

Kings and Queens

Week #2 Jeroboam

Jeroboam

1 Kings 12:20

When all the Israelites heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel...

Transition

- We're talking about the Kings and Queens of the OT and ask what we can learn from them.
- I have the ability to see the mistakes in others more easily than I can see in myself.

Illustration

- Have you ever seen someone who was in the process of making a horrible decision?
- You are on the outside watching and you can see what's happening and no matter what you do you can't stop it.
- It's like you see the train coming – it's rolling around the bend.
And I ain't seen the sunshine since I don't know when.
- I have this gift of seeing other people's mistakes.
- Problem is sometimes I can't see my own.
- It's like where did that come from? How did that happen?

Series on Kings and Queens

Transition

- What can we learn from them?
- What lessons can we take from these kings and queens that will help us?
- I'm not a King or Queen.
- I'm not the boss
- I'm not in charge
- You are a king or queen of your kingdom.

Illustration

- I did not realize I was in the presence of royalty.
- Bow to them

Jeroboam

1 Kings 12, 13 and ½ of 14

I. **I will lead my Kingdom with godly courage.**

1 Kings 12:26-30

²⁶ Jeroboam thought to himself, “The kingdom will now likely revert to the house of David. ²⁷ If these people go up to offer sacrifices at the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem, they will again give their allegiance to their lord, Rehoboam king of Judah. They will kill me and return to King Rehoboam.”

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.” ²⁹ One he set up in Bethel, and the other in Dan. ³⁰ And this thing became a sin; the people came to worship the one at Bethel and went as far as Dan to worship the other.

- A. His premise was wrong - He operated off of the wrong premise.
 He operated in fear to preserve his power and influence.
1. He acted as if this were his Kingdom and not God’s kingdom.
 2. He willfully acted in prevention of those who would have otherwise worshipped God.

What are obstacles that prevent people from worshipping God?

Schedule

Attitude

Not participating

How can I make it as easy as possible for others to worship God?

- This is not about me – this is about God.
- I will not insist on my way but on whatever way that draws people into worship.
- I’m convinced – I’m committed – I don’t need to hear a compelling argument – I don’t need for someone to explain it to me
- As a worshipper of God one of my primary responsibilities is to make room for others.
- What I need to do is make it possible for others to worship God.
- That is my role in the church.

B. He asked for advice when he had already been told what to do.

1 Kings 12:28a

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.

1 Kings 12:31-33

³¹ Jeroboam built shrines on high places and appointed priests from all sorts of people, even though they were not Levites.

³² He instituted a festival on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, like the festival held in Judah, and offered sacrifices on the altar.

This he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves he had made. And at Bethel he also installed priests at the high places he had made.

³³ On the fifteenth day of the eighth month, a month of his own choosing, he offered sacrifices on the altar he had built at Bethel. So he instituted the festival for the Israelites and went up to the altar to make offerings.

Basically he made up his own religion.

A little bit of God and a little bit of what I want.

This is perfect it fits exactly what I need.

1. He knew what to do.
2. He already had the LAW
3. All he had to do was follow what God had already told him to do.
4. He lead his Kingdom with an opinion poll
 - a. First of all it looks like no one around him either didn't know or was unwilling to tell him the truth.

If you show me your friends, I'll show you your future

1 Kings 12:29b

Here are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.

Jeroboam was quoting Exodus 32:8

Story

1. Moses goes to Mt. Saini to meet with God and get 10 commandments.
2. The people got impatient and asked Aaron to make "gods" to help us.
3. Aaron says, ok give me all your gold jewelry and Ill see what I can do.
4. He makes a golden calf for them to worship.
5. ⁵When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the LORD." ⁶So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed

burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

6. God tell Moses to go down from the mountain because of what is going on.
7. God says – ill wipe them out and start over.
8. Moses intercedes for the people and asks God for MERCY.
9. ¹⁴ Then the LORD relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.
10. Moses goes down and gets mad throws the tablets down – breaks them and goes off on the people.
11. ²⁰ And he took the calf the people had made and burned it in the fire; then he ground it to powder, scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it.
12. Aaron blames the people and says its their fault.
13. ²⁴ So I told them, ‘Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.’ Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”
14. ²⁷ and he said to them, “The LORD God of Israel commands every one of you to put on your sword and go through the camp from this gate to the other and kill your brothers, your friends, and your neighbors.” ²⁸ The Levites obeyed, and killed about three thousand men that day. ²⁹ Moses said to the Levites, “Today you have consecrated yourselves^[a] as priests in the service of the LORD by killing your sons and brothers, so the LORD has given you his blessing.”
15. Moses tells them – this is really bad – I’m gonna go back to God and ask for MERCY again.
16. ³³ The LORD replied to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against me I will blot out of my book. ³⁴ Now go, lead the people to the place I spoke of, and my angel will go before you. However, when the time comes for me to punish, I will punish them for their sin.”
17. ³⁵ And the LORD struck the people with a plague because of what they did with the calf Aaron had made.

C. So when Jeroboam says here are the gods that brought you out of Egypt he was attempting to rewrite history and the Bible.

1. Unpack
2. Satan

Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “**Did God really say,** ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

Every time the Word of God is altered to fit the culture it ends in disaster!

- D. He made false Gods for people to worship.
1. He did not follow God's instructions.
 2. He followed his own instructions.
 3. In other words he made it up himself.

Illustration

- **ME GOD and ME CHURCH**
- For clarity's sake the second supreme court decision concerning *Roe V. Wade* simply stated that the constitution of the United States does not address abortion on demand as a right. In other word it's not a constitutional right because it is not mentioned or addressed.
- Therefore, according to the Constitution of the United States when that happens the deciding authority goes back to the individual states.
- I've saw professing Christians respond to that ***Roe V. Wade*** decision with disdain.
- The quote I'm thinking of is "**That is not my Jesus**".
- My answer to them is – you ma'am are correct - that is not how your Jesus would respond.
- Because have rejected the Bible as the authoritative Word of God
- And have made up your own version of Jesus in your head.
- This is exactly what Jeroboam did.
- He made it up in his head.

Colossians 3:1-4

You have been raised to life with Christ, so set your hearts on the things that are in heaven, where Christ sits on his throne at the right side of God.

² Keep your minds fixed on things there, not on things here on earth.

³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ Your real life is Christ and when he appears, then you too will appear with him and share his glory!

Application

- You and I have been trusted with the very word of God.
- It is a trust that comes with immense responsibility.
- We are commanded to be students of the Word of God.
- To **preserve** and **protect** of the Word of God.
- I believe for you to survive as a believe in the days to come you will need incredible amounts of godly courage.
- You will have to stare ungodliness in the face and call it what it is.

- When everyone is following after their own desires you will HIDE in God.

II. **I will lead my kingdom with repentance and the Holy Spirit's conviction.**

I Kings 13:1-6

¹ By the word of the LORD a man of God came from Judah to Bethel, as Jeroboam was standing by the altar to make an offering. ² By the word of the LORD he cried out against the altar: "Altar, altar! This is what the LORD says: 'A son named Josiah will be born to the house of David. On you he will sacrifice the priests of the high places who make offerings here, and human bones will be burned on you.'"

³ That same day the man of God gave a sign: "This is the sign the LORD has declared: The altar will be split apart and the ashes on it will be poured out."

⁴ When King Jeroboam heard what the man of God cried out against the altar at Bethel, he stretched out his hand from the altar and said, "Seize him!" But the hand he stretched out toward the man shriveled up, so that he could not pull it back.

⁵ Also, the altar was split apart and its ashes poured out according to the sign given by the man of God by the word of the LORD.

⁶ Then the king said to the man of God, "Intercede with the LORD your God and pray for me that my hand may be restored." So the man of God interceded with the LORD, and the king's hand was restored and became as it was before.

A. Unpack text.....

1. That is pretty wild story.
2. He is confronted with his sin.
3. Fights against the message and messenger and something wild happens.

