

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Chronicles Chapters 10-12 8/3-4/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!
MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,87858644763# US (Houston)

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).
TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**
MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: *2 Chronicles Chapter 7* – Solomon Dedicates the Temple; God’s Second Appearance to Solomon.

Chapter 8 – Solomon’s Additional Achievements; *Chapter 9* - The Queen of Sheba’s Praise of Solomon; Solomon’s Great Wealth; Death of Solomon.

THIS WEEK: *2 Chronicles Chapter 10* – The Revolt Against Rehoboam – (vs. 1-19; 11:4). ***Chapter 11*** – Rehoboam Fortifies the Cities – (vs. 5-12); Priests and Levites Move to Judah - (vs. 13-17); The Family of Rehoboam – (vs. 18-23). ***Chapter 12*** – Egypt Attacks Judah – (vs. 1-12); The End of Rehoboam’s Reign – (vs. 13-16).

- **Solomon had reigned over Israel, the whole twelve tribes for forty years.** “Solomon slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David, and Rehoboam his son, reigned in his place.” During the latter end of Solomon’s reign, there was a little dissension brewing, because of Solomon’s heavy taxation. He built the temple, his palace, the city of Jerusalem, and fortified the walls. All of these took a lot of labor, a lot of money. Solomon had made slaves, in a sense, out of all the strangers dwelling in the land.
- **Jeroboam, a young man from the tribe of Ephraim, was very popular.** He was a man of valor! Solomon saw in him a threat. So, he fled from Solomon to Egypt. At the death of Solomon, this dissension still existed. Rehoboam went to the city of Shechem (Nabulus), which was the major city, at that time of the tribe of Ephraim.

2 Chronicles Chapter 10 – The Revolt Against Rehoboam

2Ch 10:1-3 And Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had gone to Shechem to make him king.

- **He went to reinforce his reign over the northern kingdom.** (The people came from the northern kingdom to give their loyalty to him as king.) [2] *So it happened, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard it (he was in Egypt, where he had fled from the presence of King Solomon), that Jeroboam returned from Egypt. [3] Then they sent for him and called him. And Jeroboam and all Israel came and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,*
 - Jeroboam led this emissary of people from the northern tribes to ask for a relief from some of the heavy burdens, the heavy taxation that had been placed upon them by Solomon.*2Ch 10:4 "Your father made our yoke heavy; now therefore, lighten the burdensome service of your father and his heavy yoke which he put on us, and we will serve you."*
 - Solomon had made Israel into the glory of the ancient world. The building projects that he had completed; the conquest of neighboring nations, bringing peace to all that area. But it had not come without a cost. Solomon had taxed the people heavily and had kept the people under a required labor force. It had become too burdensome for the people.*2Ch 10:5-11 So he said to them, "Come back to me after three days." And the people departed. [6] Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who stood before his father Solomon while he still lived, saying, "How do you advise me to answer these people?" [7] And they spoke to him, saying, "If you are kind to these people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be your servants forever." [8] But he rejected the advice which the elders had given him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him. [9] And he said to them, "What advice do you give? How should we answer this people who have spoken to me, saying, 'Lighten the yoke which your father put on us'?" [10] Then the young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, "Thus you should speak to the people who have spoken to you, saying, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you make it lighter on us'—thus you shall say to them: 'My little finger shall be thicker than my father's waist!' [11] And now, whereas my father put a heavy yoke on you, I will add to your yoke; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scourges!"*
 - So, diverse counsel. The older men saying, "Yield a bit. Their cause is right. Just show kindness to them, they will serve you forever." The younger guys are saying, "Be tough. If you give in here, they are just going to be back for something else later. Be tough!"
 - Rehoboam sought counsel of the old men and the young men, but it said **nothing** of his seeking counsel of the LORD! Now David would seek the LORD and His counsel. Already we see signs of spiritual deterioration in Rehoboam. Seeking only the counsel from men, not seeking the counsel of God in the matter. He took the counsel of the young men.*2Ch 10:12-15 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king had directed, saying, "Come back to me the third day." [13] Then the king answered them roughly. King Rehoboam rejected the advice of the elders, [14] and he spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, saying, "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to it; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scourges!" [15] So the king did not listen to the people; for the turn of events was from God, that the LORD might fulfill His word, which He had spoken by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.*
 - Solomon, Rehoboam's father had written in the book of Proverbs, "A soft answer turns away wrath." It was too bad that Rehoboam did not listen to his dad or take heed to that which his dad had written.
 - When Solomon was still king, Jeroboam was a rising star in the northern portion of the kingdom, which created the jealousy with Solomon, a prophet by the name of Ahijah took hold of Jeroboam's coat, and the prophet ripped the coat into twelve pieces. And he said to Jeroboam, as he gave him ten of the pieces, that God was going to make him a ruler over ten of the tribes. For David's sake, He was going to reserve two tribes that would be ruled by David's seed. Benjamin and Judah. (1Ki 11:29-41)
 - But the LORD was going to give unto Jeroboam, ten of the tribes. He prophesied to him, that if he would walk in the way of the LORD, He would establish his dynasty over the northern kingdom, even as He established David over the southern kingdom. The reference here is to Ahijah the Shilonite, the prophecy that he had given to him, the LORD is performing the word now of this prophecy.
 - **Ahijah's prophesy is fulfilled! Notice another example of God fulfilling a prophecy by allowing man to make his free choice in such a way as to accomplish the man's, (in this case Rehoboam's choice), which results in God's prophecy being fulfilled!***2Ch 10:16 Now when all Israel saw that the king did not listen to them, the people answered the king, saying: "What share have we in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. Every man to your tents, O Israel! Now see to your own house, O David!" So all Israel departed to their tents.*

