

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What was Rehoboam really after?
2. As king, what did the additional wealth really mean to him?
3. What was the ulterior motive of the advisors whose advice he followed?
4. What was the ulterior motives of the advisors whose advice he ignored?
5. What type of advisors would you like to “fellowship” with?

### SUMMARY:

A person concerned only about his own will can cause nothing but discord and unrest. He will draw to himself only those who are in turn concerned about their own good and the result will be either an undercover struggle or an open struggle of each person to obtain his or her own gain at the expense of others. The relationship will be like that of animals. On the other hand, to seek the good of others in the presence of those who are concerned about the welfare of others is a wonderful and rewarding experience. [\[SoF:15\]](#) This is God’s way: in describing leadership, the Lord said a leader is one who serves others. He acknowledged that this is contrary to the ways of the world where each is for his own. Rehoboam took the advice of those who thought that as his counselors they could “feather their own nests.” One can only wonder if he enjoyed being in that nest with them in the future weeks.

### NOTES:

---

[\[SoF:15\]](#) We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us - surrendering His personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout “all the world to every creature”.

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

April 15, 2018

Second Quarter

### THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

---

**LESSON TEXT:** *1 Kings 12:1-20*

**LESSON SETTING:** Israel, at the time of its division.

**TIME:** Approximately 975 B.C.

---

- I. A SENSIBLE REQUEST.** 1 Kings 12:1-5
  - A. Request by the People (vs. 3) Psalm 119:134
  - B. Freedom From Oppression Sought (vs. 4) Proverbs 14:31; Ecclesiastes 5:8
- II. A SENSELESS RESOLVE.** 1 Kings 12:6-11
  - A. Wise Counsel Given (vs. 7) Proverbs 15:22 Exodus 18:19; Matthew 27:19; Acts 5:35
  - B. Wise Counsel Rejected (vs. 8) Proverbs 12:15; Matthew 27:24
  - C. Evil Counsel Sought (vs. 8-9) 2 Chronicles 22:2-3
  - D. Evil Counsel Accepted (vs. 11)
- III. A SERIOUS RESULT.** 1 Kings 12:12-20
  - A. An Evil, Arrogant Answer (vs. 14) Exodus 8:32; Acts 5:8; 2 Peter 2:3a
  - B. A Terrible Result (vs. 16, 19) Exodus 9:6-7; Acts 5:10; 2 Peter 2:3b

**GOLDEN TEXT: *PRIDE GOETH BEFORE DESTRUCTION, AND AN HAUGHTY SPIRIT BEFORE A FALL.*** Proverbs 16:18

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** 1 Kings 12:25-33; 13:1-6

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Exodus 20:1-6  
Deuteronomy 4:15-19; 5:7-9;  
2 Chronicles 11:14-17;  
Romans 1:18-23

**QUARTERLY THEME:** Kings and Prophets of Israel

**TOPIC:** JEROBOAM LEADS ISRAEL INTO IDOLATRY

**INTRODUCTION:**

“If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, then shall . . .” So ran the thoughts and words of Jeroboam as he considered what would happen if the people continued to worship the Lord as they ought. He thought if this should happen, he might lose his hold on them. We should be quick to learn from his actions for the same problems exist today. Anyone who does not recognize the claim of God on the lives of men, will come to the same conclusions as Jeroboam. In order to fill the God-given void in the hearts of man, he can choose to worship his Creator, or do as Jeroboam, create a counterfeit situation that so closely parallels the real form of worship that it cannot be easily told apart. Jeroboam knew he had to fake an object of worship other than the true God; a place for worship other than the place God established; priests who would do his bidding; and a method of worship, the more colorful and complex, the better. Having done all this he had to sacrifice to the thing he had created.

The world today has many equivalents to the golden calves made by Jeroboam—money, jobs, knowledge, religion, and many others.

God will not, however, place His stamp of approval on counterfeit worship. His way is the only acceptable way and to find His way, He has given us the Word that testifies of Him and will lead a person into a saving relationship with the living God. Is the real God the center of your life or is your worship a counterfeit?

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** To worship at the shrine of convenience and materialism is to indulge in a modern form of idolatry.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** . . . *KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS.*

1 John 5:21

The ten commandments start out, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” Have you ever wondered why? Does God seem intolerant? Stop to consider. If God is the Creator of the world, if He has done what His Word says He has done and if He is who He says He is, then the personage of God is so far advanced beyond any of the other created things. To place God on the same or equal plane as any of the created things would be for God to deny His Godship. Thus, He must insist that the allegiance which we His creation owe Him is so great that all other things must not only be lower in estimation, but much lower. Coexistence is only possible with co-equals. The Triune God has no co-equals. If we are then to give Him any place, we are to give Him every place. To allow a place for idols in our lives is to lower God, in our own estimation, to a level that can be no higher than the man that created it. In other words, to do so is to place God on a lower level than man. Can the created say—and do—this to the Creator? We all know the answer is no if we will think about it. So acknowledge God, yield your allegiance to Him and recognize that His plane is so much higher than ours that only our person, cleansed by the blood of Christ, can enter His presence.

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 16 – 22**

- M. God Forbids Idolatry. Exodus 20:1-6
- T. Counterpart to Idolatry. 1 Samuel 15:16-23
- W. \*A Fatal Ambition. 1 Kings 12:25-33
- T. \*God Warns Jeroboam. 1 Kings 13:1-6
- F. God Punishes Jeroboam. 2 Chronicles 13:4-18
- S. Jeroboam's Decline and Death. 1 Kings 14:13-20
- S. The Wickedness of Idolatry. Romans 1:18-23

Visit [www.accfoundation.org](http://www.accfoundation.org) for this and other Bible class lessons