

The Kingdom Is Divided Class Notes

Answer Key

Print one Answer Key to use as a reference during the lesson to help students fill out their class notes.

Read 1 Kings 11:1–13 to answer questions 1–4:

1. **How many women did Solomon have as wives and concubines?** *At least 1,000.*
2. **Where were those women from?** *From Egypt, Moab, Ammon, and other surrounding nations.*
3. **Why would Solomon take foreign wives?** *These were likely alliances he made with surrounding nations, but many of them must have been for selfish reasons.*
4. **How do we know God was not pleased with Solomon?** *The Lord had said that the people, including the king, should not intermarry with those surrounding nations (see Deuteronomy 7:1–3).*

Read Deuteronomy 17:14–17 to answer questions 5–11:

5. **What three prohibitions did God give to the king who would be over Israel?** *Not to multiply (accumulate) horses, wives, or wealth.*
6. **How many of these had Solomon violated?** *All three. He had 1000 foreign wives and concubines; he accumulated vast amounts of wealth (look at 1 Kings 10:21 for an example); and he imported horses from Egypt and other areas (1 Kings 10:28–29).*
7. **Look back to 1 Kings 11. Did the foreign wives turn Solomon's heart away from God, as God said would happen?** *Yes, he even built altars for them and worshipped the false gods with his wives.*
8. **What was God's response to Solomon's physical and spiritual adultery?** *The Lord was angry and told Solomon that He would tear the kingdom out of his hands.*
9. **When was this to happen, and why the delay?** *After Solomon's death and for the sake of David and Jerusalem; out of God's sovereign choice to do as He pleases.*
10. **Would the whole kingdom be taken away?** *No, one tribe would remain under Solomon's son's control.*
11. **For what other reason would God not take the entire kingdom away from Solomon?** *God had promised an eternal throne to David (the Davidic Covenant) and that as long as Israel existed, a descendant of David would be on the throne.*

Read 1 Kings 12:1–20 to answer questions 12–21:

12. **Who was present at Rehoboam's coronation?** *All of the people and Jeroboam went to Shechem to make him king.*
13. **Who did the people of Israel call back from Egypt?** *Jeroboam.*
14. **What did the people and Jeroboam propose to Rehoboam?** *They suggested he should remove the burdens Solomon had placed upon them. If he would, the people would serve him as king.*
15. **When Rehoboam sought the counsel of the elders who served his father, what was their advice?** *They encouraged him to lighten the burden so that the people would serve him loyally.*
16. **What advice was given by Rehoboam's younger counselors?** *That he should increase the burden.*
17. **How did the people respond to Rehoboam's decision to increase the burden on the people?** *They abandoned Rehoboam as king and installed Jeroboam as the king over the children of Israel in the north.*
18. **What tribe was left under Rehoboam's rule?** *Only Judah was left.*
19. **How is Rehoboam referred to in verse 16?** *The references to David and the son of Jesse are of Rehoboam, the one sitting on David's throne.*
20. **Why did Rehoboam decide to increase the burden of the people?** *The text clearly states that this was from the Lord (v. 15). God used the foolishness of Rehoboam and his young counselors to bring about the events that He had already ordained. God already told Solomon that the kingdom would be ripped from his son, so God was using these events to bring about His plans.*
21. **Who is Ahijah, and what did he say to Jeroboam?** *This text does not answer the question. The activity will have the students answer that question.*