- There was a general desertion of the ten northern tribes away from the house of David, away from Rehoboam to Jeroboam, as prophesied!

2Ch 10:17 But Rehoboam reigned over the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah.

- (1Ki 11:32) (but he shall have one tribe for the sake of My servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel).

2Ch 10:18-19 Then King Rehoboam sent Hadoram, who was in charge of revenue; but the children of Israel stoned him with stones, and he died. Therefore King Rehoboam mounted his chariot in haste to flee to Jerusalem. [19] So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

- The tragic result of the folly of not seeking the LORD was the division of the nation of Israel. Now you have the northern ten tribes, which will be referred to as, “Israel,” and the two southern tribes, that will be referred to as, “Judah.”
- The great lesson here for our lives as Christians is the importance of how careful we are about who we make our counselors and our influencers in life! We should never make a decision without consulting and praying to our True Counselor! The kind of wisdom that we have access to, in an instant in prayer and a God who promises to answer prayer and to give us the wisdom that we need.
- The single greatest and most important influence by far in every one of our lives should be the word of God. Whether it is taken and reading on our own or listening to Bible studies or the word of God or memorizing and meditating on the word of God, we need to make this the single greatest influence in our life! And then cut off the bad influences!
- It is a good thing for us to think about tonight in terms of what person, place, or thing, is important in influencing our lives? The most influences are often those favorites on our computer or on our phones. Where are the dials set on the radio? What channels on the TV are they set to? What are my primary websites of influence? What kind of music, what kind of things are downloaded on my iPod?
- How many of these are used as influence for righteousness? Will they help me make good decisions in life, or is it an influence that is unhealthy for me? May we pray that He searches us and burns away anything that is not a part of His desire for our lives, and to make those kinds of changes.
- **It is important to be careful about whose influence we are under. Are you in any relationship that is drawing you towards sin or giving you a bad attitude about other people? May we learn from Rehoboam, making sure that we leave tonight in a healthy way in terms of who we are allowing to influence our lives! We only have one life. It will soon be passed. Only what we do for Christ will last!**

2 Chronicles Chapter 11 - Rehoboam Secures His Kingdom

2Ch 11:1 Now when Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, he assembled from the house of Judah and Benjamin one hundred and eighty thousand chosen men who were warriors, to fight against Israel, that he might restore the kingdom to Rehoboam.

