

THE DIVIDED KINGDOM: THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE NATION

1 Kings 11- 2 Kings 25; 2 Chronicles 10 - 36

The glory that was Israel's during the forty-year reign of Solomon lasted only a short time. Read the following to see how soon the nation began to decline, and the reasons for its ultimate fall:

A. The Sin of Solomon: Read 1 Kings 11:1-13

1. What command of the Lord did Solomon break? 1 Kings 11:1-2

2. What happened to him as a result? 1 Kings 11:4

3. What did God say would happen as a result of this sin? 1 Kings 11:11-13

B. The Foolishness of Rehoboam: Read 1 Kings 12:1-17

1. When Solomon's son Rehoboam became king, what did the people ask him to do? 1 Kings 12:4

2. How did the people react when he refused to do this? 1 Kings 12:19

3. Who of all the nation remained true to Rehoboam and served him? 1 Kings 12:21a

C. The Decline and Fall of Israel:

1. After Jeroboam became king over the ten tribes of Israel, what was he afraid would happen? 1 Kings 12:26

2. What did he do to prevent this from happening? 1 Kings 12:27-28

3. What did God call this? 1 Kings 12:30

4. What did God say would happen because of this:
 - a. to Jeroboam's household? 1 Kings 13:34 _____
 - b. to the nation Israel? 1 Kings 14:15 _____
5. Whose example did nearly all the other kings of Israel follow? 1 Kings 15:25-26, 16:8-9, 18-19; 25-26, 30-31, 22:51-52, 2 Kings 3:1-3, 10:31, 13:1-2, 10-11, 14:23-24, 15:8-9, 17-18, 22-24, 27-28

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Book 3 Kingdom of Israel: Divided and Restored

6. What happened to the nation Israel because of this? 2 Kings 17:6

D. The Decline and Fall of Judah:

1. What did the people of Judah begin to do in the days of King Rehoboam? 1 Kings 14:22

2. What happened in the fifth year of Rehoboam? 1 Kings 14:25-27

3. For whose sake was the nation of Judah spared for a time? 1 Kings 15:4-5

4. What was true of several of Judah's kings? 1 Kings 14:11, 22:42-43, 2 Kings 12:2, 14:1-3, 15:1-3, 32-34, 18:3, 22:1-2

5. Whose example did these kings follow?

6. Whose example did some of Judah's kings follow? 2 Kings 8:16-18, 25-27, 16:1-4

7. What did King Manasseh lead his people to do? 2 Kings 21:2, 9

8. What did God say would happen to Judah because of this? 2 Kings 21:10-15

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What caused God's chosen nation to fall into such decay and ruin?

2. What will happen to me if I permit sin to gain a foothold in my life?
