



# Children's Bulletin

July 16, 2023

Rehoboam: Heed Wisdom

Pastor Matthew McNutt

## 1 Kings 12:1-15 (New International Readers Version)

<sup>1</sup>Rehoboam went to the city of Shechem. All the Israelites had gone there to make him king. <sup>2</sup>Jeroboam heard about it. He was the son of Nebat. Jeroboam was still in Egypt at that time. He had gone there for safety. He wanted to get away from King Solomon. But now he returned from Egypt. <sup>3</sup>So the people sent for Jeroboam. He and the whole community of Israel went to Rehoboam. They said to him, <sup>4</sup>"Your father put a heavy load on our shoulders. But now make our hard work easier. Make the heavy load on us lighter. Then we'll serve you."

<sup>5</sup>Rehoboam answered, "Go away for three days. Then come back to me." So the people went away. <sup>6</sup>King Rehoboam asked the elders for advice. They had served his father Solomon while he was still living. Rehoboam asked them, "What advice can you give me? How should I answer these people?"

<sup>7</sup>They replied, "Serve them today. Give them what they are asking for. Then they'll always serve you." <sup>8</sup>But Rehoboam didn't accept the advice the elders gave him. Instead, he asked for advice from the young men. They had grown up with him and were now serving him. <sup>9</sup>He asked them, "What's your advice? How should I answer these people? They say to me, 'Make the load your father put on our shoulders lighter.'"

<sup>10</sup>The young men who had grown up with him gave their answer. They replied, "These people have said to you, 'Your father put a heavy load on our shoulders. Make it lighter.' Now tell them, 'My little finger is stronger than my father's legs. <sup>11</sup>My father put a heavy load on your shoulders. But I'll make it heavier. My father beat you with whips. But I'll beat you with bigger whips."

<sup>12</sup>Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam. That's because the king had said, "Come back to me in three days." <sup>13</sup>The king answered the people in a mean way. He didn't accept the advice the elders had given him. <sup>14</sup>Instead, he followed the advice of the young men. He said, "My father put a heavy load on your shoulders. But I'll make it heavier. My father beat you with whips. But I'll beat you with bigger whips." <sup>15</sup>So the king didn't listen to the people. That's because the LORD had planned it that way.

**Take notes by drawing or writing  
key words from the sermon.**

# Rehoboam: Heed Wisdom

ADVICE

COMMUNITY

EGYPT

ELDERS

HEAVY

ISRAELITES

JEROBOAM

KING

LIGHTER

LISTEN

LORD

MEAN

PEOPLE

REHOBOAM

SHECHEM

SHOULDERS

SOLOMON

STRONG

THREE DAYS

YOUNG MEN

Z P F M U M E J M R B M S L M

Y B K B E R H E S E Y G R J E

A T M I A A H R G G U Q E X L

D T I L N C N O H N G Q D H I

V M B N E G X B N O M O L O S

I A W H U T E O U R C P U B T

C O S X F M Z A C T P I O N E

E B S F Y S M M X S D T H M N

W O I V E L P O E P S R S H E

O H A K T J C Z C A E O O G R

U E I S R A E L I T E S Y L Z

H R E L D E R S H T X P X Z L

N U J Q U H N G I H T S N B H

L M I I E X I N E M G N U O Y

J V S Z J L T H R E E D A Y S

How can you grow in your relationship with Jesus? Draw or write your answer.