

1 Kings 11:1- 43 – “Solomon’s Rebellion”

All Scripture is KJV: 1 Kings 11:1-43

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

Today we continue with a preaching series on the Book of 1&2 Kings.

The Books of the Kings records the events of Israel’s Kingdom through the rise and fall of the kings of Israel.

Before they were ruled by the kings they were ruled by the Judges for 450 years under the theocratic rule of God.

1. Then after that, they complained to God that they wanted a king to rule over them, so God raised up a king called “King Saul” who was the first king to rule over Israel and he reigned for 40 years.
 2. After that King David ruled over Israel for 40 years and finally when David died, Solomon became king and he ruled over Israel for 40 years.
 3. Solomon was the last king to reign over the 12 tribes of Israel before the kingdom was split in two. This resulted in 10 tribes making up the northern kingdom which was called Israel, and the southern tribes 2 tribes which became the kingdom of Judah.
- In the Book of Acts 13:14-23 this event of the three kings is recorded.

Acts 13:14-23

¹⁴ But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

¹⁵ **And after the reading of the law and the prophets** the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. ¹⁶ Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, **Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.**

¹⁷ The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it.

¹⁸ And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. ¹⁹ And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot. ²⁰ **And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.**

²¹ **And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years.** ²² **And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave their**

testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.²³ Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus:

- So how long did the kingdom of Israel last?

The **Kingdom of Israel** (or Northern **Kingdom**, or Samaria) existed as an independent state until 722 BCE **when** it was conquered by the Assyrian Empire, while the **Kingdom of Judah** (or Southern **Kingdom**) existed as an independent state until 586 BCE **when** it was conquered by the Babylonian Empire.

1. Whilst there is much to say about the various kings individual ruling and reigning and how they rose to power, or how they were taken down.
 2. I would like to focus on how things were beginning to change and what led to their ultimate downfall.
 3. In all time times that these kings rebelled against God, it was the nations that were suffering at their hand either way. But for a long time God remained patient and warned them to return again unto him. But these calls were ignored by all of the kings of the Northern Kingdom of Israel as they went into Baal worship.
 4. And most of the kings except 6 kings in the tribe of Judah ended in the same way by following after false Gods.
 5. The reason why God judged them so harshly was because they had turned away from God, to worship false Gods.
- So the purpose of this preaching series is not so much to identify each and every king in his departure from the Lord, but rather how when they departed from the Lord how it lead to the ultimate down fall of Israel, which lead to the 10 lost tribes of Israel forever.
 - And also to show that Israel was no longer present as 12 tribes from that point onwards. In fact it is only from that point on, after the Babylonian captivity and return from captivity that they are known only as “Judah” or the “kingdom of Judah, which was only made up of the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and Levi. Although the tribe of Simeon had been incorporated earlier into the tribe of Judah.
- ✚ King Solomon would be the last king to reign over all 12 tribes forever.
 - ✚ After Solomon dies, God would rent the kingdom from him and hand over 10 tribes to Jeroboam and 2 tribes would be given to Judah.
 - ✚ It is from this point on that the kingdoms are divided.
- ❖ The book of Kings from this point on is fascinating, and it is from this point that we come in on our preaching series to understand Gods reasoning and judgement upon the Nation of Israel and Judah.
- ✓ So let's read 1 Kings 11ff.....

1 Kings 11 King James Version (KJV)

¹ But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites:

1. When the bible speaks of strange woman, it is speaking of those that don't follow God.
2. Then the bible lists these woman that Solomon loved.
 - a) Solomon was not supposed to marry or have more than one wife.
 - b) Solomon had not just one wife, but hundreds.
 - c) He also had hundreds of concubines.
 - d) He also had princesses.
3. These woman that the bible lists were from the tribes mentioned which practised Baal worship.

² Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.

1. These were the very nations God had instructed the children of Israel to keep away from.
 2. God told them that these unholy nations would eventually turn them from him if they had any contact with them, and that is exactly what happened.
 3. But Solomon – in all his wisdom? Clave unto these in love.
- Solomon choose woman above that of choosing God.

