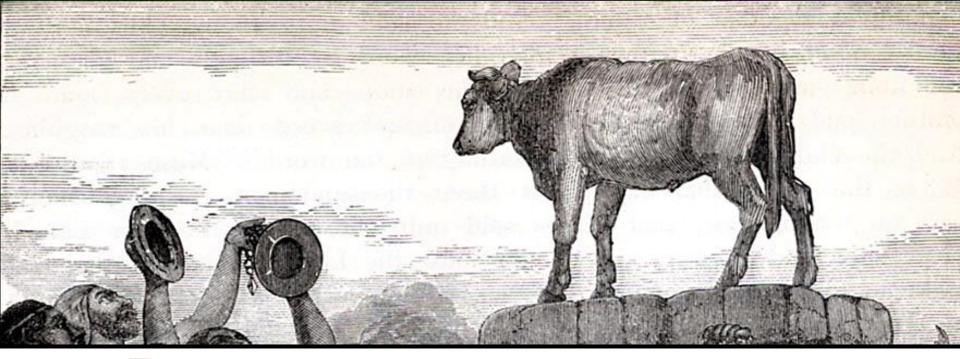


ELIJAH & ELISHA Lessons In Faith

LESSON 10

Elijah and Elisha preached against idolatry through out their ministries. Let's look back in history at Jeroboam the king of Israel who "made Israel to sin" by bringing the practice of worshipping golden calves with him when he became king.





Idol worship existed in Israel previous to Jeroboam. In fact they made a golden calf when Moses was on Mount Sinai. Even Solomon allowed idol worship to appease his foreign wives. But Jeroboam MADE Israel to sin. Over and over in the Bible he is referred to as "Jeroboam the son of Nebat who made Israel to sin." It was because of this king that Israel sank so low and so far away from God. Elijah and Elisha's lives were dedicated to undoing the damage King Jeroboam caused with his reign.



Jeroboam Caused Israel to Sin

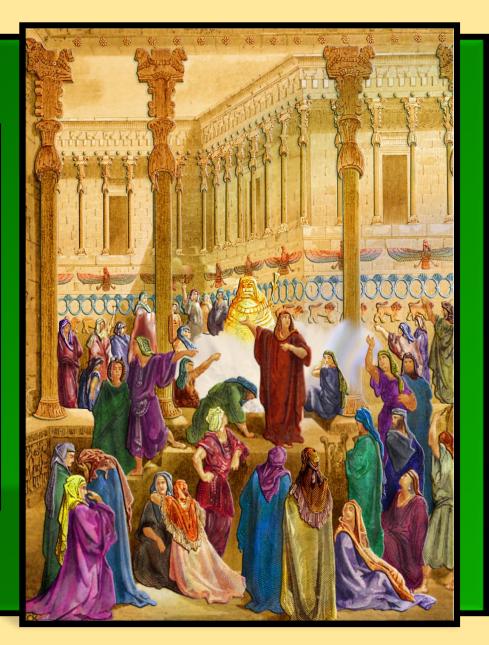


JEROBOAM SOLOMON'S GREATEST ADVERSARY

Solomon was the last king of the UNITED KINGDOM.

Solomon sinned and God took the kingdom away from him and gave the greatest part of the kingdom to Solomon's servant, Jeroboam.

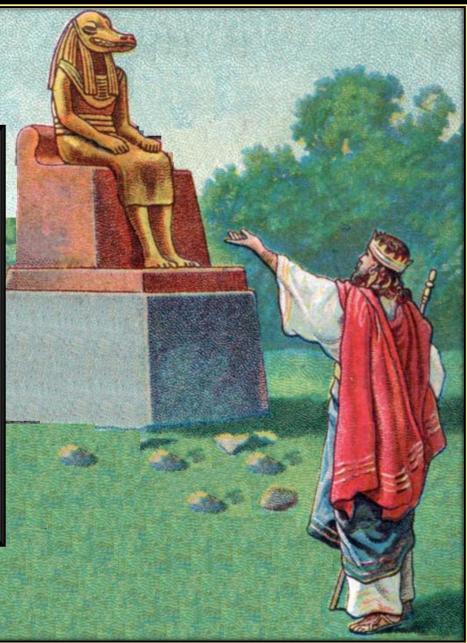
"⁵For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. ⁶And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father."



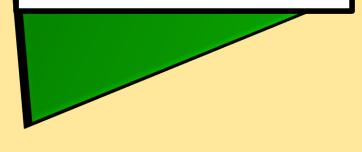
^{"7}Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. ⁸And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods."

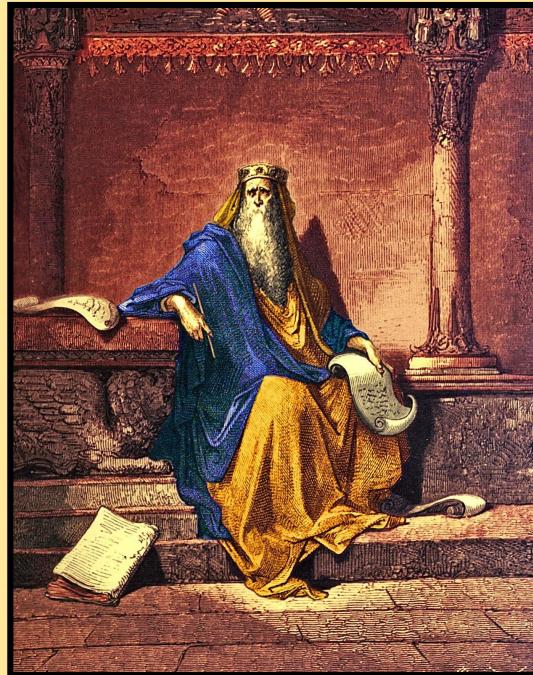


^{••9}And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, ¹⁰And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded."