- Rehoboam armed the men, gathered his army together. He was going to invade the north, causing a civil war.
- 2Ch 11:2-4 But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying, [3] "Speak to Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying, [4] 'Thus says the LORD: "You shall not go up or fight against your brethren! Let every man return to his house, for this thing is from Me." Therefore they obeyed the words of the LORD, and turned back from attacking Jeroboam.*

- Civil war was averted because of this prophet Shemaiah, who came, and gave them the word of the LORD!
- Rehoboam set about the task of fortifying twelve cities toward the south from where Edom, Moab and the Egyptians might attack.

2Ch 11:5-10 So Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built (fifteen cities – twelve toward the south; three toward the north) cities for defense in Judah. [6] And he built Bethlehem, Etam, Tekoa, [7] Beth Zur, Sochoh, Adullam, [8] Gath, Mareshah, Ziph, [9] Adoraim, Lachish, Azekah, [10] Zorah, Aijalon, and Hebron, which are in Judah and Benjamin, fortified cities.

2Ch 11:11-12 And he fortified the strongholds, and put captains in them, and stores of food, oil, and wine. [12] Also in every city he put shields and spears, and made them very strong, having Judah and Benjamin on his side.

- **Notice that no mention is made of Rehoboam seeking the LORD for His protection, but relying on the strength of the flesh in making fortified strongholds in many cities. How we see “nothing new**

under the sun” in this today! A great reminder also for us to trust in the LORD and not in the strength of man!

Priests and Levites Come to Jerusalem

2Ch 11:13 *And from all their territories the priests and the Levites who were in all Israel took their stand with him.*

- **The division of the nation brought the priests and the Levites from the north who wanted to remain true to David.** They moved to Judah, becoming a part of the kingdom. Especially the Levites. Jeroboam, rather than following the word of the prophet Ahijah, led them immediately into idolatry. Realizing that the people were going back to Jerusalem, observing the feasts, seeing the glory of the temple, the glory of the city of Jerusalem and all, they were being drawn in an allegiance back towards the Davidic kingdom.
- **To protect his own interests, Jeroboam decided the only way to keep them from being drawn back to Jerusalem was to create worship centers in the north.** Thus, he established Bethel in the south and Dan in the north. He established the calf worship in these cities, putting in golden calves, saying **(1Ki 12:28b)** *Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!"*
- **Jeroboam instituted idolatrous calf worship among the people!** He fired all the Levites and appointed his own priests. He would not allow the Levites to minister to the people, so there was a general exodus of the Levites, from the cities in the northern kingdom, to Judah, because of the temple, and because of the worship there.
- **When Jeroboam had fled to Egypt, he found favor in the eyes of Shishak** the king of Egypt, living with him comfortably until he was called back by the people at the death of Solomon. This probably had something to do with Shishak's invasion of Judah in the next chapter.

2Ch 11:14-15 *For the Levites left their common-lands and their possessions and came to Judah and Jerusalem, for Jeroboam and his sons had rejected them from serving as priests to the LORD. [15] Then he appointed for himself priests for the high places, for the demons, and the calf idols which he had made.*

- **Instantly, the people of the north were led by the king into idolatrous worship.** Now it should be noted that they could not be led there unless they wanted to go. It indicates there was a general apostasy among the people in the northern tribe, that they would so quickly, and so easily forsake the LORD, and to follow these idolatrous gods that Jeroboam had set up.
- **There is always that question of why people would leave the true and the living God, to worship other gods,** unless we understand human nature, and what the worship of the other gods entail. Basically, the teaching of the Bible and of Jesus Christ, oppose the fleshly nature of man. **(Gal 5:17)** *For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another; so that you do not do the things that you wish.*
- **The bible teaches that the real life is the life of the Spirit,** which is superior to the life of the flesh. The Bible teaches that to really find life, real Spiritual life, you have to deny yourself; and take up your cross and follow Jesus. **The people turned after the gods that Jeroboam set up, because they were gods by which they could indulge** their fleshly appetites. They set up and ordained priests for the high places, and demon worship. So quickly they reverted to the flesh. The calves which Jeroboam had made.
The high places; for the demons. That is what all idolatry is. God calls the gods of the ancient world; Milcom and all, an abomination, but then He speaks of them as of being demonic! There are demons behind these things that people worship. Jeroboam basically installed a demonically influenced religious system and the calf idols which he had made, putting one in Dan and one in Bethel.

