

## LESSON TWO – The Divided Kingdom

- Why did they split?

Judges Deborah, Gideon, Samson – razor never touched his head until Delilah's deception thus broken covenant (Judges 16:17), Eli – didn't restrain his own sons from doing sin 1S3:3, when he heard they was dead, he fell backwards off his seat and broke his neck 1 S 4:18, Samuel – Asked from God

A King! When Samuel's own sons proved faithless, the people wanted a king to rule them. Samuel anointed Saul (from the tribe of BENJAMIN) to be the first king over Israel. 1S.9 Samuel warned that the kingdom would be taken away from Saul...and it was!

**Saul** - found hiding from his responsibilities, hidden himself among the baggage (1S.10:21-22). wrongly offered sacrifices (1S.13). violated God's command by keeping booty from battle. (1S.15). consults to the Witch of Endor to get in contact with the dead Samuel.(1S.28). Committed suicide -1 S 31:4

**David** (Tribe of Judah-Man after God's own heart) – Beautiful (1S 16:12), divinely chosen (1S 16:13), Courageous (1S 17:34:36), a Champion (1S 17:40), Great Soldier (2S 5:7), Forbidden to build Temple (1 Chr 28:3)

David was an adulterer and murderer (2S.11).

After David committed adultery with Bathsheba and arranged to have Uriah killed, the prophet Nathan confronted him with his sins, and David didn't excuse himself, as Saul had done when he spared the best of the Amalekite livestock against God's will (1S.15:3, 9). When David was confronted with his adultery and murder, his answer was simple and straightforward: "I have sinned against the Lord" (2S.12:13). Psalm 51 (confession and repentance)

Repentance is the greatest difference! Although David sinned, he always repented... David sinned as others kings did, but he cried out as no other king did!

Late in his reign David carelessly chose to take a census of the army acting against the advice of General Joab and other army leaders. The Lord was provoked to great anger at David who evidently had forgotten that the strength of Israel was in God and not in the number of soldiers or skills in battle. Confronted with the seriousness of his poor judgment by the prophet Gad, David was given three choices by God as to the consequences that were to follow this serious mistake on the part of the king. The three choices given him were (1) three (seven) years of famine, (3) three months of being pursued, or (3) of three days of destruction (pestilence) wrought by The Angel of the Lord, (see 1 Chr. 21, 2 Sam 24).

**Solomon** – Son of David and Bathsheba (2 S 5:14) Wisest King, Wise choice (1 Kings 3:5-9), judicial insight (1 Kings 3:16-28), Erection of the temple (1 Kings 5, 6)

Error – luxurious living (1 Kings 4:22-23; 10:21), marrying heathen women and excessive sensuality, 700 wives, 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:1-3) (the beginning of the gentiles), sanctioning idolatry (1 Kings 4-7), oppressing the people (1 Kings 12:4)

The Prophet Ahijah informs Jeroboam that God would take the kingdom out of Solomon's son hand and give him ten tribes. (I Kings 11:30-35)

12 Tribes live together under the rule of Saul, David, and Solomon. Then Rehoboam (I Kings 11:43)

- Why did the tribes split? Tribes split up under the rule under Rehoboam. (I Kings 12:16)

10 tribes to the North (House of Israel) – King Jeroboam

2 (Judah and Benjamin) to the south (House of Judah) – King Rehoboam

Rehoboam prepared for battle but God told Shemaiah to tell Rehoboam not to go to battle with the House of Israel. (I Kings 12:21)