

## **Rehoboam: A Kingdom Torn In Two** **1 Kings 12:1-15**

**Criteria for critiquing a film: The setting, the characters, point of view, plot, resolution, and theme.**

### **1. The Setting**

- **Solomon's heart is divided. He rules unwisely by being involved with too many women, overtaxing and forcing people into hard labor.**
- **Solomon dies and his son, Rehoboam takes over the throne.**

### **2. The Characters**

- Rehoboam from the tribe of Judah**
- Jeroboam from the tribe of Ephraim rebels against Solomon and flees to Egypt.**

### **3. The Point of View**

- The Upper Story showing God's perspective.**
- The Lower Story which describes the details of daily life.**

### **4. The Plot**

“Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all the Israelites had gone there to make him king. When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard this (he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), he returned from Egypt. So they sent for Jeroboam, and he and the whole assembly of Israel went to Rehoboam and said to him: "Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but now lighten the harsh labor and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you." Rehoboam answered, "Go away for three days and then come back to me." So the people went away. Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime. "How would you advise me to answer these people?" he asked. They replied, "If today you will be a servant to these people and serve them and give them a favorable answer, they will always be your servants." But Rehoboam rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him. He asked them, "What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, 'Lighten the yoke your father put on

us'?" The young men who had grown up with him replied, "Tell these people who have said to you, 'Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter'--tell them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist. My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.'" Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam, as the king had said, "Come back to me in three days." The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders, he followed the advice of the young men and said, "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions." So the king did not listen to the people, for this turn of events was from the Lord, to fulfill the word the Lord had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah the Shilonite.”  
1 Kings 12:1-15

### **5. The Resolution**

“When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king: What share do we have in David, what part in Jesse's son? To your tents, Israel, Look after your own house, David.” So the Israelites went home, But as for the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah, Rehoboam still ruled over them.”  
1Kings12:16-17

“When all the Israelites heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. Only the tribe of Judah remained loyal to the house of David.”  
1 Kings 16:20

**The accident occurred already we are just waiting for the plane to arrive at the crash site.**

“This is what the Lord says: Do not go up to fight against your brothers, the Israelites. Go home, every one of you, for this is my doing." So they obeyed the word of the Lord and went home again, as the Lord had ordered.”  
1 Kings 12:24

### **6. The Themes**

- The Upper Story Theme:** God has a plan it can not be stopped, he will bring people back to Him.
- The Lower Story Theme:** There is a ripple effect of our decisions. Solomon's decision affected Jeroboam and Jeroboam's decision led to the split in the nation.

### **Application**