

April: 03

## The sin of Jeroboam

Scripture to read: 1 Kings 12:26-33

During the period of Saul, David and Solomon Israel was comprised of 12 tribes and known as a nation. But now Israel has split into two “Judah and Israel”. Judah was ruled by Solomon’s son Rehoboam and Israel was ruled by Jeroboam. The Temple of God with the Ark of the Covenant was in Jerusalem. Jerusalem was under the reign of Rehoboam. Jeroboam thought to himself and feared that, when the people of Israel go to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices at the Temple of the Lord, they will again give their allegiance to King Rehoboam of Judah. In order to stop the people from going to Jerusalem, Jeroboam made two gold calves. He placed these calf idols in Bethel and in Dan—at either end of his kingdom. Jeroboam also erected buildings at the pagan shrines. He said to the people, here are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.” He also appointed priests from all sorts of people, even though they were not Levites. He instituted a festival on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, like the festival held in Judah, and offered sacrifices on the altar.



Jeroboam, who was crowned as King with the help of the Lord, did not do anything that was pleasing to the Lord. 1. He ordained Idol worship which was abhorrent to the Lord 2. He lied to the people by saying; here are your gods, who brought you up out of Egypt. 3. He appointed priests from all sorts of people, even though they were not Levites. 4. He also instituted a festival to compete with Judah. Children, what was the reason for the King to do such things? He did not have trust in God. He did not have faith in God, that the Lord who made him as a king will also help him to rule over the nation because of this he continued to sin against the Lord. Children, we should also lead a life by trusting in the Lord alone. Though we face trials and temptations we should live with the faith that the Lord, who led us thus far, will also lead us and protect us going forward. Let us live a life by not allowing the sins that Jeroboam committed.

**“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. Exodus 20:04**

### Prayer:

Almighty Lord, we praise you. We will do things that are pleasing in thy sight. We will obey and follow the commands and decrees of the Lord in our day to day life. Amen

