)