



— LINEAGE OF THE KING —

**Solomon was the father of Rehoboam,
Rehoboam was the father of Abijah**

Matthew 1:7

Lesson 9

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What stands out to you from your study of Solomon?

2. During the reign of David's grandson, Rehoboam, the nation of Israel was split. The tribes loyal to the dynasty of David (Judah, Benjamin, and Levi) became known as the Southern Kingdom or Judah. The other tribes chose their own king and became known as the Northern Kingdom or Israel. The lineage of Jesus continued through the kingship of Judah. Each of these kings' reigns were distinguished by the degree to which they sought the LORD. Those kings who sought God won miraculous victories over their enemies and these nations prospered under their rule. However, the outcome was much different for the kings who neglected or abandoned God. Their reigns were marked by defeat and oppression.

Ultimately, like each king of Judah, every living person will be distinguished by the degree to which they seek the LORD. There is great blessing in following Him! Read the selections below and comment on the attitude and actions of King Rehoboam and King Abijah (also called Abijam):
 - a. 2 Chronicles 10:7-11

 - b. 2 Chronicles 11:21-23

 - c. 2 Chronicles 12:1, 12

 - d. 1 Kings 15:1-5

3. Knowing that the ultimate purpose of life is to seek the LORD, ask God to give you an even greater passion to seek Him.

And he (King Rehoboam) did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek the LORD.
2 Chronicles 12:14

SECOND DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 10:1-19

1. *Solomon begot Rehoboam* (Matthew 1:7). According to 2 Chronicles 10:1, *all Israel* went to Shechem to make Rehoboam king. Then a man named Jeroboam came on the scene. Use 2 Chronicles 10:2 to describe him.
2. What did *Jeroboam and all Israel* say to Rehoboam? 2 Chronicles 10:3-4
3. Rehoboam told the people to come back to see him *after three days* (2 Chronicles 10:5). He then *consulted the elders* who had served his father and *the young men who had grown up with him*. Use 2 Chronicles 10:6-11 to contrast the advice of:
 - a. the *elders* (verse 7)
 - b. the *young men* (verses 10-11)
 - (1) Whose advice do you think is better, and why?
 - (2) According to 2 Chronicles 10:8, Rehoboam *rejected the advice* of the elders and heeded his friends. Contrast this with Mark 10:42-45 and share your thoughts.
4. When *Jeroboam and all the people* returned the third day, Rehoboam *answered them roughly* (2 Chronicles 10:12-14). Why did Rehoboam *not listen to the people*? 2 Chronicles 10:15
 - a. This fulfilled the word of God through the prophet Ahijah to Jeroboam. Use 1 Kings 11:30-39 to summarize what God said to him.
 - (1) What does this convey to you about the sovereignty of God?
5. Describe the result of Rehoboam's actions from 2 Chronicles 10:16-19.
 - a. Link this with Solomon's concerns in Ecclesiastes 2:18-19. What do you see?
6. What do you learn from Rehoboam's attitude and actions?

THIRD DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 11:1-23

1. After losing the northern tribes of Israel, what did Rehoboam plan to do? 2 Chronicles 11:1

2. However, *the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah*. What did the LORD say? 2 Chronicles 11:3-4a
 - a. Rehoboam's reason for going to battle was to bring the Northern Kingdom back under his control. Why was this the wrong motivation?

 - b. Remark on Rehoboam's response to these *words*. 2 Chronicles 11:4b

3. Use 2 Chronicles 11:5-22 to note and comment on the following aspects of Rehoboam's reign:
 - a. his building projects (verses 5-12)

 - b. the activity of the Levites and the godly (verses 13-17)
 - (1) Contrast the spiritual condition of Israel with that of Judah. What do you see? (verses 15-16)

 - (2) How were the priests beneficial to the reign of Rehoboam? (verse 17)
 - (a) How do you see God's blessing on Rehoboam during this time?
 - c. his family (verses 18-23)

4. What do you find noteworthy about Rehoboam's reign to this point?

FOURTH DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 12:1-16

1. What did Rehoboam do after he *established the kingdom and had strengthened himself*? 2 Chronicles 12:1b
 - a. Read 1 Kings 14:22-24 to further note how Rehoboam *forsook* the Lord.

 - b. What happened as a result of his sin? 2 Chronicles 12:2-4

2. Once again, Shemaiah the prophet *came to Rehoboam*. What did he say? 2 Chronicles 12:5
 - a. From 2 Chronicles 12:6 comment on the attitude of Rehoboam and the *leaders*.

3. How did God respond to *the leaders of Israel and the king*? 2 Chronicles 12:7-8a
 - a. Remark on God's purpose in allowing *Shishak* to oppress Judah. 2 Chronicles 12:8b

4. Recall from 2 Chronicles 12:2 that these things took place *in the fifth year of King Rehoboam*. With this in mind, comment on the consequences of Rehoboam's apostasy. 2 Chronicles 12:9-11

5. What was the result of Rehoboam's humility? 2 Chronicles 12:12
 - a. How does this speak to you? See also 2 Chronicles 7:14.

6. According to 2 Chronicles 12:14, what was the real issue with Rehoboam's leadership?
 - a. What steps would you consider necessary to avoid Rehoboam's folly?

FIFTH DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 13:1-18

1. Use 2 Chronicles 11:21-22, 13:1-2a to document Abijah's accession to the throne.

2. From 2 Chronicles 13:2b-3 describe the conflict between Abijah and Jeroboam.

3. 2 Chronicles 13:4-12 showcases Abijah's motivation for going to war. Use the following points from Abijah's speech to highlight his righteous cause:
 - a. God's covenant with David (verses 5, 8a)
 - (1) Why do you think Abijah pointed this out?

 - b. Jeroboam's actions (verses 6-7, 8b-9)
 - (1) Link this with 1 Kings 12:26-31 to remark on Jeroboam's motives.

 - c. Judah's adherence to God (verses 10-12)

4. From 2 Chronicles 13:13-17 summarize the battle between Abijah and Jeroboam.

5. According to 2 Chronicles 13:18, why was Israel *subdued* before Judah?
 - a. Share an area in which you need to rely on the Lord.

6. Although Abijah experienced a measure of success when he *relied on the LORD*, according to 1 Kings 15:1-7 what legacy did he leave?
 - a. How will you avoid the pitfalls of Abijah?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. How do these kings compare to David:

a. Rehoboam - 1 Kings 14:8

b. Abijah - 1 Kings 15:3-5

2. From your study this week share your impression of:

a. Rehoboam

b. Abijah

3. According to 1 Kings 15:4, why were these men included in the lineage of Jesus?

The children of Judah prevailed, because they relied on the LORD God of their fathers.
2 Chronicles 13:18