

Family Worship Guide: Lesson 20

The Divided Kingdom, Elijah, and Elisha

Main Idea

Solomon's sin led to the division of the kingdom into Israel and Judah. The rulers and people fell into centuries of disobedience. God sent prophets, such as Elijah and Elisha, to speak truth. Despite the evil, God kept His promise to keep a descendant of David on the throne.

Scripture Readings

- ✠ 1 Kings 11:9–13 — God announces the division of the kingdom because of Solomon's sin, yet preserves David's line.
- ✠ 1 Kings 12:25–33 — Jeroboam leads Israel into idolatry.
- ✠ 1 Kings 18:36–39 — God shows that He alone is the true God through Elijah on Mount Carmel.
- ✠ 2 Kings 2:9–12 — Elijah is taken up, and Elisha continues his prophetic ministry.
- ✠ 2 Kings 8:19 — God preserves Judah for the sake of His promise to David.
- ✠ Matthew 17:1–5 — Elijah appears with Moses at the Transfiguration, and God declares Jesus to be His beloved Son, the true King.
- ✠ Luke 1:16–17 — John the Baptist comes in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way for the Lord.

Lesson Review

Q What happened to the kingdom after Solomon sinned?

A *Because of Solomon's sin, God divided the kingdom into two parts—Israel in the north and Judah in the south. (1 Kings 11:9–13)*

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Q How did Jeroboam lead Israel into further sin?

A *Jeroboam made golden calves and led the people to worship false gods instead of the Lord. (1 Kings 12:25–33)*

Q How did God show that He alone is the true God during Elijah's ministry?

A *God answered Elijah's prayer by sending fire from heaven, showing that the Lord—not Baal—is the true God. (1 Kings 18:36–39)*

Q What happened to Elijah, and who continued his work?

A *God took Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, and Elisha continued his work as God's prophet. (2 Kings 2:9–12)*

Q Why does Elijah appear with Jesus in the New Testament?

A *Elijah was a prophet who called people back to the true God. When Elijah appears with Jesus, God shows that all the prophets point to Jesus, His beloved Son, whom we must listen to. (1 Kings 18:36–39; Matthew 17:1–5)*

Catechism - 1693 Baptist Catechism

Q What is sanctification?

A *Sanctification is the work of God's free grace (2Th 2:13) whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God (Eph 4:23-24), and are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness (Rom 6:4, 6; 8:1).*

Q What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

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- A** *The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification are assurance of God's love, peace of conscience (Rom 5:1-2, 5), joy in the Holy Spirit (Rom 5:5, 17), increase of grace (Pro 4:18), and perseverance therein to the end (1Jo 5:13; 1Pe 1:5)."*

Family Devotion Questions

- Q** What was the consequence of Solomon's sin of idolatry?
- A** *Because Solomon worshiped false gods, God divided the kingdom after his reign.*
- Q** How did God keep His promise despite these consequences?
- A** *God preserved Judah and kept a descendant of David on the throne.*
- Q** What is idolatry?
- A** *Idolatry is loving, trusting, or worshiping something more than God.*
- Q** What is grace?
- A** *Grace is God's undeserved kindness to sinners.*
- Q** How does God show us grace?
- A** *God shows us grace by keeping His promises and by sending Jesus to save us.*

Prayer

Father in heaven, thank You that You are faithful even when Your people are sinful. Thank You for sending prophets to speak Your truth and for keeping Your promise to David. Help us to turn away from idols and to trust in Jesus, the true and perfect King. Amen.