



Introduction

The division of Israel into two parts after Solomon's death.



Questions

1. What did the elders tell Rehoboam to do and how did it compare with the advice from the young men who had grown up with him?
2. What did the LORD tell Rehoboam not to do when the ten tribes rebelled against him?
3. How did Jeroboam discourage his people from worshipping in Jerusalem?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 5** Rehoboam is made king at Shechem (see map). The people's spokesman, Jeroboam, asks Rehoboam to reduce the heavy taxation that Solomon had imposed
- **v 6 to 11** Rehoboam consults his father's contemporaries who advise acting on the request. His own contemporaries recommend a strong line and increased taxation
- **v 12 to 24** Rehoboam speaks roughly to the people and tells them taxes will increase. Israel revolts against Rehoboam and they make Jeroboam their king
- **v 25 to 33** Jeroboam then encourages the people in bad ways (see theme) by discouraging them from going to Jerusalem to worship. He set up gods in Bethel and Dan (see map) and organises an alternative feast day for Israel

Timeline 1050 BC (see below)



Theme / Information

We are inclined to bad ways

A selection of verses showing that naturally our thoughts and actions tend to be in bad ways.

The prophet Jeremiah spells out our problem:

Jeremiah 17 verse 9

The Lord Jesus echoes the same sentiments:

Mark 7 verses 20 to 23

Luke 16 verse 15

The apostle Paul tells us that naturally we go in bad directions:

Romans 8 verses 7 and 8

The apostle James says that our tongues can be used in very bad ways:

James 3 verse 6

He also says that these bad inclinations have far reaching consequences:

James 1 verses 14 and 15



Israel in the time of the kings

Map showing some places mentioned in the time of the kings of Israel including Shechem, Bethel and Dan. A question mark after a place name indicates that the exact location is not certain:



? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 7, 10 and 11, Q 2: v 24, Q 3: v 28 and 29



Bible timeline

