

Jeroboam's Choice

- *if you heed all that I command you, walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as My servant David did, then I will be with you and build for you an enduring house, as I built for David, and will give Israel to you. 1 Kings 11:38*
- *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." 1 Kings 12:27*
- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; Pr. 3:5-6*

Jeroboam's Choice

- God's Promise: I will be with you and build an enduring house as I did for David.
- Jeroboam's "own understanding" If Israel goes to Jerusalem 3 times a year Rehoboam has a chance to bring them back to him and they will reject him.
- From the human standpoint Jeroboam's fears were legitimate and not only possible but probable.
- Yet God promised that would not happen.
- Jeroboam must choose:
- Will he trust in the Lord with all his heart and keep the law of God?
- Will he lean on his own understanding?

The Sin of Jeroboam

- Therefore the king asked advice, **made two calves of gold** ... "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!**" 29 And he set up one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. 30 Now this thing became a sin, for the people went to worship before the one as far as Dan. 31 ... **made priests from every class of people, who were not of the sons of Levi.** 1 Kings 12:28-31
- From no graven images to two graven images
- From no other Gods before me to two other gods.
- From the temple in Jerusalem to Bethel and Dan
- From the levitical priesthood to anyone can be a priest
- He thought this would make it more sure that he would remain king than to trust in God and let God do it for him.

The Sin of Jeroboam

● 32 Jeroboam **ordained a feast on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, like the feast that was in Judah, and offered sacrifices on the altar. So he did at Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he had made. And at Bethel he installed the priests of the high places which he had made. 33 So he made offerings on the altar which he had made at Bethel on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, in the month which he had devised in his own heart. 1K 12:32-33**

- Removed the Passover & Pentecost in Jerusalem
- Created a new feast on a new day
- He offered the sacrifices.
- Not to Jehovah but to the golden calves.
- Thought this would make him safer as an established king

God Sent a Prophet

- *Then he cried out against the altar by the word of the Lord, and said, "O altar, altar! Thus says the Lord: 'Behold, a child, Josiah by name, shall be born to the house of David; and on you he shall sacrifice the priests of the high places who burn incense on you 1 Kings 13:2*
- *4 that he stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, "Arrest him!" Then his hand, which he stretched out toward him, withered, so that he could not pull it back to himself. ... 5 the altar also was split apart, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the Lord. I Kings 13:4-5*

God Sent a Prophet

- *So the man of God entreated the Lord, and the king's hand was restored to him, and became as before. 1 Kings 13:6-7*
- *After this event Jeroboam did not turn from his evil way, but again he made priests from every class of people for the high places; 1K 13:33*
- *And this thing was the sin of the house of Jeroboam, so as to exterminate and destroy it from the face of the earth. 1 Kings 13:34*
- **Regardless of the material good that might have come from Jeroboam's changes the rebellion against God was a far more severe danger.**

Origin of the Easter Holiday

- Issues with the celebration of Easter.
- IT IS NOT IN THE BIBLE ... a tradition of men only
- History tells us that it was an event very similar to that of Jeroboam.
- Two idolatrous days.
- Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox
- Reason why there are eggs today and rabbits.
- Chose to make this a day of the resurrection.
- So they ignore the commands Jesus gave about remembering His death and instead remember His resurrection which Jesus never commanded.

What Jesus commanded

● Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until **that day** when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Mark 14:25

● What Day?

● Now **on the first day of the week**, when **the disciples came together to break bread**, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight. Acts 20:7

● For first of all, when you **come together as a church**, ... when you **come together in one place**, ... **eat the Lord's Supper**. 1 Cor 11:17-21

● **On the first day of every week** each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come. 1 Cor 16:2

Easter Holiday

- Your going to miss the great day.
- Today is a very important day to all who call themselves Christians. This is the very day in the year that Jesus rose from the dead.
- People are celebrating it in various ways:
- Pagan Practices of the rites of Spring
- Easter Egg hunts, Bunny Baskets of Candy
- Catholic Traditions
- Ash Wednesday; Good Friday;
- Later Churches Modifications.
- These are Historical Facts – Not found in the Bible

Contend Earnestly for the Faith

- *Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. 4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude 3-4*
- A Need to Contend Earnestly for the Faith! Why?
- Some have / will creep in unnoticed
- Long ago marked out for condemnation
- Ungodly men – Turn grace of God into lewdness