The Sin of Jereboam

Shawn Jeffries · 1 Kings 12:25–33

INTRODUCTION

- We read about a man named King Jeroboam inventing a new religion. He invented a new religion in the land of Israel.
- To keep his citizens from traveling to Jerusalem to worship God, he decided to invent a new system of worship.
- In verse number 30 of that chapter, the Bible makes it very clear that everything he did, everything he did was a sin.

1 Jeroboam's Sin Was Deceptive

Leviticus 10:1–3; Matthew 7:21–23; Galatians 1:6–9

- This new system of worship invented by Jeroboam had many similarities to the true worship that was going on in Jerusalem. But, brothers and sisters, I emphasize to you, it was still wrong.
- It was still sinful, it was still an abomination before the Lord because it deviated from his word.
- There are so many churches that are doing things that are similar to what you read about churches doing in the Bible, but like what was going on in the days of Jeroboam, is still not pleasing to God.
- They offered up to God worship that he did not authorize. God did not take kindly to them, changing his prescription for worship.
- There is such a thing as a false gospel as counterfeit religion and involves doing anything that goes beyond what is written.

2 It Offered Convenience

1 Kings 12:28; Luke 9:23; Luke 14:28

- The chief tactic Jeroboam used to convince people to participate in this new false system of worship was convenience.
- You don't have to use all that time. You don't have to spend all that money. You can just stay right here.
- If anyone wishes to come after me, … Deny yourself, take up your cross daily and follow me. That's discipleship.
- God doesn't call us to lives of convenience and ease. Instead, God calls us to lives of sacrifice.

3 It Resulted From a Lack of Faith

1 Kings 12:26–27; 1 Kings 11:37–38; Matthew 6:33–34

- He's afraid that if he allows his citizens to go to Jerusalem to worship God, eventually they will rebel against him.
- He promises Jeroboam that not only would he one day be the king of Israel, but if he remained faithful to him, … he would build for him an enduring house.

- Jeroboam doesn't trust God. … He doesn't trust the promise of God.
- We also can be led down a path of sin when we don't have faith and trust in God.

4 Turning Their Backs to God

Daniel 6

- When the citizens of Jeroboam's kingdom traveled to Dan to worship at this altar, … They literally had to turn their backs to Jerusalem.
- By participating in this sin that involved practicing false worship, what the people were really doing is they were turning their backs to God.
- We can turn our backs to God if we ever decide to depart from the pattern of New Testament Christianity.
- If we ever get to a point in our lives where we take our frustrations with other people out on Jesus, or if we ever stop worshiping the Lord, … We are turning our backs to God.

5 It Impacted Other People for a Long Time

1 Kings 14:16; 1 Kings 15:26; 2 Kings 17:21–23

- He will give up Israel … on account of the sins of Jeroboam, which he committed and with which he made Israel to sin.
- Then Jeroboam drove Israel away from following the Lord and made them commit a great sin.
- A big reason why the people of Israel, the northern kingdom, went into Assyrian captivity was because they kept walking in the wicked footsteps of Jeroboam.
- Jeroboam's sin had far reaching spiritual consequences, and mine could as well.
- My actions have the potential to impact my children for a very long time.

THE CHALLENGE

Where are you right now in your life? In your life right now, are you like Jeroboam? Are you rejecting God? Are you rejecting His Word? If so, you can change.

MY NOTES