

How to Live with Confidence in Uncertain Times

March 19, 2023

Main Passage: 1 Kings 11 & 12

1 Kings 11:9-11, NLT – The Lord was very angry with Solomon, for his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice. He had warned Solomon specifically about worshiping other gods, but Solomon did not listen to the Lord’s command. So now the Lord said to him, “Since you have not kept my covenant and have disobeyed my decrees, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to one of your servants.”

1 Kings 11:40, NLT – Solomon tried to kill Jeroboam, but he fled to King Shishak of Egypt and stayed there until Solomon died.

The Next King of Israel: _____

First Kings 11:27, NLT – This is the story behind his rebellion. Solomon was rebuilding the supporting terraces and repairing the walls of the city of his father, David.

First Kings 11:28, NCV – Jeroboam was a capable man, and Solomon saw that this young man was a good worker. So Solomon put him over all the workers from the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh.

Fast facts about Jeroboam:

1 Kings 11:35,37-38, NLT (God’s BIG Promise to Jeroboam) – “But I will take the kingdom away from [Solomon’s] son and give ten of the tribes to you... And I will place you on the throne of Israel, and you will rule over all that your heart desires. If you listen to what I tell you and follow my ways and do whatever I consider to be right, and if you obey my decrees and commands, as my servant David did, then I will always be with you. I will establish an enduring dynasty for you as I did for David, and I will give Israel to you.”

The First King of Judah: _____

1 Kings 11:36a, NLT – [Solomon’s] son (Rehoboam) will have one tribe so that the descendants of David my servant will continue to reign...

1 Kings 12:1-3, NLT – Rehoboam went to Shechem, where all Israel had gathered to make him king. When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard of this, he returned from Egypt, for he had fled to Egypt to escape from King Solomon. The leaders of Israel summoned him, and Jeroboam and the whole assembly of Israel went to speak with Rehoboam. “Your father was a hard master,” they said. “Lighten the harsh labor demands and heavy taxes that your father imposed on us. Then we will be your loyal subjects.”

1 Kings 12:13-16, NLT – But Rehoboam spoke harshly to the people, for he rejected the advice of the older counselors and followed the counsel of his younger advisers. He told the people, “My father laid heavy burdens on you, but I’m going to make them even heavier! My father beat you with whips, but I will beat you with scorpions!” So the king paid no attention to the people... So when all [the ten tribes of] Israel realized that the king had refused to listen to them...the people of Israel returned home.

Proverbs 12:15, LB – A fool thinks he needs no advice, but a wise man listens to others.

Fast facts about Rehoboam:

Note: The kingdom is now divided. Jeroboam rules Israel (10 tribes), the kingdom in the north. Rehoboam rules Judah (two tribes), the kingdom in the south.

1 Kings 12:26-33, NLT (Jeroboam creates his own religion)

Life Lessons from the Folly of Jeroboam and Rehoboam

1. _____ leads to _____

1 Kings 12:26a-27, NLT – Jeroboam thought to himself... “When these people go to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices at the Temple of the Lord, they will again give their allegiance to King Rehoboam of Judah. They will kill me and make him their king instead.”

Proverbs 28:26, NIV – Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.

2. _____

Proverbs 3:7, NLT – Don’t be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil.

Jeremiah 31:3, NIV – The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying, “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.”

Isaiah 54:10, NIV – “Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Romans 5:8, NIV – But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.