2Ch 11:16 *And after the Levites left, those from all the tribes of Israel, such as set their heart to seek the LORD God of Israel, came to Jerusalem to sacrifice to the LORD God of their fathers.*

- **There was a general desertion out of the northern kingdom,** by the people who really wanted to serve the LORD. They could not handle what was going on, and they came to Jerusalem,

2Ch 11:17 *So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong for three years, because they walked in the way of David and Solomon for three years.*

- **Rehoboam has been strong for three years,** but then he turns away from the law of the LORD.
- **Turning away is** always first turning away from the written Word of God, whether it is church history, whether it is someone's life in this church. The first thing that is transgressed is the revealed will of God. He turns away from the Word of God. It says that always is idolatry. That means you have some other god that is higher.
- **He forsook the law of the LORD,** and Israel followed him.
- **We see that after three years Rehoboam turns away from the law of the LORD.** He turned away from the written word of God, which always leads to idolatry, meaning you have some idol that is higher than the LORD!

- **How is my appetite for His word, every day? How interested am I in the word compared to a year ago or three years ago? Is my hunger more to be in the word every single day now than ever before in my life? LORD, help me to recognize the importance of being in Your word every single day.**

2Ch 11:18-23 Then Rehoboam took for himself as wife Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David, and of Abihail the daughter of Eliah the son of Jesse. [19] And she bore him children: Jeush, Shamariah, and Zaham. [20] After her he took Maachah the granddaughter of Absalom; and she bore him Abijah, Attai, Ziza, and Shelomith. [21] Now Rehoboam loved Maachah the granddaughter of Absalom more than all his wives and his concubines; for he took eighteen wives and sixty concubines, and begot twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters. [22] And Rehoboam appointed Abijah the son of Maachah as chief, to be leader among his brothers; for he intended to make him king. [23] He dealt wisely, and dispersed some of his sons throughout all the territories of Judah and Benjamin, to every fortified city; and he gave them provisions in abundance. He also sought many wives for them.

- So, Rehoboam himself began to walk after the ways of the flesh.

2 Chronicles Chapter 12 - Egypt Plunders Jerusalem

2Ch 12:1 Now it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom and had strengthened himself, that he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel along with him.

- Not only was there apostasy in the northern kingdom, now there develops the apostasy in the southern kingdom; tragically turning away from God. The nation is now forsaking the LORD!

2Ch 12:2 And it happened in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had transgressed against the LORD,

- The chronicler is careful to point out the real reason for this invasion. The problem that began to arise was the fact that they have turned against the LORD. Shishak came with quite a powerful force. He is a chastening rod in the hand of the LORD.
- **Whenever we rebel against the LORD, we will always meet our Shishak. If you have decided to rebel and do something your own way and not submitting your life to the revealed will of God, get ready to meet your Shishak. He is going to be around soon, because God chastens the son that He loves. He is always bringing our hearts back to Himself.**

2Ch 12:3-4 with twelve hundred chariots, sixty thousand horsemen, and people without number who came with him out of Egypt—the Lubim and the Sukkiim and the Ethiopians. [4] And he took the fortified cities of Judah and came to Jerusalem.

- Shishak took the fortified cities of Judah and they came to Jerusalem. All of Rehoboam's work that had gone into fortifying the defenses of the city material and physically, the king of Egypt comes in and just takes it like nothing. The greatest protection in our life is not our material things. The greatest safeguard against evil in life is to obey the Lord and to walk with the LORD! Rehoboam would have done much better if he had spent that time fortifying his relationship with the LORD! Our only real defense is in Him; not in all of these other things.
- This is a lesson that is easy for us to forget, saying I'm safe because I've got all of this leverage that I've built into my life and so I can begin to creep into disobedience and all of that leverage can be gone in a half hour It is a life of holiness and obedience that keeps us from this kind of judgment and this kind of an attack.
- This was the judgment of the LORD. What Rehoboam did not do was to fortify his relationship with the LORD! There was no fortification that could withstand God's chastening.

