

## **I Kings 12-13** **(I Kings #8)**

**Introduction:** 975 B. C. was much like today. What will happen in the new administration?

### I. Rehoboam's choice

#### A. Counsel sought – how heavy a burden? (vv. 3-15)

##### 1. A faithful or faulty memory? (v. 4)

I Sam. 8:11-18

I Sam. 4:7

I Kings 5:13-15

##### 2. Faithful advice (vv. 6-8)

###### a. Be a servant

Rom. 5:18

Jn. 13:14-16

Mt. 20:26-28

###### b. Be an encourager

Acts 14:23, 15:32, 41

##### 1. Faithless advice (vv. 10-11)

###### a. Saul's heavy burden

###### b. Be more hard (vv. 11, 14)

#### A. Counsel Chosen

##### 1. Jeroboam shows a lack of wisdom (Cp. David's counsel to Solomon (I Kings 2 ff.))

##### 2. God remains at work and in control in the midst of bad counsel (v. 15, 24)

Acts 2:23, 24

Dan. 2:30

Jud. 14:4

## Application:

1. As new generations arise there is a great temptation to automatically reject the counsel of the older generation. How should counsel be judged?
2. Even in desperate times, the Lord is at work
3. We must work to involve ourselves with those who will give us faithful counsel whether or not we want to hear it.
4. There are lessons here regarding Christian division.

### V. The People's Choice (vv. 16-24)

A. Rehoboam's reign (vv. 17-19)

B. Jeroboam's reign (vv. 16, 17, 20)

C. Unity – futile (vv. 21-24)

1. By force? (v. 21)

2. Obedience to God (v. 24)

### VI. Jeroboam's Choice (vv. 25-33)

A. Worship errors (v. 30)

1. Worship centers Cp. Dt. 12:5-7, 14

a. Bethel Gen. 28:19

b. Dan Jud. 18:27-31

2. Idols – golden calves (v. 28) Ex. 32:4, 8

3. Priests ordained (v. 31) (Cp. Am. 7:10-13)

Num. 3:10; 17:1-11

4. Feast calendar changed (vv. 32-33)

Cp. Lev. 23:33-34 (Feast of Tabernacles)

B. Worship Convenience

1. Forget the long journey, worship nearby (v. 28)

2. Forget worshipping only by faith, worship visible gods (v. 28)
3. Worship on man-declared holidays (vv. 32)

**Application:**

1. How is Christianity misapplied today for political purposes and material gain?
2. What areas of worship today are threatened by convenience replacing obedience?
3. What is the Christian holy day (holiday)? How does man seek to corrupt it?
4. In His great mercy, God raises up prophets to call the disobedient to repentance.

V. God Commands Obedience (13:1-34)

A. Encounter with a true prophet (vv. 1-10)

1. Destruction foretold (vv. 2-3) (2 Kings 23:16, 17)

a. In Josiah's day (v. 2) (Cp. Lev. 26:30)

b. A sign given (v. 3, 5)

2. Jeroboam's hatred (v. 4)

a. His powerlessness (v. 4)

b. God's power and mercy (v. 6)

Cp. Ex. 8:8; 9:28, 33

3. An Invitation Declined (vv. 7-10)

B. The prophets encounter (vv. 11-19)

1. An Invitation Accepted (vv. 11-19)

2. Disobedience declared (vv. 20-22)

C. The prophet's death (vv. 20-34)

1. By a lion (v. 24, v. 26)

2. Burial (vv. 28-32)

**Application:**

1. God will not continually allow disobedience.
2. The prophet died due to his disobedience, the northern kingdom would ultimately die because of its disobedience to God's word (vv. 33, 34)
3. Neither great signs, judgments nor miracles will convict man. The Holy Spirit must grant faith and repentance for man to change. (Luke 16:31; Jn. 1:11)
4. Jehoboram did not rest in God's promises (11:38) He wanted to be his own god.
5. At the time of the divided kingdom, faithful priests left their lands in Israel went to Judah to live (2 Chron. 11:13-17)
6. Christ is the True Prophet who faithfully obeyed all of God's Word on behalf of man.