

Divided Kingdom

sin starts small, grows big, and has really big consequences

Pre-Divided Kingdom

Read I Kings 3: 11-13

What kind of king is Solomon up to this point?

Does God seem pleased with Solomon?

How were things going overall leading up to the divide of the Kingdom?

What does a good start guarantee about a good finish?

Have there been times in your life that things were going well and you wandered from God, explain?

Covenant with God

Read I Kings 3:14

What does God expect from Israel?

Is God obligated to keep his end of the bargain up if his people fail to hold up their end?

The Divide

Read Deuteronomy 7:3

Does this seem like a huge issue?

Are there any commands that don't seem like that big of a deal?

Solomon must have not seen the importance of this command I Kings 11:1-3

Who would you prefer to break this command, the King or a fisherman in the market, explain?

Can sin in one area of your life affect other areas, explain or give example?

Can one sin lead to other and possibly bigger sins, explain?

Read I Kings 11:4-8

What was his sin and how severe was it?

What did God expect from Solomon and his people?

How long did it take Solomon to fall away from his devotion to God?

How did sin work its way into Solomon's life?

How does sin work its way into your life?

Read I Kings 11: 9,10

Was Solomon acting out of ignorance or rebellion, explain?

Why do you think the author makes a point to show that the Lord appeared to him twice?

Are the sins you struggle with generally from ignorance or rebellion?

Consequence of Sin on the Kingdom

Read I Kings 11:11,14

What was the consequence of his sin?

Was this drastic consequence fair?

Do we blame God for the consequences of our own sin? Do we have a right to?

Who is the agent of Israel's punishment?

Who is actually punishing Israel?

Read I Kings 11:12-13

What did Solomon deserve compared to what he got?

Should this tribe also have been taken away, why?

Why were they spared?

When we sin, what is our confidence before God?

God is speaking to the next leader to be, Jeroboam. I Kings 11:38

What see here?

Has God ever given you another chance after you turned from him?

After the Divide

Jeroboam is now king in the north

Read I Kings 12:28

What is the seriousness of this sin? (Exodus 20:2-4)

How much time has elapsed from the peak of Israel's success?

Do you think he was presenting an altogether different God, why or why not?

What seemingly pleasing acts do we subtly or overtly do in replace of true worship and service to God?

Application

What does God expect from us?

How should we view small sins, why?

The sin of one man Solomon tore apart an entire nation. Are the affects of our sin any different?