

In our Bibles, there are good examples and bad examples. The good examples are to be followed. We are to learn and be warned from the bad examples.



In this lesson, we look at the bad example of Jeroboam's Temple. It helps us to understand the authority of God.

A. Some background history

- Israel had three kings: Saul, David, Solomon
- After Solomon died,

his son, Rehoboam became king. Instead of lowering taxes, he raised them. There was a revolt and the kingdom divided. Ten tribes (became Israel) to the north led by Jeroboam. Two tribes to the South (became Judah, led by Rehoboam).

B. 1 Kings 12:25-33

- Every male was required to return to Jerusalem to worship. Jeroboam feared that they would stay. He instituted five changes to keep the ten tribes from uniting with the two tribes.

	Jeroboam's Changes
1.	Different (28)
2.	Different (29)
3.	Different(30)
4.	Different(32)
5.	Different(33)

For Class & Family Discussion:

- What Jeroboam did seemed to make things easier and more convenient. Rather than having to go to Jerusalem, they could go to Dan or Bethel. What was wrong with that?
- ▶ Jeroboam based all these changes upon "what he devised in his heart" (33). What was his authority?
- Sometimes following God is not easy. What would be some examples of this?
- Do you think Jeroboam's people would like these changes? Why?
- In the next chapter, 1 Kings 13, notice the use of "the word of the Lord" (1,2,5,9,17,18,20). What is the significance of this?
- Are we allowed to change the way we worship God?