³ And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

⁴ For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

1. Solomon allowed these young woman to rule his life.
 2. These woman were the cause and distraction of Solomon's downfall.
 3. Davids heart was perfect. – why ? was Davids heart perfect? Well simply because he put God first in his life and never went after or worshipped other Gods. David did not break Gods 1st commandment of thou shall have no other Gods before me.
- Look how jealous God says he is in his first commandment to Israel.

Exodus 20 King James Version (KJV)

¹ And God spake all these words, saying, ² I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

³ **Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**

⁴ **Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.**

⁵ **Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;**

⁶ **And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.**

- Is it no wonder then that God would carry out his judgment upon them as he described in his first commandment then.
- 4. Davids heart was perfect in Gods eyes, because David worshipped the true God always.
- 5. Sometimes we think that we cannot be perfect. But in Gods eyes when we are following him and put him first and are worshiping him, then we are perfect. (the bible says we are perfected in him).
- 6. Look – David was not perfect by any means in the flesh, because he still sinned many times, and even lied to God, but look – God still called him perfect. – Why”.....because David loved God and put him first always, and never worshipped any other Gods.

⁵ **For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.**

1. Solomon’s downfall, and his kingdoms downfall would be because of idolatry.
2. The word went after is the word “follow after”. It is the word used to show worship to another deity.
3. Solomon did not only embrace the gods of his wives, but he also worshipped to them. He bowed down to them.
4. **Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians –** This was a god dedicated to sexuality and seduction.
5. **Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites –** This was the god “Moloch” the god to which they would sacrifice and burn children at his alter.

Amos 5:26

But ye have borne the tabernacle of your **Moloch** and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves. ²⁷ Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts.

Acts 7:43

Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of **Moloch**, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

⁶ **And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father.**

1. Here we can see that Solomon went after other Gods.
2. He did not just worship the Lord God.
3. He also it tells us that his father David only worshipped God the Father and did not go after any other gods.

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.

1. This is where you see Solomon erecting these high places “or alters” to worship the strange gods of his wives.
2. **Chemosh, the abomination of Moab** – worship of a female god of Athtar.
3. **Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.**

8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

1. These are all alters build by Solomon for worshipping the false 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,¹⁰ And had commanded him concerning this thing, **that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded.**

11 Wherefore 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.

12 Notwithstanding 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.

1. God promised that during Solomons reign as king the kingdom would stay in tact as the 12 tribes.
2. But that when he died the kingdom would be split up and divided because of his sin.

13 Howbeit 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.

- Then after verse 13 we have the narrative of how the Lord was going to create that division, and how that the Lord was going to inflict war against Israel when it will be divided.
- And so God uses this narrative to explain to us and record just how and by what means he was going to achieve his objective.
- This would be an ongoing war till the end of Israel was achieved.

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

¹⁵ For it came to pass, 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:)

¹⁷ That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child.

¹⁸ And 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.

¹⁹ And 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.

²⁰ And 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.

²¹ And 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.

²² Then 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.

²³ And God stirred him up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, which fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah:

²⁴ And 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.

²⁵ And 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.

²⁶ And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his hand against the king.

²⁷ And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father.

²⁸ And 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.

- The house of Joseph is another name for Israel.

²⁹ And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field:

1. This is the beginning of the prophecy that the Lord said about the division of the kingdom.
2. Here we see how that was going to play out.

³⁰ And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces:

1. The prophet Ahijah the Shilonite pulls the new garment from Jeroboam.
2. And begins to tear it into 12 pieces.
3. See verse 31.

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. Then he gives 10 pieces back to Jeroboam. Signifying the 10 tribes the Lord is going to give to him.
2. These would be 10 of the tribes that Solomon was ruling over.

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:)

1. One tribe shall remain with Judah as promised to David and Jerusalem.
2. It says that the Lord chose to keep Jerusalem for David.
3. The one tribe was really 2 tribes because the tribe of Ruben was already part of Judah geographically.

³³ Because 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.

4. Here was the reason that the Lord rent the 10 tribes from Solomon.

³⁴ Howbeit 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 my commandments and my statutes:

³⁵ But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes.

- Rehoboam would lose 10 of the tribes to Jeroboam. As the Lord predicted.