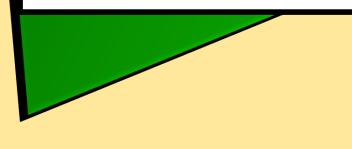


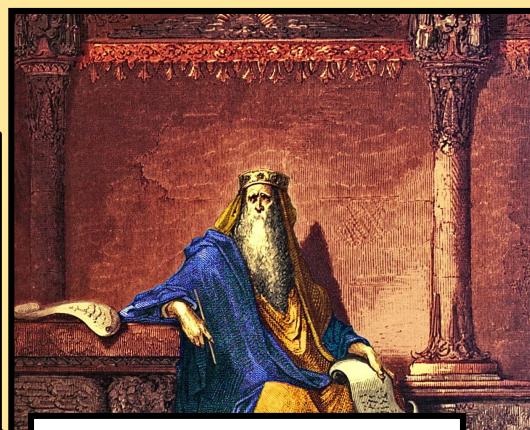
"¹¹Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant."





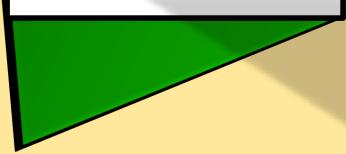
"¹²Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. ¹³Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen."

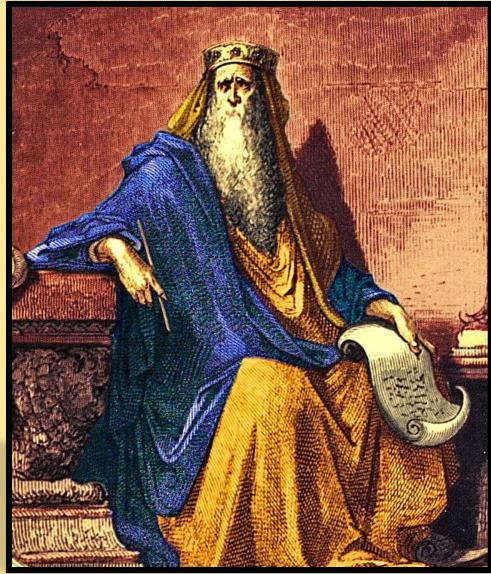




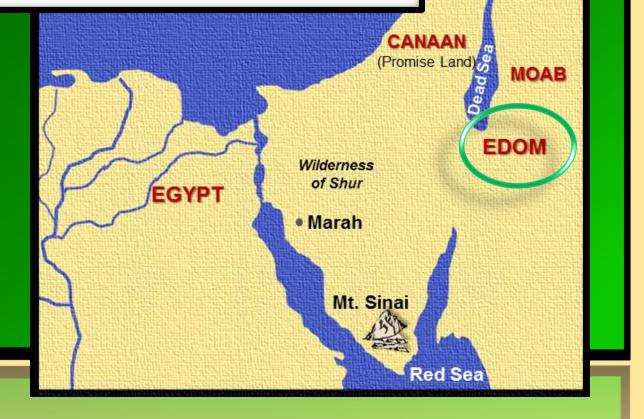
Actually two tribes but called one here because Benjamin was in a manner lost in the thousands of Judah. In verses 14 to 25 we will read how God stirred up adversaries against King Solomon.

Though they themselves were moved by principles of ambition or revenge, God made use of them to serve his design of correcting Solomon.

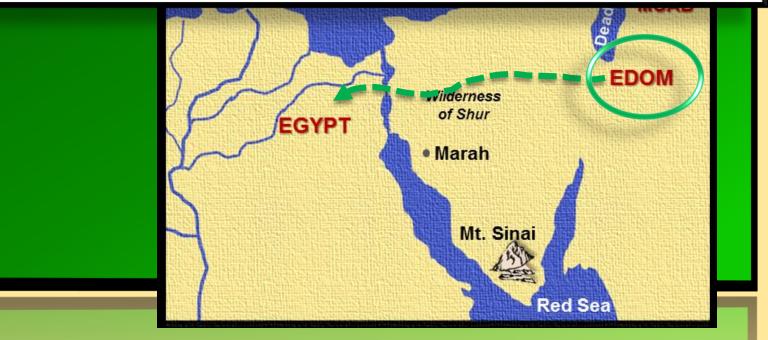




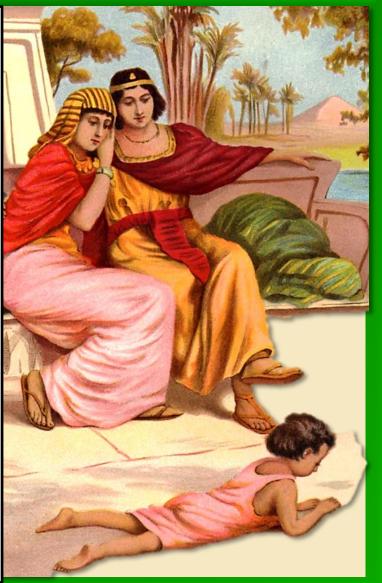
"¹⁴And the LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom."



"¹⁵For it came to pass, *(or in the past)* when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the host was gone up to bury the slain, after he had smitten every male in Edom; ¹⁶(For six months did Joab remain there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom:) ¹⁷That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child."



"¹⁸And they arose out of Midian, and came to Paran: and they took men with them out of Paran, and they came to Egypt, unto Pharaoh king of Egypt; which gave him an house, and appointed him victuals, and gave him land. ¹⁹And Hadad found great favour in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him to wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen. ²⁰And the sister of Tahpenes bare him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house: and Genubath was in Pharaoh's household among the sons of Pharaoh."