2Ch 12:5 Then Shemaiah the prophet came to Rehoboam and the leaders of Judah, who were gathered together in Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said to them, "Thus says the LORD: 'You have forsaken Me, and therefore I also have left you in the hand of Shishak.'"

- Shemaiah, who had earlier told them not to go to war against Israel, said that Shishak's attack has been successful against you, not because of military might, it is not about armies and fortified walls. What is happening here is My doing. You have been defeated not because you are up against a certain military, but because I am against you! I have left you to the hand of Shishak.
- All the way through the history, there is that covenant that God makes where if you will seek the LORD, He will be found of you. (2Ch 15:2b) "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you." Again, God sent this message to the people.

- **Despite the warnings, and despite the many vivid examples of the truth, they would still forsake the LORD.** God would forsake them, they would be oppressed and go into captivity, to their enemies. In the time of oppression under their enemies, they would seek the LORD. God would be merciful! God would deliver them! They would serve the LORD for a period of time. Then over time, they would forsake the LORD, and the whole thing was repeated.
- **That is not just the history of Israel. That is also the history of the church.** Throughout the history of the church, there have been periods of revival. Where God would breathe new life into the church. From the revivals would usually spring forth a new denomination. In the process of time, the denomination that was born in revival, born in the powerful move of the Spirit, they would get organized, they would develop leadership, they would develop their seminaries, and they would become controlled by man, and they would try to continue to develop by methodology, rather than by seeking the Spirit. The denomination would become dead, and God would write Ichabod over it, and then God would start a new work of His Spirit, and there would be a whole new movement.

2Ch 12:6 So the leaders of Israel and the king humbled themselves; and they said, "The LORD is righteous."

- **Oh, what a proper attitude when rebuked by God! It is just to acknowledge; the LORD is righteous.** I mean what is said is correct. They had forsaken the LORD. They had turned their backs upon Him. Thus, God allowed Shishak to invade and take the land. They just acknowledged the righteousness of the LORD. We are not always willing to do that. When our calamity comes, we so often question God. "And why would God allow this?" But they just said, "The LORD is righteous!"

2Ch 12:7 Now when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, "They have humbled themselves; therefore I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance. My wrath shall not be poured out on Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.

- **Because of this humbling of themselves before the LORD, He gave them a reprieve.** They will not be destroyed by Shishak. There will be some deliverance given to them."
- **"They have humbled themselves." Another powerful reminder that I need to humble myself before the LORD!**

2Ch 12:8 Nevertheless they will be his servants, that they may distinguish My service from the service of the kingdoms of the nations."

- **If do not want to serve God, God will let you serve those other gods that you may have chosen**, in order that you might see just what it entails to give yourself over to the worship of your own passions. Or give yourself over to the desire to be rich, or you give yourself over to be a slave to fashion.
- **God says I am going to allow them, and it was apparently a short period of time under Rehoboam** to come to a place of servitude underneath Egypt and Shishak to allow the children of Israel to get a taste. Basically, God is saying you think it is so bad to walk with me? You think it is so terrible? Well then I will let you become a servant to the Egyptians, and after a little while, let us talk about which life is the better life.
- **Sometimes that is just the lesson that God gives to us.** He says, "All right, you want to do that? You think it is so great Egypt's a picture of the world? Think the world is so great? You want to come into bondage to the world? I will let you go ahead and do that. It is its own cure, and you will discover that walking with Me is the greatest thing that a person can do. It is a great cure.

2Ch 12:9 So Shishak king of Egypt (944-925 BC) came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house; he took everything. He also carried away the gold shields which Solomon had made.

