

# THE Story

## Lesson 23 Chapter 14 A Kingdom Torn in Two p.193-202

1. When Solomon's son, Rehoboam, was faced with a decision about the heavy taxes he was placing on the people, he sought two sources of input. (p.193-194)

What was each source and how did their advice conflict?

Why do you think the advice was so radically different?

2. Older people carry a body of wisdom in their hearts. Think of an older person who has impacted your journey through life. What did you learn from them?

How can we be more helpful to our younger friends and family members?

3. In their wisdom, the elders told Rehoboam that "if you will be a servant to these people and serve them....they will always be your servants." (p.194)

How did Jesus teach us and model for us what "servant-leadership" looks like?

4. Page 195 records the rebellion of the northern tribes under their King Jeroboam. Why did Rehoboam abandon his efforts to crush the rebellion?

5. On pages 196-197, we read how Jeroboam set two golden calves for worship. What fear caused him to do that?

How else did Jeroboam sin?

6. Pages 198-199 record insights on the reign of Rehoboam and his son Abijah in Jerusalem. How did they lead the nation downhill morally?

7. Abijah's son Asa then became King. What steps did Asa take to bring his people back to God? (p.199-200)

8. How did Asa start relying on his wisdom rather than God's?

9. In II Chronicles 16 we read how the Lord sent Hanani the seer to rebuke Asa. He recounted the works God had performed on Asa's behalf and reprimanded him for relying on a human king instead of the strong arm of Almighty God. Then Hanani uttered his famous line, *"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war"* (2 Chron. 16:9).

What are some implications and applications for us from those words?

10. On pages 201-202 we are introduced to one of the wickedest kings in Israel.... King Ahab. The last paragraph on page 202 records the attempt to rebuild Jericho. Compare the results with Joshua 6:26....

11. As you review this portion of God's inspired Word, what truths do you learn about our humanity....

sins to avoid &

examples to follow

our God...

His promises to claim &

His character to embrace