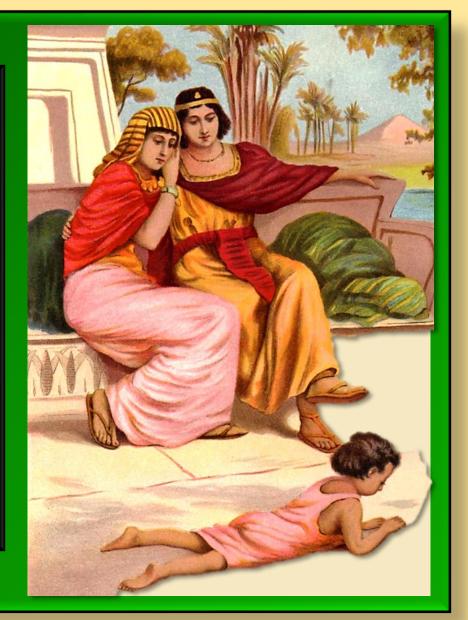


SUMMARY

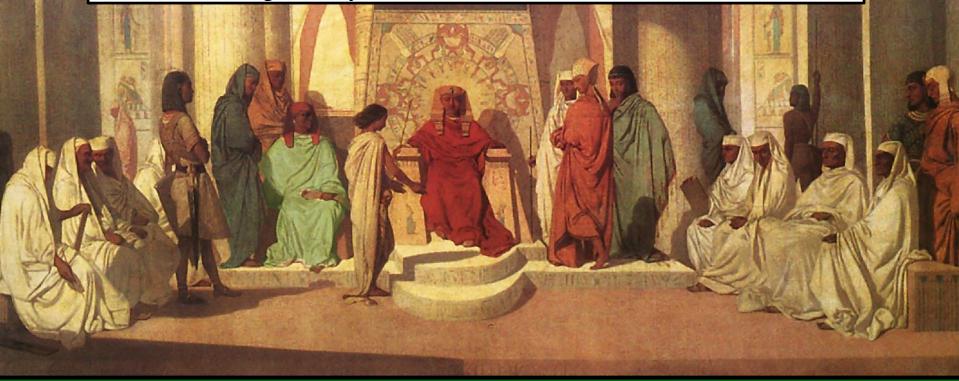
Hadad was a child when he was taken to Egypt to escape King David's war against Edom.

Pharaoh treated Hadad, a prince of Edom, with kindness.

He stayed in Egypt and even married Pharaoh's wife's sister and raised their child among Pharaoh's children.



"²¹And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country. ²²Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country? And he answered, Nothing: howbeit let me go in any wise."



REZON ANOTHER ADVERSARY OF SOLOMON'S

1 Kings 11

"²³And God stirred him up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, which fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah: ²⁴And he gathered men unto him, and became captain over a band, when David slew them of Zobah: and they went to Damascus, and dwelt therein, and reigned in Damascus. ²⁵And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria."

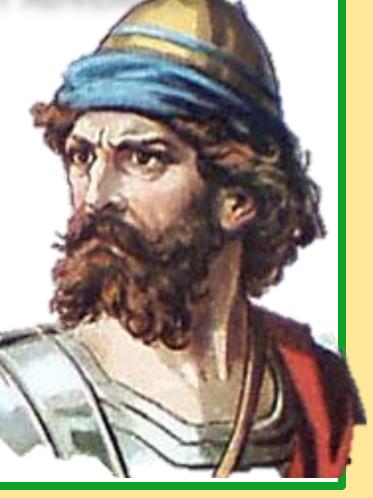


JEROBOAM SOLOMON'S GREATEST ADVERSARY

Here is the first mention of that infamous name--

JEROBOAM THE SON OF NEBAT THAT MADE ISRAEL TO SIN

God had expressly told Solomon that he would give the greatest part of his kingdom to his servant, and Jeroboam was the man he referred to.



JEROBOAM SOLOMON'S GREATEST ADVERSARY

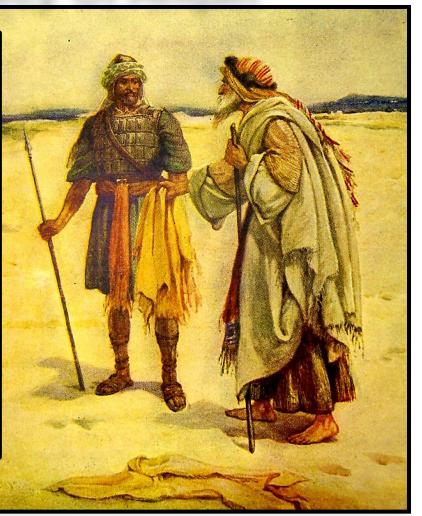
1 Kings 11

"²⁶And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, . . . Solomon's servant, . . . lifted up his hand against the king. ²⁷And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king . . ."

••27 . Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father. ²⁸And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph."

1 Kings 11

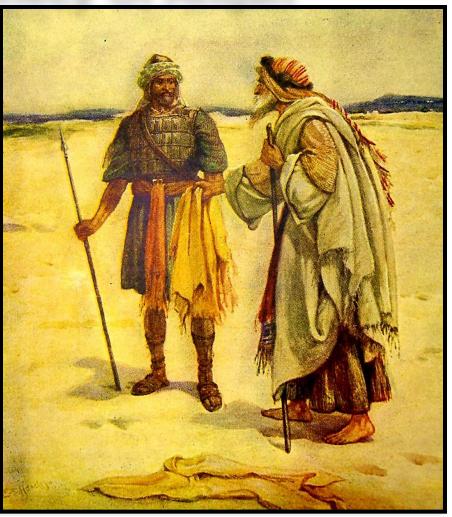
"²⁹And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that <u>the prophet</u> <u>Ahijah</u> the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field: ³⁰And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces."



1 Kings 11

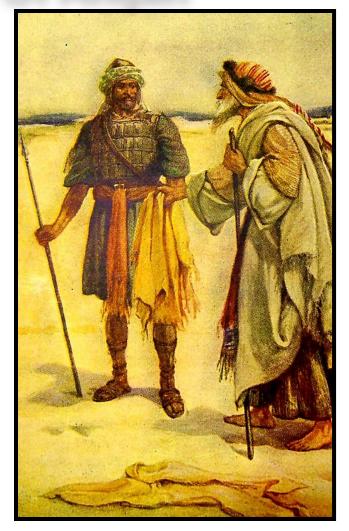
^{••31}And he said to Jeroboam,

Take thee ten pieces: for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee."