- **All this tremendous wealth that Solomon had gathered is now taken by Shishak.** When Jeroboam went to Egypt fleeing from Solomon, Jeroboam probably told Shishak about all the wealth that was there in Jerusalem. Silver is as common as stones. There are tons of gold. The fact that he had heard of the tremendous wealth and now under Rehoboam this nation has been split, and thus weakened, and thus he feels emboldened to make this invasion, gathering the other nations around him. He brings this huge army in order that they might take the spoils from Jerusalem, transferring the wealth from Jerusalem to Egypt!
- **He took everything! It is amazing that all (everything "the treasures") the gold that David gathered and Solomon had put into the temple over years in its construction, did not last, but now has been taken by Shishak five years into Rehoboam's reign!** (2Ch 12:2) And it happened in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had transgressed against the LORD.
- **In the scripture, bronze is always a metal that is symbolic of judgement.** It was the bronze altar upon which the burnt offerings, and the sin offerings were made. Bronze is always a symbol of judgement. When Moses made the bronze serpent, and put it in the wilderness, the symbol of judgement. The fact that the gold shields are now replaced

by bronze shields, as they see those bronze shields, there is that acknowledgment, “This is judgement of God upon us, because we forsook the LORD.” They become a visible reminder of their consequences, of forsaking God in looking at the bronze shields that he made instead of the gold.

2Ch 12:10-12 Then King Rehoboam made bronze (down from gold to 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. [11] And whenever the king entered the house of the LORD, the guard would go and bring them out; then they would take them back into the guardroom. [12] When he humbled himself, the wrath of the LORD turned from him, so as not to destroy him completely; and things also went well in Judah.

- They had their treasures stolen and all, but they were not destroyed.
- **Gold to bronze! Sin always lowers the gold standard to bronze. There is a standard of God's blessing, the premier standard of everything. Am I in pursuit of the gold standard, that of His righteousness or the bronze standard, that of judgment?**

2Ch 12:13 Thus King Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem and reigned. Now Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he became king; and 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.

- Solomon loved his mother. He built a temple for her. She was a pagan, worshiped a pagan god, he built a temple for her, on the Mount of Olives, across from the city of Offal.
- Rehoboam had a mixture, growing up in Jerusalem, the worship of the LORD, but also his mother, an Ammonitess who had a temple built for her by her husband Solomon, and so under the influence of his pagan mother. Now he is wavering in his commitment, a total commitment to the LORD.

2Ch 12:14 And he did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek the LORD.

- As you go through the summation of the kings' lives, you are going to find one phrase or the other. It will either be, “And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD,” or “In the sight of the LORD, he did evil! What a terrible epitaph to put upon a person's life. “He did evil.” The interesting thing, it says here, “He did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek the LORD.” (**Ezr 7:10**) For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel. (**Dan 1:8a**) But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank;
- There is something to the preparation (erect, order, perfect) of my heart. There is something to the purpose of my life. The establishing of the purpose of life. “I'm going to seek the LORD.” The setting my heart to that end. It is a very important thing. Too many people just sort of free fall through life. They just move with the tide. Rather than purposing in their heart that, “I am going to seek the LORD. I am going to serve the LORD.” When Daniel was taken captive to Babylon, he purposed in his heart that he was not going to defile himself. It is so important that we prepare our hearts, that we purpose in our hearts to seek the LORD. Rehoboam failed to do that! He never had a strong relationship with the LORD. It was always vacillating. As you sum up, his life, he did evil.
- **Prepare your heart! How effective am I in seeing, purposing in my heart that it is always prepared to seek the LORD?**

2Ch 12:15 The acts of Rehoboam, first and last, are they not written in the book of Shemaiah the prophet, and of Iddo the seer concerning genealogies? And there were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days.

- Now Shemaiah is this prophet that came to him on these two occasions that we know of. But Shemaiah wrote a book, and no doubt in that book had other prophesies that God had given him, for the nation at this time.
- In the ancient world there were further writings recording his reign. Again, not inspired scripture, God does not keep them for our purposes again because they had nothing to add to anything that we needed to know more about Rehoboam to understand the lessons of his life. That is found in this 2 Chronicles. There were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days. There was a conflict, not out and out invasion kind of wars, just border skirmishes, all the length of their reign.

