

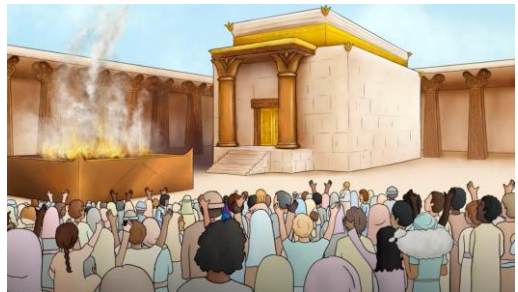
Video:  
[biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Jeroboam-Makes-Up-His-Own-False-Religion](https://www.biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Jeroboam-Makes-Up-His-Own-False-Religion) (5:44)  
 from BibleStoriesOnline.com



Another video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VWIOVvaC3-w> (2:38)  
 King Jeroboam Disobeys God  
 by Gospel Project

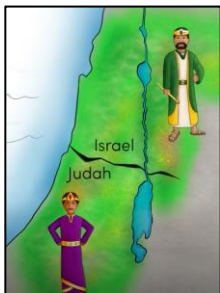
### Lesson 13: THE KINGDOM DIVIDES & KING JEROBOAM SINS 1<sup>st</sup> KINGS 11-14, 2<sup>nd</sup> CHRONICLES 10-12

The Bible says that Solomon was Israel's King for 40 years. For a while everything went well for Israel. Solomon had built God's Temple and the nation of Israel was the strongest and richest and best nation around!



Then something sad happened. Solomon married 700 women from other nations who wanted to keep worshipping their false god idols. So, Solomon set up idols. He worshiped these false Gods. God talked to Solomon twice and warned him, but he still disobeyed.

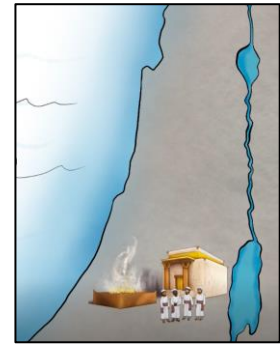
God had told Solomon what would happen if he disobeyed, so He took the kingdom away from Solomon. When Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became the new king. But he was mean and made the people work very hard. He didn't listen to the older men (elders.) They told him not to be so hard on the people.



This made 10 tribes of Israel so angry that they left. The kingdom divided. Rehoboam (the son) was king of the new half-nation called Judah. Jeroboam had been a manager of the workers. God made him to be the king of the 10 tribes to the north. King Jeroboam's new half-nation was called Israel.



But King Jeroboam did not obey God. He got worried that the people would leave and go back to Judah to worship at the Temple. He was afraid that if people went to the Temple in Jerusalem, they might change their minds and want King Rehoboam to be king instead of him.



He didn't want to lose his half-kingdom, so he made up a new religion. He made 2 golden cows for the people to worship so that the people wouldn't travel to God's Temple. King Jeroboam said, "Here are the gods that brought you out of Egypt. You should worship them." That wasn't true and that was breaking God's 10 Commandments!

When this happened, many of the people knew that King Jeroboam was wrong to make up his own religion like this. So, they just packed up and left their homes. They went back to the half-kingdom of Judah.



Meanwhile God told Jeroboam that his half-kingdom would be destroyed because he did not follow God. Imagine it! God told King Jeroboam that he could have been another great king like King David. But Jeroboam was so afraid of losing his kingdom, that he did something sinful to try to keep it. God saw it, and later He took away Jeroboam's kingdom!

After King Jeroboam died, there were very bad kings. Bad kings lead people to do bad things. So, the Israelite people began to worship the gold cows and other idols, just as their kings taught them to do.



Even though bad kings divided the nation, God had a plan to bring them all back together. God always works out His plan. Later, God sent His Son Jesus to be the perfect King. Jesus is the Forever King! Jesus brings together all those who love God.

PRIMARY GRADE ACTIVITY

COLOR THE MAP & THE KINGS



Write the name of the Kingdom to the North: ISRAEL

— — — — —  
I S R A E L

Write the name of the Kingdom to the South: JUDAH

— — — — —  
J U D A H

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

DIVIDED KINGDOM MAP – Color the map on page 3.

THINK ABOUT THIS

**3 EVIL THINGS HAPPENED:**

1. King Solomon began to worship \_\_\_\_\_.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 11:1-6

Solomon married \_\_\_\_\_ wives who worshiped idols.

He even worshiped the idols too.

So God took the kingdom away from him.



2. Rehoboam (Solomon's son) listened to bad advice, so the kingdom divided.

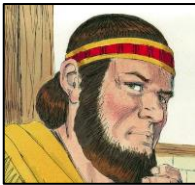
Read 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 12:13-14

The \_\_\_\_\_ (older wise men) told him not to be so hard on the workers.

But Rehoboam listened to the \_\_\_\_\_ men.

He said, "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even \_\_\_\_\_."

So, the people rebelled and the nation divided.

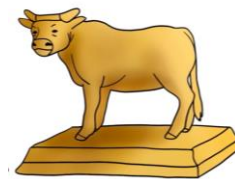


3. King Jeroboam made up his own religion.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 12:28-33

Jeroboam built 2 \_\_\_\_\_ to worship.

So, they followed a false religion.



Imagine that you go bike riding with your friends. Your Dad reminds you to wear your helmet, but your friends aren't wearing theirs. You want to be like your friends, but you know you should listen to your parents.



WHAT WILL YOU