



Jeroboam & Nadab

Results of Rebellion

God Cannot Be Deceived

Jeroboam was a cunning leader. He managed to become the first king of Israel, following the division of the kingdom, and immediately established a new religion in the land. It probably appeared to many that he was a good king. A leader out for their best interests. Truthfully, he was an ambitious man determined to gain power and keep it at all costs. When Jeroboam's son became sick, he sent his wife to the prophet Ahijah hoping to sneak an answer from God. It seems the king thought he could manipulate the LORD as he did the people. He could not. The LORD not only exposed his deception but also his selfish and rebellious heart. God cannot be fooled.

Rebellious King

Jeroboam was worse than those before him.

Saul - he rebelled and did as he pleased, but Saul neither established a new religion nor worshiped false idols as Jeroboam did.

David - he acted selfishly and made some foolish decisions, but he did not change the worship of the LORD or lead the people away from God. When David sinned, he was called into account and humbly repented. When Jeroboam sinned, he was called into account and persisted in wickedness.

Solomon - he courted idolatry but did not lead the nation into that sin. His idolatrous places were private, established for his wives. Solomon made some poor decisions but he never changed the religion of the people. Whereas Jeroboam established a false religion, erected idols, and constructed false temples. He led the people away from the LORD and into false worship.

It was because of sin that Jeroboam suffered.

The King That Could Have Been

Abijah, Jeroboam's son, was taken out of the world before he could assume the throne as king of Israel. The Bible tells us that there was good towards God in Abijah. Meaning, the young man had a heart after the LORD. If permitted to live, it's likely Abijah would have followed God and faithfully served Him. He would have been a good king and the nation would have been blessed. But that was not the case, because of the disobedient king and sin of the people Abijah was removed before he could be a blessing. The nation would get what they deserved, rebellious, selfish, and wicked kings. We find that a result of rebellion is missed blessings.

Facts For Families

Rebellion hurts the home. Jeroboam's sin affected many people, but none more than his family. His wife was encouraged to partake in his attempt at deception and the result was terrible. She was exposed by the prophet of the LORD, told the failings of her husband, and informed of her son's impending death. Jeroboam's son Abijah also suffered for the king's rebellion. Instead of following his father to the throne he was taken to the grave. His son Nadab assumed the throne following Jeroboam's death but reigned only two years. He attempted to lead a nation plagued with internal problems, left by his father, until he was assassinated. The rest of Jeroboam's family fared no better. They came to terrible and disgraceful ends. Everyone within the home suffered for the rebellious conduct of Jeroboam. Make sure you're helping your home and not hurting it.

Lessons For Leaders

Jeroboam did well before the world but was wrong before God. Because of this he failed. Seek the LORD first and be blessed.

Jeroboam was a great leader. The problem, he led people the wrong way. Make sure you're going the right direction so as not to lead others into sin and danger.

Jeroboam was reminded that the LORD was the authority. God permitted Jeroboam to reign as king and blessed him with a kingdom. Give thanks for your blessings, glorify God with your life, and remain humble before the LORD.

Jeroboam's son Nadab followed in his footsteps. Don't be surprised when those that learn from you act like you. Set a good example.