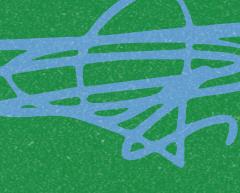
STEPINIO SCRPTURE WEEKIBEBEBEUN

THISWEEK'S READING:

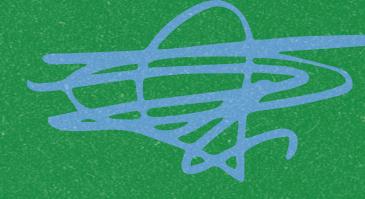
WED, JULY 23 2 CHRONICLES 10-12 THU, JULY 24 1 KINGS 15; 2 CHRONICLES 13—16 FRI, JULY 25 1 KINGS 16; 2 CHRONICLES 17 SAT, JULY 26 1 KINGS 17—19 SUN, JULY 27 1 KINGS 20-21 MON, JULY 28 1 KINGS 22; 2 CHRONICLES 18 TUE, JULY 29 2 CHRONICLES 19-23

BIBLE READING PLAN









SCHEDULE 30 MINUTES FOR ARRIVAL, FELLOWSHIP, AND READING 30 MINUTES FOR TEACHING 30 MINUTES FOR TABLE DISCUSSION & ANNOUNCEMENTS





TODAY'S READING 2 CHRONICLES 10—12 DAY 175 IN STEP INTO SCRIPTURE



PART: THE GOLDEN AGE





THE GOLDEN AGE DURING THE REIGN OF KING SOLOMON



"THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US."

LITERALLY, JESUS TABERNACLED AMONG US (JOHN 1:14).



INDIVIDUALLY, WE ARE TEMPLES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (1 CORINTHIANS 6:19), AND COLLECTIVELY, THE CHURCH— THE EKKLESIA, THE ASSEMBLY OF GOD'S PEOPLE—IS HIS DWELLING PLACE (EPHESIANS 2:21–22).

EPHESIANS 2:21-22

21 IN HIM THE WHOLE BUILDING IS JOINED TOGETHER AND RISES TO BECOME A HOLY TEMPLE IN THE LORD. 22 AND IN HIM YOU TOO ARE BEING BUILT TOGETHER TO BECOME A DWELLING IN WHICH GOD LIVES BY HIS SPIRIT.



"I DID NOT SEE A TEMPLE IN THE CITY, BECAUSE THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY AND THE LAMB ARE ITS TEMPLE" (REVELATION 21:22).





• "SOLOMON ACCUMULATED CHARIOTS AND HORSES... HE MADE SILVER AS COMMON IN JERUSALEM AS STONES" (2 CHRONICLES 1:14–15).

• "ALL THE KINGS OF THE EARTH SOUGHT AUDIENCE WITH SOLOMON TO HEAR THE WISDOM GOD HAD PUT IN HIS HEART" (2 CHRONICLES 9:23).

DISPENSATIONALISM—HOLDS THE VIEW THAT A PHYSICAL JEWISH TEMPLE WILL BE REBUILT IN JERUSALEM PRIOR TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST



PART2: THE DECLINE BEGINS





700 WIVES AND 300 CONCUBINES. 1 Kings 11:3

1KINGS11:4-8

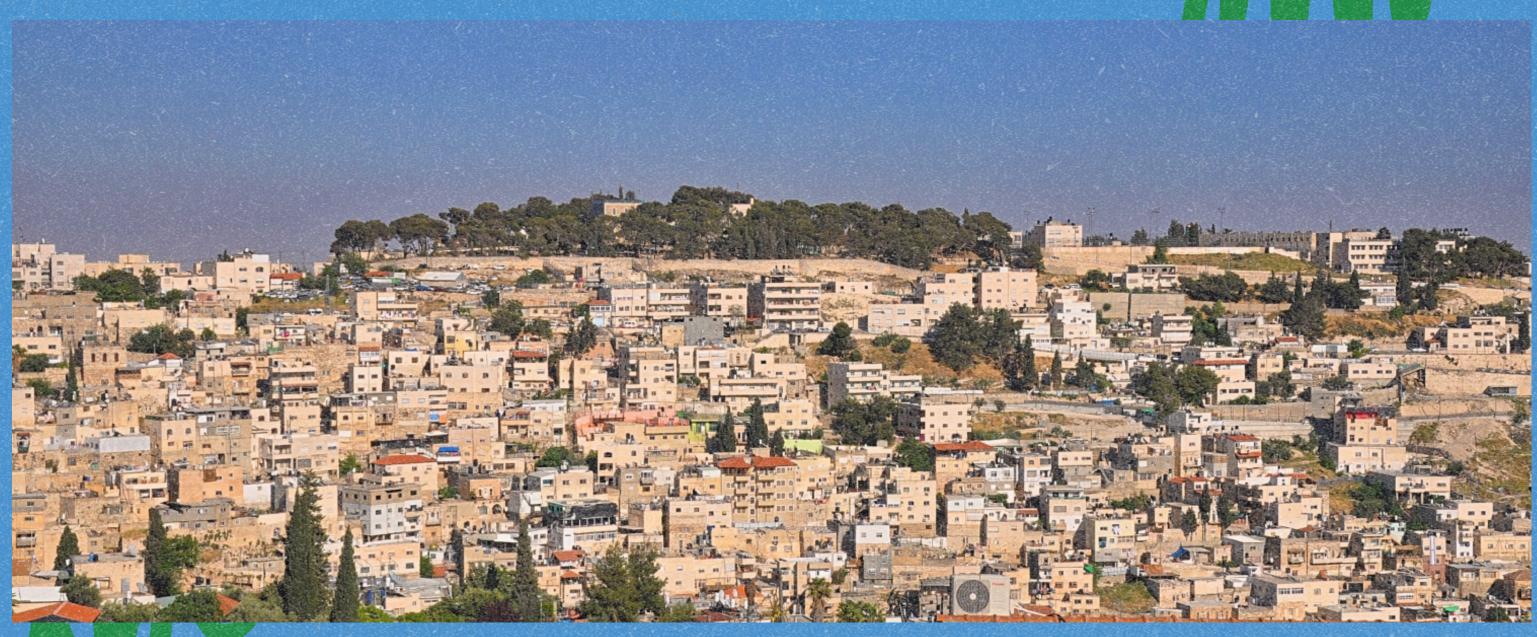
AS SOLOMON GREW OLD, HIS WIVES TURNED HIS HEART AFTER OTHER GODS, AND HIS HEART WAS NOT FULLY DEVOTED TO THE LORD HIS GOD. AS THE HEART OF DAVID HIS FATHER HAD BEEN. 5 HE FOLLOWED ASHTORETH THE GODDESS OF THE SIDONIANS, AND MOLEK THE DETESTABLE GOD OF THE AMMONITES. 6 SO SOLOMON DID EVIL IN THE EYES OF THE LORD; HE DID NOT FOLLOW THE LORD COMPLETELY, AS DAVID HIS FATHER HAD DONE.

