




The Sin of Jeroboam

1 Kings 12:25-33

An open scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, resting on wooden rollers. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of wood and have decorative circular patterns on their ends. The background is dark.

**I. Diminishes Israel's Respect
For God's Word**

A. Apostasy Begins With Attitude Changes

- **Jeroboam begins sliding away from God's Laws and changes attitudes / *Kgs.12:26-29***

28 Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. **Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!"**

A. Apostasy Begins With Attitude Changes

- **Jeroboam begins sliding away from God's Laws and changes attitudes / *Kgs.12:26-29***
 - **Jeroboam set up calf worship that stays with the Israel until her fall *2 Kgs.13:11***
 - **Israel's king made priests "from every class of people" / *Kgs.12:31***
 - **He offers on the 8th month instead of the 7th month according to the Law *Lev.23:34***

A. Apostasy Begins With Attitude Changes

- Great respect for the scriptures can be seen in Nehemiah's day *Neh.8:5-9*

5 And **Ezra opened the book** in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, **all the people stood up.** *Neh.8*

“So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense”

- Jesus shows great confidence in the scriptures of His day *Lk.24:44-47*

A. Apostasy Begins With Attitude Changes

B. Change Creates Less Respect For God

- Often people of strong faith allow changes that weaken their faith / *Kgs.11:1-7*
- Paul taught that the Word he preached was directly from The Lord / *Thess.2:13*
- Attitudes can subtly change from the Bible is God's Word to "it is an important book"
- When we change in our attitude toward the Bible we lose our anchor *Eph.4:13-14*



**II. Living By Human Wisdom
accelerates Apostasy**

A. Refuses To Walk With God In His Word

- Jeroboam claims that calf worship was for the people's convenience / *Kgs.12:26-28*

27 “If these people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, **then the heart of this people will turn back to their lord, Rehoboam king of Judah, and they will kill me and go back to Rehoboam king of Judah.”**

- Jeroboam's faith should have moved him to trust in God and follow Him *Jer.10:23*
- Without faith obedience is impossible!

A. Refuses To Walk With God In His Word

B. Devises Changes In His Own Mind

- How does God define genuine obedience?

23 “But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘**Obey My voice, and I will be your God**, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.’”

Jer.7

A. Refuses To Walk With God In His Word

B. Devises Changes In His Own Mind

- How does God define genuine obedience?

13 Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. *2 Tim. 1*

- God rebukes Jeroboam quickly of His sinful calf worship / *Kgs.13:1-6*

- “We can do anything religiously that isn’t specifically forbidden” *Rev.22:18-19*

A. Refuses To Walk With God In His Word

B. Devises Changes In His Own Mind

- Many say if we do not change we'll die spiritually *Gal.1:6-9*

23 Jesus answered and said to him, “**If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word**; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.” *Jn.14*

- Jesus said doing His will proves that you understand that He is “The Lord” *Matt.7:21*

A close-up photograph of two hands holding a broken golden staff. A snake is coiled around the staff, with its head raised and tongue flicking out. The background is dark, and the lighting highlights the texture of the hands and the metallic sheen of the staff.

**III. Israel Completely Lost
God's Word**

A. Ahab Made Baal The State Religion

- Sixty years and five kings later immoral Baal worship emerges / *Kgs.16:30-33*

33 And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger **than all the kings of Israel who were before him. / *Kgs.16***

- So many had been swept up in idolatry that Elijah thought he was alone / *Kgs.19:14*
- What lessons must we learn? *Rom.15:4*

A. Ahab Made Baal The State Religion

B. Saints Can Lose God's Word

- **Sinful practices are allowed today:**
 - **Accept un-baptized - *Gal.3:26-29***
 - **Allow any divorced - *Matt.19:9-11***
 - **Immorality (homosexuals) - *1 Cor.6:9-11***
- **Some "Churches of Christ" allow some of these things by "turning their heads"**

The Sin of Jeroboam

- Many years later, Jehu destroyed Baal worship but continued in Jeroboam's sin

31 But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin. *2 Kgs.10*

- We must carefully follow God's teaching while purging out all that is foreign to Him