³⁶ **And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light
always before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name
there.**

1. Jesus came from the lineage of David.
2. Jesus was of the seed of David as was foretold in scriptures of the OT.

John 7:42 Hath not the scripture said, **That Christ cometh of the seed of David**, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?

Romans 1:3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which **was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;**

2 Timothy 2:8 Remember that **Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:**

- So Rehoboam was to rule and be king over Judah. The tribe of Reuben and Levi would be part of Judah which would be called the southern "Kingdom of Judah".
- But of Jeroboam, in the northern kingdom, this would be made up the 10 tribes which the Lord said he would give unto Jeroboam, and that these 10 tribes would be known as Israel from that point on.
- Then in verse 37 we see the promise "if" that was given by the Lord to Jeroboam.

³⁷ **And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel!**

- So the Lord said to Jeroboam.....

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.

³⁹ And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever.

- This was speaking about Judah eventually going into captivity by the Babylonians. But that they would return after 70 years.

⁴⁰ **Solomon 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.**

⁴¹ And the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon?

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

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

PRAYER.....CLOSE.

1 Kings 12:1- 33 – “Solomon’s Rebellion”

All Scripture is KJV: 1 Kings 12:1-33

- We continue with the events after Solomon kingship came to an abrupt end.

Joshua 24:32 - a short note to help.... It was the first capital city of Israel when divided.....and this was also the place where.....Joseph was buried.

³² And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

- The parallel stories of the events of Jeroboam and Rehoboam can all be read in 2 Chronicles 10, 1 and 12.
- These books mirror exactly what is being said in 1 Kings 11 and 12 and so on.

1 Kings 12 King James Version (KJV)

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

² And 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;)

³ That they sent and called him. And **Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying,**

⁴ Thy 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.

⁵ And he said unto them, Depart yet for three days, then come again to me. And the people departed.

⁶ And 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?

⁷ And 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:

⁹ And 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?

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

¹¹ And 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.

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

¹³ And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him;

¹⁴ And 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.

¹⁵ Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the LORD, that he might perform his saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

1. Remember this was the promise that the Lord said to Jeroboam would take place.
2. That the kingdom of Israel would be rent from Jeroboam.

¹⁶ So 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.

1. Clearly here you can see the difference between “who is Israel” and “who is David”, which is Judah.
2. So Judah was to see to themselves.
3. And Israel was to see to themselves.
4. The 10 tribes knew that they had no “portion” or inheritance in David. – Judah.

¹⁷ But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

1. Some of the children of Israel who belonged to the 10 tribes did not go.
2. But those who stayed were ruled over by Rehoboam.

¹⁸ Then 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.

¹⁹ So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

1. So here we see confirmation that at “that date and time” that this scripture was written the tribe of Israel was still against Judah.

²⁰ And 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.

1. Just as the prophet of God predicted. The house of David would only be made up of the one tribe of Judah.

²¹ And 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,

²³ Speak 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,

²⁴ Thus 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.

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

1. Shechem was the capital of Israel at that time.

²⁶ And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David:

1. Jeroboam was concerned that the 10 tribes would return and stay in Jerusalem when they went back to worship every year.
2. So he devised his own religion to entice them to stay.

²⁷ If 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.

²⁸ Whereupon 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 Bethel, and the other put he in Dan.

³⁰ **And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan.**

³¹ And he made an house of high places, **and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi.**

1. He deliberately made his own priests so that he could rule over them.
2. They were chosen by Jeroboam not the Lord.

³² **And 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.**

1. Jeroboam sacrificed at these alters that he made.
2. He demonstrated to the people that if the place and status of worship was good enough for him, then it should be good enough for them.
3. **By this time** Jeroboam was so far from the Lord, that he had turned to idol worship. Just as his father had done.
4. **Remember the “if”** that God had promised? – but he fell short of that “if” of the Lords promise.

³³ **So he offered upon the altar which he had made** in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised of his own heart; **and ordained a feast unto the children of Israel: and he offered upon the altar, and burnt incense.**

5. For this reason the Lord was going to bring judgement upon the Nation of Judah as well.

PRAYER.....CLOSE.