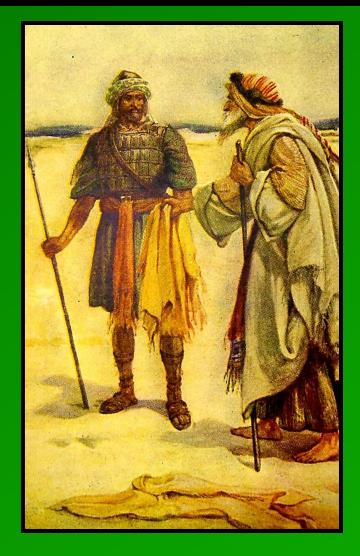
1 Kings 11

"³²(But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:) ³³Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father."



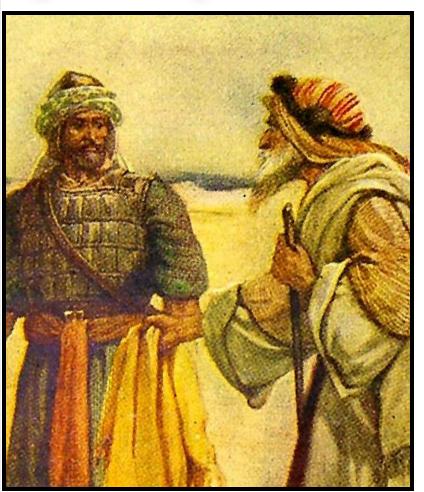
1 Kings 11

"³⁴Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept mv commandments and my statutes. ³⁵I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes. ³⁶And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there. ³⁷And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel."



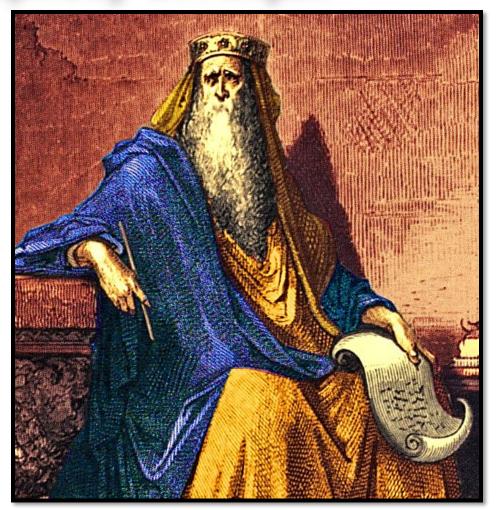
1 Kings 11

^{**38}And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee. ³⁹And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever."



In some way or other Solomon came to know of all this, probably from Jeroboam's own talk of it.

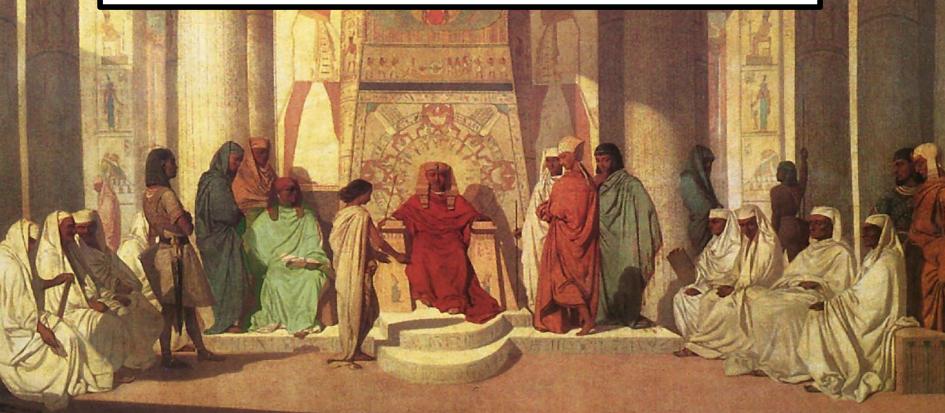
Solomon foolishly sought to kill his successor.



Jeroboam's Flight Into Egypt

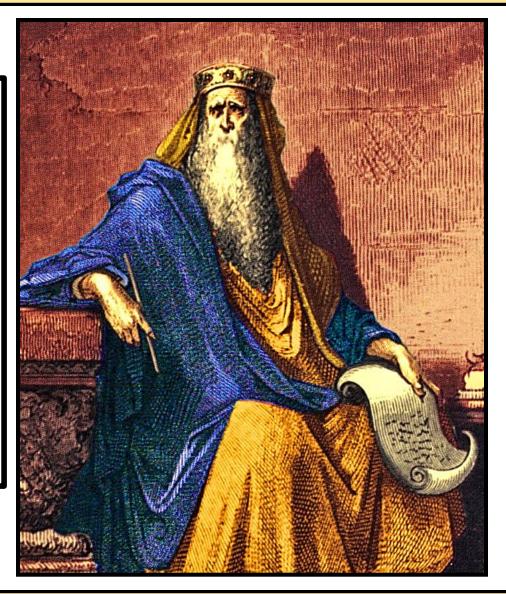
1 Kings 11

"⁴⁰Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon."

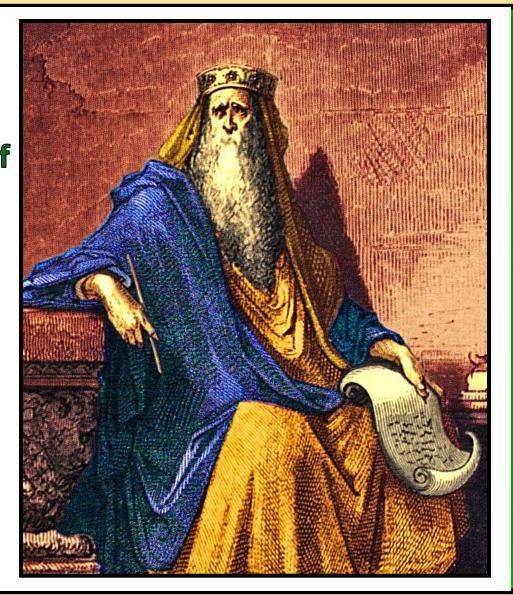


⁴²And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.

