## 1 KINGS 12 vs 1



The Bible is so interesting; even the Old Testament. Remember: when reading the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles... we read history and events recorded from the perspective of the 2 tribes of the **Southern Kingdom**, the House of **Judah**;

The divided kingdom of Israel and Judah,

- <sup>1</sup> Now Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all **Israel** came to Shechem to make him king.
- <sup>2</sup> And it happened, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was yet in Egypt, heard of it, (for he fled from the presence of King Solomon, and Jeroboam lived in Egypt;)



- <sup>3</sup> that they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the assembly of **Israel** came, and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,
- <sup>4</sup> Your father made our yoke grievous: so now lighten the grievous service of your father, and his heavy voke which he put on us, and we will serve you.
- <sup>5</sup> And he said to them, Depart for three days, then return to me. And the people departed.
- <sup>6</sup> And King Rehoboam consulted with the old men, who stood before Solomon his father while he was still alive, and said, How do you advise that I may answer this people?
- <sup>7</sup> And they spoke to him, saying, If you will be a servant to the people this day, and will serve them, then grant their petition, and speak kindly to them, and they will be your servants forever.
- <sup>8</sup> But he ditched the counsel of the old men, that they had given him, and consulted with the young men who grew up with him, and who served him:
- <sup>9</sup> So he said to them, What counsel do you give that we may answer the people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which your father put on us lighter?
- <sup>10</sup> And the young men who grew up with him spoke to him, saying, Thus should you speak to those who spoke to you, saying, Your father made our yoke heavy, but you should make it lighter for us; thus you should say to them, My little finger is thicker than the loins of my father.
- <sup>11</sup> And whereas my father loaded you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions / so Solomon's son grew up to be an entitled, royal idiot.

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- <sup>12</sup> So Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had directed, saying, Come to me again the third day.
- <sup>13</sup> And the king answered the people harshly, and abandoned the counsel that the old men gave him;
- <sup>14</sup> and spoke to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.
- <sup>15</sup> So the king did not listen to the people; for the cause was from the LORD, that He might work His words that the LORD spoke by Ahijah of Shiloh to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
- <sup>16</sup> When all Israel saw that the king did not listen to them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion do we have with David? We have no inheritance with the son of Jesse. To your tents, O Israel! Now look after your own house, David.

So Israel departed to their tents.

- <sup>17</sup> But as for the sons of Israel who lived in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.
- <sup>18</sup> Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the forced labor; and all **Israel** stoned him to death. So King Rehoboam hurried to mount his chariot, and fled to Jerusalem.
- <sup>19</sup> So Israel has rebelled against the house of David to this day.
- <sup>20</sup> And it happened, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam returned, that they sent and called him to the assembly, and made him king over all **Israel**: there was no one who followed the house of David, but only the tribe of **Judah**.
- <sup>21</sup> Now when Rehoboam had come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, with the tribe of Benjamin, 180,000 chosen men, who were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.
- <sup>22</sup> But the word of God came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying,
- <sup>23</sup> Speak to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of <mark>Judah</mark>, and to all the house of <mark>Judah</mark> and Benjamin, and to the remnant of the people, saying,
- <sup>24</sup> Thus says the LORD, You shall not go up, nor fight against your brothers the children of **Israel**: return every man to his house; for this thing is from Me. So they listened to the word of the LORD, and returned and went their way, according to the word of the LORD.

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<sup>25</sup> Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and lived in it; and went out from there, and built Penuel.

<sup>26</sup> And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now the kingdom will return to the house of David:

<sup>27</sup> if this people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then the heart of this people will turn again to their lord, King Rehoboam of Judah, and they will l kill me, and go again to King Rehoboam of Judah.

<sup>28</sup> So stupidly the king took counsel, and made two golden calves, and said to them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold your gods, O Israel, that brought you up from the land of Egypt.

<sup>29</sup> And he put the one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan.

<sup>30</sup> Now this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one as far as Dan.

<sup>31</sup> And he made houses on high places, and made priests from among all the people, who were not of the sons of Levi.

<sup>32</sup> And Jeroboam instituted a feast on the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, similar to the feast that is in Judah / like the feast of tents at the end of the harvest, and he offered on the altar. So did he in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he had made: and he situated in Bethel the priests of the high places which he had made.

<sup>33</sup> So he offered on the altar that he made in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month which he devised this idea in his own heart / -- relying on his twisted genius; having learned nothing from Aaron's evil stunt in the wilderness; and instituted a feast to the children of Israel: and he offered burnt incense on the altar.

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