1KINGS11:4-8

7 ON A HILL EAST OF JERUSALEM, SOLOMON BUILT A HIGH PLACE FOR CHEMOSH THE DETESTABLE GOD OF MOAB, AND FOR MOLEK THE DETESTABLE GOD OF THE AMMONITES. 8 HE DID THE SAME FOR ALL HIS FOREIGN WIVES, WHO BURNED INCENSE AND OFFERED SACRIFICES TO THEIR GODS.







1KINGS11:11-13

11 SO THE LORD SAID TO SOLOMON, "SINCE THIS IS YOUR ATTITUDE AND YOU HAVE NOT KEPT MY COVENANT AND MY DECREES, WHICH I COMMANDED YOU, I WILL MOST CERTAINLY TEAR THE KINGDOM AWAY FROM YOU AND GIVE IT TO ONE OF YOUR SUBORDINATES. 12 NEVERTHELESS, FOR THE SAKE OF DAVID YOUR FATHER, I WILL NOT DO IT DURING YOUR LIFETIME. I WILL TEAR IT OUT OF THE HAND OF YOUR SON.

1KINGS11:11-13

13 YET I WILL NOT TEAR THE WHOLE KINGDOM FROM HIM, BUT WILL GIVE HIM ONE TRIBE FOR THE SAKE OF DAVID MY SERVANT AND FOR THE SAKE OF JERUSALEM, WHICH I HAVE CHOSEN."



1KINGS 12:28

28 AFTER SEEKING ADVICE, THE KING MADE TWO GOLDEN CALVES. HE SAID TO THE PEOPLE, "IT IS TOO MUCH FOR YOU TO GO UP TO JERUSALEM. HERE ARE YOUR GODS, ISRAEL, WHO BROUGHT YOU UP OUT OF EGYPT."



DEUTERONOMY 12:4-5

4 YOU MUST NOT WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD IN THEIR WAY. 5 BUT YOU ARE TO SEEK THE PLACE THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL CHOOSE FROM AMONG ALL YOUR TRIBES TO PUT HIS NAME THERE FOR HIS DWELLING. TO THAT PLACE YOU MUST GO;



DISTRUSTING GOD'S WORD CAN LEAD TO DISOBEDIENCE DRESSED UP AS 'DOING WHAT SEEMS BEST."





"I BELIEVE; HELP MY UNBELIEF!" MARK 9:24





PART3: CONVENIENCE AND COMPROMISE



HEBREWS10:25

25 NOT GIVING UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER—AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING.



DON'T CHOOSE CONVENIENCE OVER CONVICTION.

FARTHER TO ATTEND A CHURCH THAT PREACHES TRUTH THAN WALK ACROSS THE STREET TO ONE THAT WATERS DOWN THE GOSPEL.

THREE CAUTIONS FROM JEROBOAM'S COMPROMISE:

- 1. WE SHOULD GATHER MORE OFTEN, NOT LESS, AS THE DAY APPROACHES.
- 2. WE SHOULD CHERISH THE SPIRITUAL FAMILY GOD HAS PLANTED US IN—ESPECIALLY WHEN WE'RE SERVING, GROWING, AND THRIVING TOGETHER.
- 3.WE SHOULD NEVER LET CONVENIENCE OVERRIDE COMMITMENT TO SOUND DOCTRINE AND BIBLICAL TRUTH.

WE MUST KNOW THE WORD OF GOD FOR OURSELVES.





CONSENSUS DOES NOT OVERRIDE WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS.

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE YOU CAN GATHER TO VALIDATE YOUR OPINION—WHAT MATTERS IS WHETHER IT ALIGNS WITH THE FULL COUNSEL OF GOD.



PART4: THE DIVIDED KINGDOM





- ISRAEL, THE NORTHERN KINGDOM, RULED BY JEROBOAM AND HIS SUCCESSORS.
- JUDAH, THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM, RULED BY REHOBOAM AND THE LINE OF DAVID.

"HE WALKED IN THE WAYS OF JEROBOAM SON OF NEBAT AND IN HIS SINS, WHICH HE HAD CAUSED ISRAEL TO COMMIT."

(1 KINGS 15:34 AND REPEATED THROUGHOUT KINGS)



- FROM CREATION TO COVENANT.
- FROM PROMISE TO POSSESSION.
- FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM.
- FROM WANDERING TO WORSHIP.
- FROM THE RISE OF KINGS TO THE SPLITTING OF A KINGDOM.