2Ch 12:16 So Rehoboam rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David. Then Abijah his son reigned in his place.

- A lot of lessons for us to learn in the study tonight. A lot of things that we need to take to heart. The danger of forsaking God. If we choose not to serve God, God will allow us to serve the other gods that we might see what the service of God really is, how good you had it, as you realize how enslaving the worship of other gods can be.
- Then this preparation of the heart to seek the Lord. Just setting my heart that I am going to seek the Lord, I am going to serve the Lord, I am not going to defile myself. Setting that as my purpose. To be steadfast in my heart!

- **God bless you as you take the word of God, and as the Spirit makes the application to your heart,** and to your life this week, as you set your heart to seek the Lord. He has promised that if we seek Him, He will be found of us. It says, “He will be found of you the day that you seek Him with all of your heart.”
- **Let us not only just set our hearts to seek the Lord, let us seek the Lord with all our heart, that we might walk in the ways of the Lord.**
- **Rehoboam made a very serious mistake at the beginning.** He sought the young counselors; he sought the old counselors; he did not seek the counsel of God! Thus, making a tragic mistake. “A soft answer turns away wrath.” He gave them a harsh answer, creating the division. There is much to learn. God help us!
- **So many good lessons for the rest of our life** as we read the 1 Kings and we read the section of 2 Chronicles and to just say, Lord, I want to remember all of the important **lessons** related to this man's life because I do not want to follow his example or have the end that he had. So good things to be sown into our lives. Once again, wish that everything that we learned in life was from watching something be done well or always being perfect ourselves, but that is not the way that it is. We learn from our own mistakes, our own failures, and then always valuable to learn from the failures of others, especially as they are described for us so perfectly in the scriptures.

SUMMARY:

- **2Ch 10:15 Ahijah’s prophesy is fulfilled! Notice another example of God fulfilling a prophecy** by allowing man to make his free choice in such a way as to accomplish the man’s, (in this case Rehoboam’s choice), which results in God’s prophecy being fulfilled!
- **2Ch 10:19 It is important to be careful about whose influence we are under.** Are you in any relationship that is drawing you towards sin or giving you a bad attitude about other people? May we learn from Rehoboam, making sure that we leave tonight in a healthy way in terms of who we are allowing to influence our lives! We only have one life. It will soon be passed. Only what we do for Christ will last!
- **2Ch 11:12 Notice that no mention is made of Rehoboam seeking the LORD for His protection, but relying on the strength of the flesh** in making fortified strongholds in many cities. How we see “nothing new under the sun” in this today! A great reminder also for us to trust in the LORD and not in the strength of man!
- **2Ch 11:17 How is my appetite for His word, every day?** How interested am I in the word compared to a year ago or three years ago? Is my hunger more to be in the word every single day now than ever before in my life? LORD, help me to recognize the importance of being in Your word every single day.
- **2Ch 12:2 Whenever we rebel against the LORD, we will always meet our Shishak.** If you have decided to rebel and do something your own way and not submitting your life to the revealed will of God, get ready to meet your Shishak. He is going to be around soon, because God chastens the son that He loves. He is always bringing our hearts back to Himself.
- **2Ch 12:7 “They have humbled themselves.” Another powerful reminder** that I need to humble myself before the LORD!
- **2Ch 12:12 Gold to bronze!** Sin always lowers the gold standard to bronze. There is a standard of God's blessing, the premier standard of everything. Am I in pursuit of the gold standard, that of His righteousness or the bronze standard, that of judgment?
- **2Ch 12:14 Prepare your heart! How effective am I in seeing, purposing in my heart that it is always prepared to seek the LORD?**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART Maranatha (2:40/2:43)

Create in me a clean heart, Oh God and renew a right Spirit within me

Create in me a clean heart, Oh God and renew a right Spirit within me

Cast me not away from Thy presence Oh Lord and take not thy Holy Spirit from me

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation and renew a right Spirit within me (2x)

And renew a right Spirit within me

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Chronicles, Chapters 13-15