⁴³And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead."



With The Death Of SOLOMON Came The End Of The UNITED KINGDOM

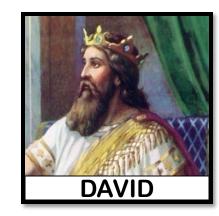


The End Of The United Kingdom The kingdom lasted 120 years before dividing

Saul reigned 40 years (Acts 13:21) David reigned 40 years (2 Sam. 5:4) Solomon reigned 40 years (1 Kings 11:42)

10 Tribes formed the <u>Northern Kingdom</u> called Israel The <u>Southern Kingdom</u> was the tribe of Judah









REHOBOAM and JEROBOAM









Solomon's Son REHOBOAM

Solomon had 1,000 wives and concubines, yet we read but of one son he had to bear up his name, and he a fool. Sin is a bad way of building up a family.

"¹And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him king."

After the death of Solomon the people persuaded Rehoboam to come to Shechem under the pretense to make him king, but the design was to unmake him.

If they truly loved him they would have crowned him in Jerusalem.



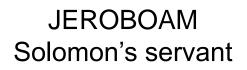
"²And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was yet in Egypt, heard of it, (for he was fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt;) ³That they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying, ⁴Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee."

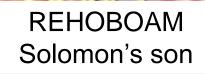


Now that the people had both candidates there in Shechem they began their politics.



JEROBOAM Solomon's servant REHOBOAM Solomon's son But the result had already been determined, because God had revealed to Solomon that Jeroboam would be king over 10 tribes, and Rehoboam would be king over only one tribe.



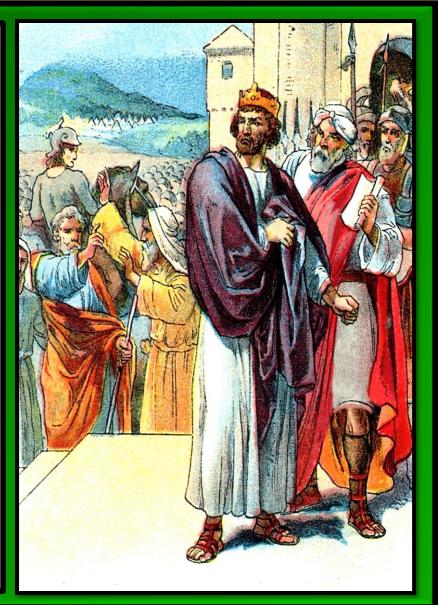




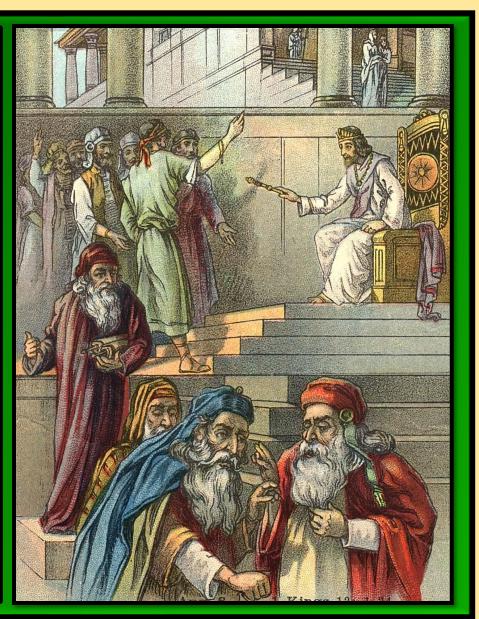
The people asked Rehoboam to relieve them of taxes. They complained that Solomon had been too hard on them.

The criticism was groundless and unjust. Never did people live more at ease than they did under Solomon's reign.

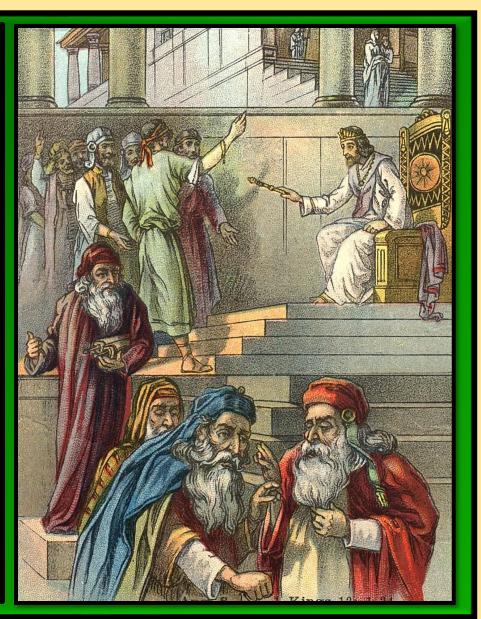
But the people demanded relief from their new king and only on this condition would they continue their allegiance.



"⁶And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people? ⁷And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever."



^{**8}But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him: ⁹And he said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which thy father did put upon us lighter?"





"¹⁰And the young men that were grown up with him spake unto him, saying,"

> "¹⁰. . .Thus shalt thou speak unto this people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins. ¹¹And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."

COUNSEL OF THE

OLDER MEN AND YOUNGER MEN

The older men advised Solomon's son, Rehoboam, to give a kind answer and submit to what the people wanted.

COUNSEL OF THE

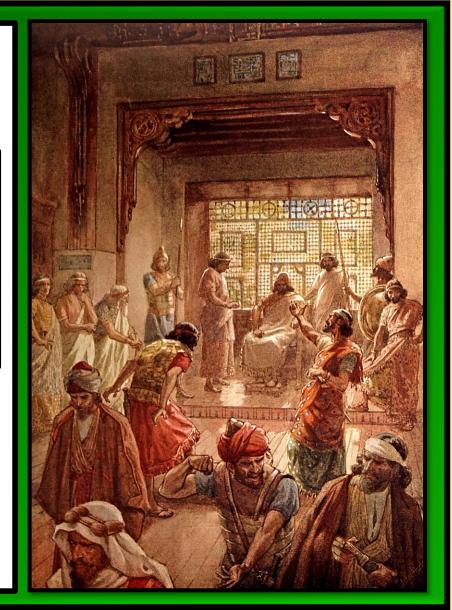
OLDER MEN AND YOUNGER MEN

The younger men were arrogant and advised him to return a severe and threatening answer to the people's demands.

