

1 Kings 11-12

Compromise & Consequences



Why are humans prone to compromise?

Introduction:

Soon after Solomon's death, the kingdom of Israel was torn into. Judah and Benjamin formed the nation of Judah (in the south) while the remaining tribes (in the north) kept the name Israel. Solomon's compromise brought about consequences that affected generations. While God's people were unfaithful, God remained faithful and kept his promise to David.

1. Foolish choices compromise devotion to God (11:1-8).

- a. How are we tempted to ignore God's instruction (then/now)?
- b. How are we tempted to compromise (then/now)?

2. Foolish choices come with consequences (11:9-13).

- a. How do we see God's judgment (then/now)?
- b. How do we see God's grace (then/now)?

The Lord raises up adversaries against Solomon:
Hadad, Rezon, and Jeroboam (11:14, 23, 26)

The Prophet Ahijah speaks to Jeroboam (11:29-36).

3. Foolish choices create problems for others (12:12-17).

- a. Consider human responsibility alongside divine sovereignty...
- b. Jeroboam I King over Israel and Rehoboam is King over Judah.

Conclusion:

There's a prophecy in 1 Kings 11:39 stating that the offspring of David will be afflicted, but "not forever." One day, a descendant of David would humble himself by going to the cross and God would give him the name that is above every name (**Phil. 2:8-9**). Because we are now forgiven and a part of his kingdom, we proclaim the foolishness of relying on our own wisdom and look to Jesus (**1 Cor. 1:18-31**).

1 Kings 17

God's Power & Provision



Why are humans prone to question God's power and provision?

Introduction:

While Israel was divided politically and spiritually, God raised up and worked through prophets to speak his truth and to call his people to repentance. The Prophet Elijah spoke on behalf of God, performed miracles in God's power, confronted rebellious kings, and challenged the people to worship only the Lord.

Kings of Judah: Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa...

Kings of Israel: Jeroboam, Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri ...

1. God provides in unusual ways (1 Kings 17:1-7).

- a. What are some similarities between Elijah's context and ours?
- b. How does God provide for his people?

2. God provides in miraculous ways (1 Kings 17:8-16).

- a. What are some similarities between Elijah's context and ours?
- b. How can one expect to be provided for?

3. God provides through his servant (1 Kings 17:17-24).

- a. What are some similarities between Elijah's context and ours?
- b. Read **Luke 4:24-26** and **Luke 7:11-17**.

Similar to Elijah (but also greater than), the miracles Jesus performed revealed that he is the Son of God, the true Word of God (John 20:30-31). Because we have come to know God, we declare God's Word to those around us with faith and boldness so with full assurance that God's Word will accomplish what God desires (**Isaiah 55:11**).