CHAPTER 14
A Kingdom Torn In Two
I KINGS 12-16

THE STORY

Introduction
“Remind me of this with every decision. Generations will reap what I sow. I can pass on a curse or a blessing To those I will never know.”
Sara Groves

THE STORY

Solomon did not finish well.

• He began to worship other gods.
• He ruled his people unwisely.
The people rebelled and the kingdom was divided.

• Jeroboam became king of the northern 10 tribes – Israel.
• Rehoboam became king of the southern 2 tribes – Judah and Benjamin.

THE STORY

Why did it happen?

I. Idolatry will not be tolerated.
I KINGS 11:9-12

Solomon forgot rule number one. “You shall have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3
He ignored the instructions given to kings in Deuteronomy 17:14-20.

• Don’t acquire great numbers of horses.
• Don’t take many wives or your heart will be led astray.
• Don’t accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.
• Do keep a copy of God’s Word with you and read it every day.
Have we forgotten rule number one? What is our god? Is it money and greed? Generosity is the antidote to greed.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

Tithing is good for our soul.

II. God’s plan will not be thwarted.

The division of the kingdom doesn’t put God’s plan at risk.

- The northern kingdom will have 19 kings – all bad.
- The southern kingdom will have 20 kings – mixed review.
- Yet none of that would prevent God’s son from coming to earth in fulfillment of the promises made to David.

In the New Testament, Jesus said to Peter, “I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.” Matthew 16:18

Jesus will build his church with or without us. Wouldn’t you rather be a part of what he is doing and join with him in his work?

“I know that you can do all things, no plan of yours can be thwarted.” Job 42:2
III. My decisions and my behavior will affect generations to come.  

Psalm 78:4-7

We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.  
He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children.  
So the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.  
Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.  Psalm 78:4-7

The decisions made by the kings of Israel and Judah would affect their nation and the lives of every person in their kingdom. Our decisions also have ripple effects.

What will we pass on to our children and the people around us?
Conclusion

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