B. It would seem to me that God has his attention.

1. I hear you loud and clear.
2. I got the message.
3. I'm your man.
4. Tell me what to do now.

Paraphrase the interaction

I Kings 13:7-10

⁷The king said to the man of God, “Come home with me for a meal, and I will give you a gift.”
⁸But the man of God answered the king, “Even if you were to give me half your possessions, I would not go with you, nor would I eat bread or drink water here. ⁹For I was commanded by the word of the LORD: ‘You must not eat bread or drink water or return by the way you came.’” ¹⁰So he took another road and did not return by the way he had come to Bethel.

The Bible then throws a story in the mix that seems very unusual and almost out of place.

- Here is the story

Paraphrase the story

I Kings 13:11-32

¹¹Now there was a certain old prophet living in Bethel, whose sons came and told him all that the man of God had done there that day. They also told their father what he had said to the king. ¹²Their father asked them, “Which way did he go?” And his sons showed him which road the man of God from Judah had taken. ¹³So he said to his sons, “Saddle the donkey for me.” And when they had saddled the donkey for him, he mounted it ¹⁴and rode after the man of God. He found him sitting under an oak tree and asked, “Are you the man of God who came from Judah?”

“I am,” he replied.

¹⁵So the prophet said to him, “Come home with me and eat.”

¹⁶The man of God said, “I cannot turn back and go with you, nor can I eat bread or drink water with you in this place. ¹⁷I have been told by the word of the LORD: ‘You must not eat bread or drink water there or return by the way you came.’”

¹⁸The old prophet answered, “I too am a prophet, as you are. And an angel said to me by the word of the LORD: ‘Bring him back with you to your house so that he may eat bread and drink water.’” (But he was lying to him.) ¹⁹So the man of God returned with him and ate and drank in his house.

²⁰While they were sitting at the table, the word of the LORD came to the old prophet who had brought him back. ²¹He cried out to the man of God who had come from Judah, “This is what the LORD says: ‘You have defied the word of the LORD and have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you. ²²You came back and ate bread and drank water in the place where he told you not to eat or drink. Therefore your body will not be buried in the tomb of your ancestors.’”

²³ When the man of God had finished eating and drinking, the prophet who had brought him back saddled his donkey for him. ²⁴ As he went on his way, a lion met him on the road and killed him, and his body was left lying on the road, with both the donkey and the lion standing beside it. ²⁵ Some people who passed by saw the body lying there, with the lion standing beside the body, and they went and reported it in the city where the old prophet lived.

²⁶ When the prophet who had brought him back from his journey heard of it, he said, “It is the man of God who defied the word of the LORD. The LORD has given him over to the lion, which has mauled him and killed him, as the word of the LORD had warned him.”

²⁷ The prophet said to his sons, “Saddle the donkey for me,” and they did so. ²⁸ Then he went out and found the body lying on the road, with the donkey and the lion standing beside it. The lion had neither eaten the body nor mauled the donkey. ²⁹ So the prophet picked up the body of the man of God, laid it on the donkey, and brought it back to his own city to mourn for him and bury him. ³⁰ Then he laid the body in his own tomb, and they mourned over him and said, “Alas, my brother!”

³¹ After burying him, he said to his sons, “When I die, bury me in the grave where the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones. ³² For the message he declared by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel and against all the shrines on the high places in the towns of Samaria will certainly come true.”

Then it goes right back to Jeroboam.

I Kings 13:33-34

³³ Even after this, Jeroboam did not change his evil ways, but once more appointed priests for the high places from all sorts of people. Anyone who wanted to become a priest he consecrated for the high places. ³⁴ This was the sin of the house of Jeroboam that led to its downfall and to its destruction from the face of the earth.

What’s the point?

The point of the story is that when God reveals his standards he expects obedience.

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

John 16:13

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.

John 16:8

And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:

1 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Application

1. Nurture a relationship with Jesus.
2. Ask for the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth.
3. Repent of any sin.