1 Kings 12

"¹²So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day."

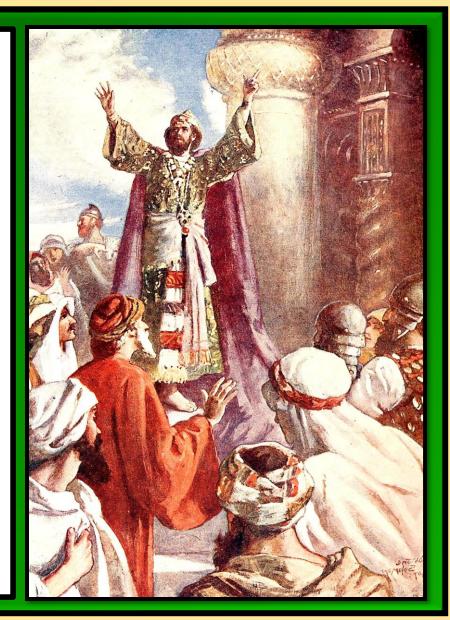
We see in verse 12 that JEROBOAM has arrived from Egypt and is involved . . . ACTUALLY, LEADING the people in their grievance against REHOBOAM.





1 Kings 12

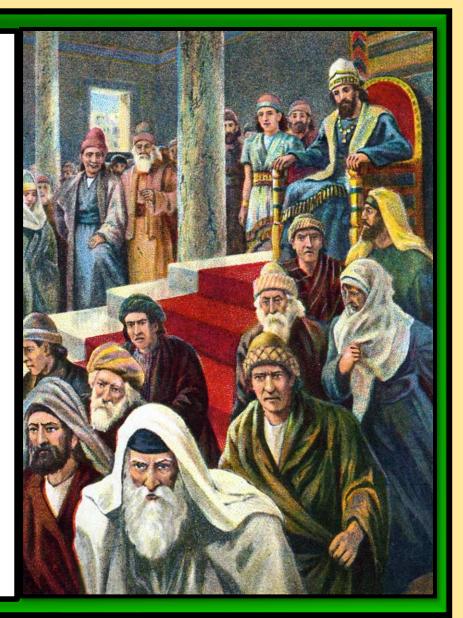
"¹³And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him; ¹⁴And spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."





Rehoboam answered the people according to the counsel of the young men.

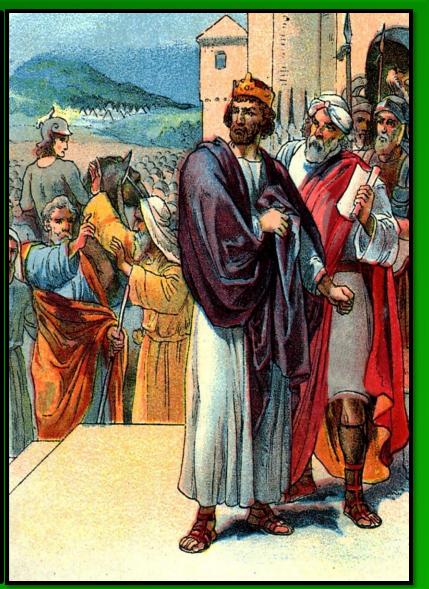
He was haughty, selfimportant, overconfident, and he thought he could MAKE them his followers.





1 Kings 12

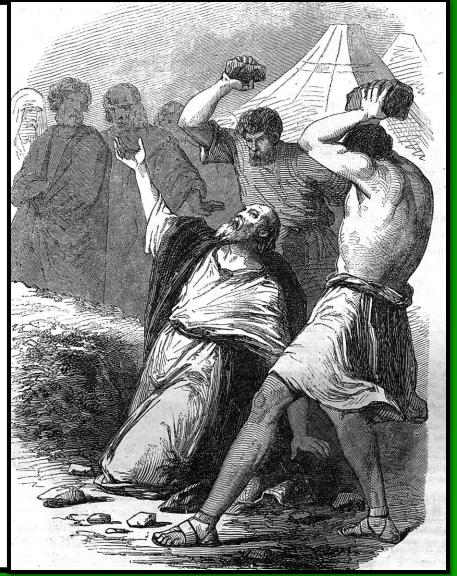
"¹⁶So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents. ¹⁷But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them."





1 Kings 12

⁽¹⁸Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. Therefore king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem. ¹⁹So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day."

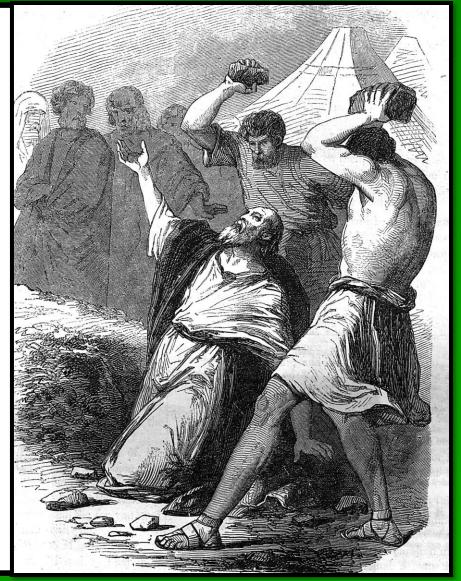




Rehoboam was foolish to send Adoram, his tax collector, to negotiate with the people!

The very sight of him exasperated them, and made them enflamed.

They rioted and murdered Adoram.



JEROBOAM

Solomon's Servant King Of Israel King Over 10 tribes

1 Kings 12

"²⁰And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was come again, that they sent and called him unto the congregation, and made him king over all Israel: there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only."



