

Little Hands, Big Hearts

Worship for the Family

Week 40 - The Kingdom Divided



**Bridgewood Church of Christ
and DadisLearning.com**

Getting Started

Encourage everyone to get their minds focused and prepared for studying the Bible. Consider singing a song or two. I have uploaded a teen songbook that we use at camp. Perhaps you will spot some songs that are familiar and you can sing together as a family. Click [here](#) to download the songbook.

Review

Why did the Queen of Sheba come to visit with Solomon? Did the Queen of Sheba come to meet Solomon with easy questions or hard ones? Why do you think she was bound and determined to analyze Solomon? Do you think she had seen other 'wise' kings come and go? When people question your belief in God what will you say? Can you give a good answer for the reason of your belief? What will people find out about your faith when they ask hard questions?

Devotional Thought

READ 1 Kings 12:1-33

There are many amazing lessons in this text, but one stands out clearly. The importance of wise counsel...and listening to it. We skip forward in time from our text last week to Rehoboam who is the son of Solomon. What did Jeroboam and 'all of Israel' come to ask Rehoboam?

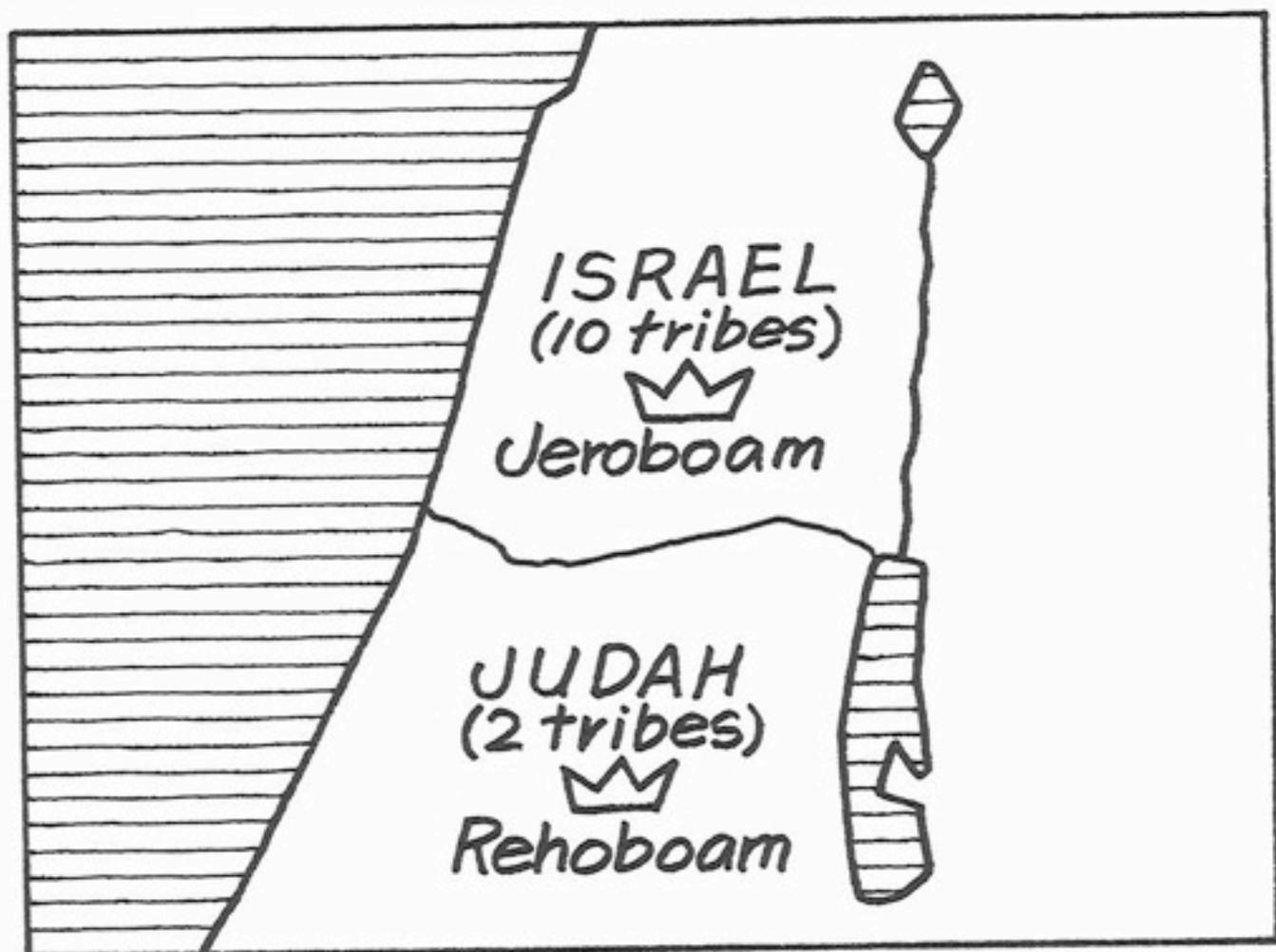
Rehoboam told the people to wait three days while he considered their request. What two groups of people did Rehoboam turn to for counsel? What did the group of older men advise him to do? What did the group of younger men (Rehoboam's peers) advise him to do? What counsel did Rehoboam follow?

FYI: Whips and scorpions are talked about. We all know what a whip is. A scorpion was a similar device except it had multiple ends with shards of pottery or rock tied into the ends. It was a brutal weapon of oppression.

What was the immediate reaction of the people? Why did they react this way? What word of God came to Shemaiah as Rehoboam was preparing to go to war with the people of Israel?

Conclusion

Rehoboam could have averted this disaster if he had listened to the wise counsel of the older men. Instead he continued to beat and oppress and exhausted people. What lesson can we learn from this?



The Kingdom Is Divided

1 Kings 12:1-33;

2 Chronicles 10:1—11:17