

## REHOBOAM'S REIGN. 1 KN. 14:21-31. 12/25/22. #39.

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<sup>21</sup> And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he became king. He reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put His name there. His mother's name was Naamah, an Ammonitess. <sup>22</sup> Now Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked Him to jealousy with their sins which they committed, more than all that their fathers had done. <sup>23</sup> For they also built for themselves high places, sacred pillars, and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree. <sup>24</sup> And there were also perverted persons in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel. <sup>25</sup> It happened in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem. <sup>26</sup> And he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house; he took away everything. He also took away all the gold shields which Solomon had made. <sup>27</sup> Then King Rehoboam made bronze shields in their place, and committed them to the hands of the captains of the guard, who guarded the doorway of the king's house. <sup>28</sup> And whenever the king entered the house of the LORD, the guards carried them, then brought them back into the guardroom. <sup>29</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? <sup>30</sup> And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days. <sup>31</sup> So Rehoboam rested with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the City of David. His mother's name was Naamah, an Ammonitess. Then Abijam, his son reigned in his place.  
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### 1. Rehoboam, his father's son

- a. Reh. began his reign at 41 & ruled 17 yrs. (58)
- b. Twice his mother, Naamah, is mentioned
  - a1. An Ammonitis (pagan)
  - a2. Naamah was one of the princesses that Solomon married (apparently, there were no surviving sons from his 1<sup>st</sup> Egyptian wife or Na. bore a son before she did)
  - a3. Emphasis = son of an idol worshipper
- c. Sins of Judah increased more than ever before
  - a1. Sol. started the decline by honoring the idols of his pagan wives
  - a2. Once started, evil continues to grow
  - a3. Evil can always become worse
  - a4. Rehoboam did nothing to stem the evil

### 2. A jealous God

- a. Judah's evil provoked God to jealousy
- b. JEALOUSY = to have a zeal for, to be protective of what is rightfully yours, (in negative sense) to be envious of someone else
- c. When applied to God, God is zealous for what is rightfully his (protective of what belongs to him)
- e. God is zealous for his glory, worship, & holiness
- g. God will allow no competition for his sovereignty

h. God is zealous for his worship (Dt. 32:16), holy name (Ezk. 39:25), land (Joel 2:18), inheritance (Zech. 1:14), Zion (Zech. 8:2), & his holiness (Ex. 20:5)

i. God will protect his glory against any competitors

### 3. Crime and punishment

- a. The sins of Judah were numerous & grievous
  - a1. They built High Places on mountains & under trees to worship their idols & perform detestable acts in their worship
  - a2. They built sacred pillars to anoint with oil
  - a3. They carved wooden idols to worship
  - a4. They allowed perversion (Sodomy) in the land & other deviant sexual behavior
- b. God sent Shishak of Egypt to invade the land
  - a1. Shishak entered Jerusalem, the city that God had set apart for himself
  - a2. All of Solomon's gold, included his many gold shields, were taken back to Egypt
- c. Sol. wondered what would happen to his wealth after his departure = it was taken by pagans to Egypt, from where Israel was delivered 500 yrs. in the past (symbol of sin sent back to Egypt, which was looted by Israel in the Exodus)
- d. All of Solomon's gold in Jer. was gone
  - a1. Reh. replaced them with bronze shields
  - a2. Symbol of loss of glory, power, & blessing
  - a3. Reh. pretended that he still maintained the same glory as his father (an illusion)
  - a4. Fake gold is not real gold
- e. The acts of Reh. are recorded in the *Chronicles of the Acts of the Kings of Judah* (another lost book)
- f. None of the setbacks of Reh. caused him to repent and honor the Lord
  - a1. He went on as if nothing had happened
  - a2. God will continue to send warnings until Judah is exiled in 586 BC
- g. "Rested with his fathers" = not necessarily an indication of salvation