2 Chronicles 13

"⁵Ought ye not to know that the LORD God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt? ⁶Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord."

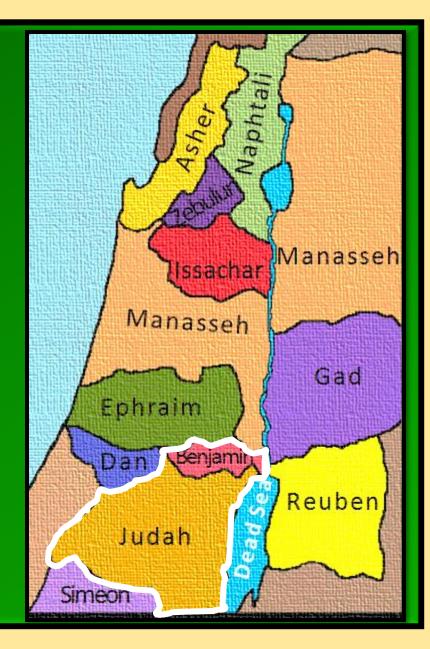
"A covenant of salt"

A lasting covenant . . . a covenant made by sacrifice, which was always salted.



REHOBOAM Solomon's son King Of Judah

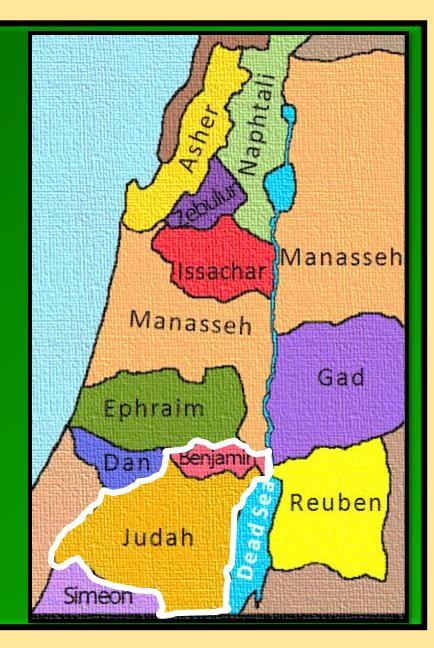
Judah & Benjamin raised an army of 180,000 men for the recovery of their King's right to the 10 tribes.





REHOBOAM Solomon's son King Of Judah

1 Kings 12 "²¹And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, with the tribe of Benjamin, an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men, which were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon."

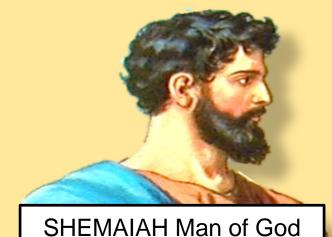




^{"22}But the word of God came unto Shemaiah the man of God, saying, ²³Speak unto Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the remnant of the people, saying,

²⁴Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; for this thing is from me.

They hearkened therefore to the word of the LORD, and returned to depart, according to the word of the LORD."





REHOBOAM King of Judah

REHOBOAM HEARKENED TO THE WORD OF THE LORD

It was intelligent for Rehoboam to desist when the prophet ordered him to lay down his arms. To proceed in this war would be not only to fight against their brethren, whom they ought to love, but to fight against God to whom they ought to submit.

JEROBOAM

Solomon's Servant King Of Israel King Over 10 tribes

1 Kings 12

"²⁵Then Jeroboam built Shechem in mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and went out from thence, and built Penuel."





JEROBOAM Solomon's Servant King Of Israel 1 Kings 12

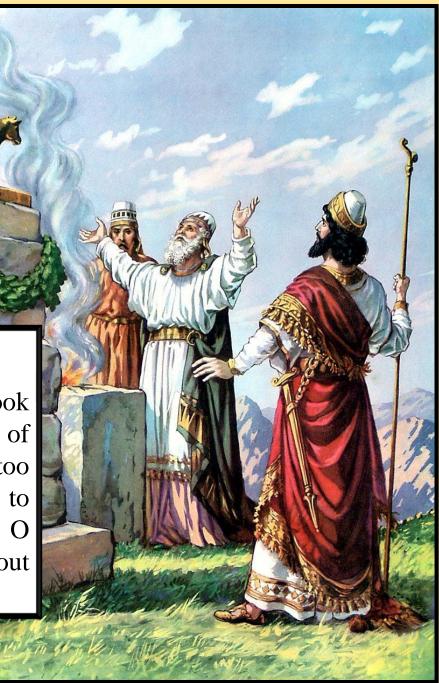
^{••26}And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: ²⁷If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah."



JEROBOAM Solomon's servant King Of Israel

1 Kings 12

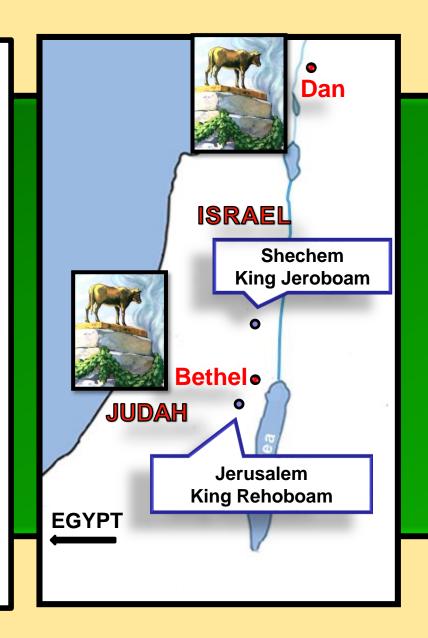
"²⁸Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt."

