

# I Kings 12=13 –11 August 2022

## “Small Adjustments In Leadership”

### Introduction

- \*I & II Kings demonstrate that a king's allegiance to God's Law is the key to success & protection
- \*The 1<sup>st</sup> half of I Kings depicts the reign of Solomon
- \*The 2<sup>nd</sup> half of I Kings begins the divided kingdom
- \*Solomon just died – Rehoboam his son is now King
- \*When there's been prosperity for a while & then change in leadership, challenges will arise
- \*In fact in today's record the kingdom will split in 2
- \*We're all leaders of something – a home, a dog, a family, co-workers
- \*We're all called to be Christian leaders – leading others to see the glorious nature of Jesus Christ
- \*Let's lead well – we don't want to divide but help
- \*Today we'll see 4 minor adjustments that will enable us to S.A.I.L. thru leadership**

# **1<sup>st</sup> adjustment – Staples: Take the old wise counsel, not the young bias counsel (Chap 12:1-24)**

Read Chap 12:1-5

1. Jeroboam wants relief for his tribe from the heavy work so he asks the new king Rehoboam

Read Vs 6-7

1. Old wise counsel is this: “the way up is the way down”
2. Read Mar 10:42-45 – Be the biggest servant

Read Vs 8-11

1. Young men were bias still seeking positions in the kingdom and were still inexperienced
2. They thought they had to squash some ungodly rebellion but the people’s cause was just

Read Vs 12-15

1. God didn’t make him stupid, just withdrew help
2. When you don’t seek the wisdom of God, all you’re left with is the stupidity of man

Read Vs 16-20

1. So 10 tribes follow Jeroboam in the north and refuse to pay taxes to Rehoboam
2. Rehoboam leaves his coronation and heads back to his capital Jerusalem

Read Vs 21-24

1. They didn't seek God's Word regarding taxing, but at least Rehoboam listens when God's Word comes
2. There's no older, wiser voice than God's to hear

**2<sup>nd</sup> adjustment – Attainment: Don't have to maintain what God has attained (Chap 12:25-33)**

Read Chap 12:25-27

1. Jeroboam thinks he has to maintain what God has freely given to him, wrong
2. When God guides, God provides

Read Vs 28-30

1. Cause this worked out so well for Aaron, ha

2. Notice, he doesn't make a different god, he simply says that these calves are the REAL God
  - a. Many so-called Christians today are into this same idol worship – similar but different
3. They give the REAL God very different attributes but claim that it is indeed Jehovah God
  - a. Mormons claim Jesus is lucifer's brother – that's a different god
  - b. Many have gender & sexual issues all wrong – that's believing in a different god

Read Vs 31-33

1. Different but similar priests & feasts
2. Man-made 'maintaining' are counterfeits
  - a. These all are created in Jeroboam's own image, not God's
  - b. He's completely thrown out the Bible at this point
  - c. He's made a similar but different religion for himself that he's more comfortable with

### **3<sup>rd</sup> adjustment – Implement: Change course to follow God-given opportunities (Chap 13:1-10)**

Read Chap 13:1-5

1. Prophecy against corruption of the priesthood
  - a. Short-term proof is needed to validate the message of the prophet
    - i. Altar will be ripped up – Short-term
    - ii. Future King Josiah will desecrate this false worship – Long-term
2. Publicly disagreeing with God's prophet got King Jeroboam immediate punishment

Read Vs 6

1. Ask your God to help my physical problem
  - a. If He was Jeroboam's God, he could ask for himself
  - b. If He was Jeroboam's God, he wouldn't ask for his hand, but his heart to be healed
  - c. He missed a good repentant spot

2. The Man of God besought the Lord
  - a. The measure of our Christianity isn't how we treat Jesus, but how we treat Judas
  - b. Read Luk 6:28, 32, 36 – Love your enemies

Read Vs 7-10

1. Read Eph 5:11 & II John 1:10
2. Don't give the perception that you agree with sinful people

**4<sup>th</sup> adjustment – Liars: Don't let man deceive you off of God's course (Chap 13:11-34)**

Read Chap 13:11-17

1. Old Prophet of Bethel wants the Man of God to come eat with him, but Man of God was told by God not to eat with them on this mission
2. Old Prophet probably just wanted to help a very weary co-patriot prophet (under a oak tree)

## Read Vs 18-19

1. Read Gal 1:8 & Deut 13:1-3
  - a. God can't contradict Himself, don't fall for it
  - b. He listened to man instead of God
2. There is greater accountability for those who speak for God – James 3:1
  - a. The gifts of the Spirit co-exist within varying degrees of imperfection in the person

## Read Vs 20-24

1. The Old Prophet prophecies judgement to the Man of God from Judah for disobeying the Lord

## Read Vs 25-32

1. Old Prophet shows respect & buries him
2. Judge others in light of your own sin (Matt 7:2)
3. Old Prophet also shows that he believes the Man of God's prophecy about the false worship

## Read Vs 33-34

1. None of this changed Jeroboam from his sin

## Conclusion

There are many tiny forks in the road that we need to choose between right & wrong but also good & better

1.    **Staples: Take the old, wise counsel, not the young, bias counsel**
  - a.     The best old wise counsel is God's Word
2.    **Attainment: Don't have to maintain what God has attained for us**
  - a.     It takes work to maintain our own lies & self-effort, but following God's plan for our lives will be empowered to success
  - b.     Where God guides, God provides
3.    **Implement: Change course to follow God-given opportunities**
  - a.     There're many micro-chances to repent
4.    **Liars: Don't let man deceive you off of God's course**
  - a.     Some w/ evil intent, some as simple distractions, but watch out for contradictory info that would remove you from God's plan