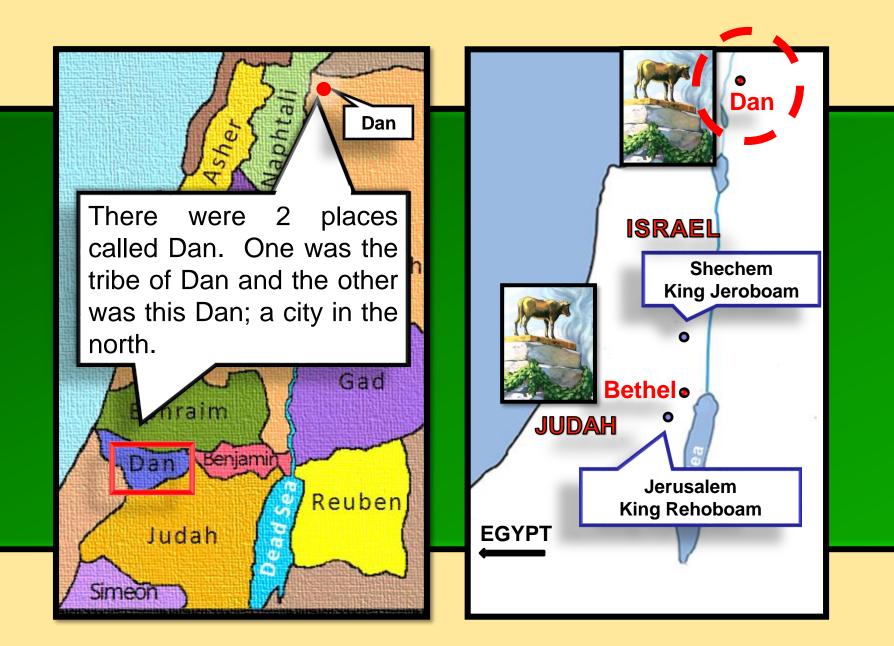


^{••29}And he set the one in <u>Bethel</u>, and the other put he in <u>Dan</u>. ³⁰And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan. ³¹And he made an house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi."

JEROBOAM

King Of Israel

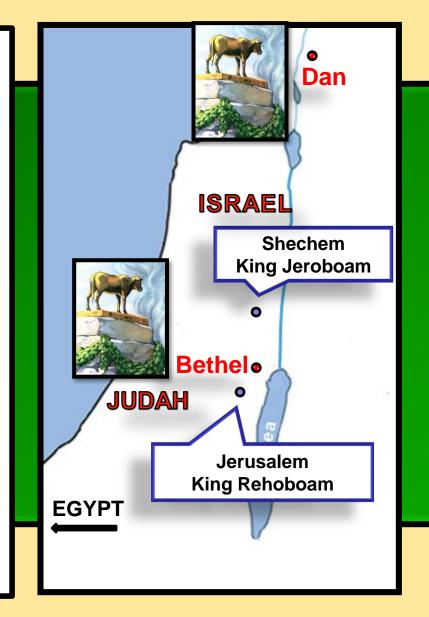




"³²And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Bethel, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places which he had made."

JEROBOAM

King Of Israel



The sins of Jeroboam King of Israel who "made Israel to sin" had a great influence upon Judah where Rehoboam, Solomon's son, reigned. Just five years into Rehoboam's reign the city of Jerusalem, where God "put his name," was so polluted that God allowed the king of Egypt to attack it and remove the treasures of the temple.



"²¹And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD did choose out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess.

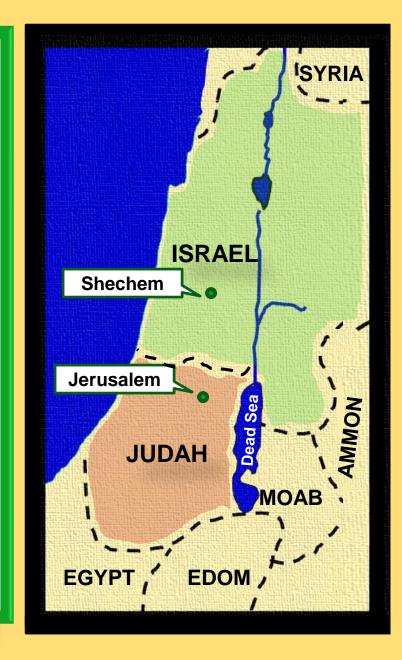
²²And Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they had committed, above all that their fathers had done."



REHOBOAM KING OF JUDAH allowed the worship of idols and sodomy to be practiced in Judah and Jerusalem.

1 Kings 14

"²³For they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree. ²⁴And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

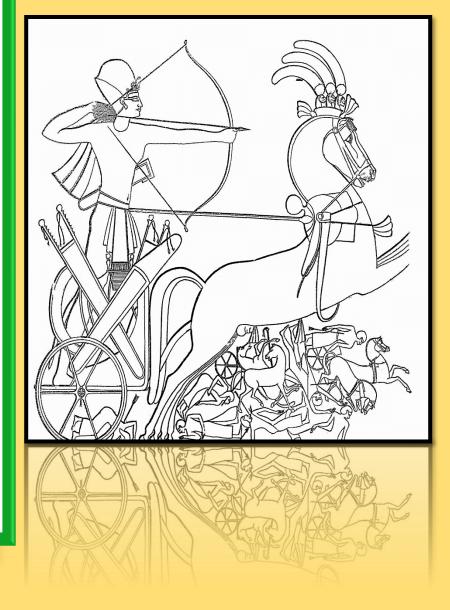


1 Kings 14:25

"And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem:"

2 Chronicles 12:9

"So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he took all: he carried away also the shields of gold which Solomon had made."



ARCHEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Among the Egyptian ruins of Karnak there is a carved relief of King Shoshenq (the Biblical Shishak) which lists the cities he conquered. Jerusalem is in the list, and therefore it verifies Shishak's victory against Israel as recorded in 1 Kings 14:25 and 2 Chronicles 12:9.

Triumphal Relief At Karnak



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ARCHEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Karnak, the location of Shishak's relief, is an ancient temple complex at Luxor, Egypt which is on the Nile River. It is a vast mix of decayed temples of Egyptian gods from age-old dynasties. The ruins contain colossal statues, obelisks, and columns.

Like an open air museum it is the second most visited historical site in Egypt. Only the Giza Pyramids receive more visits.



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THE END

