

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Since God had promised the ten tribes to Jeroboam (Chapter 11:31) why should he establish a false worship?
2. What did Jeroboam do to make this false worship acceptable to the people?
3. Does a danger exist today that people can be led into false worship by patterns of worship similar to what God requires? Explain.
4. What was God's response to this new "worship"?

SUMMARY:

Jeroboam could not bear to allow God His rightful place. In order to elevate himself he had to find a substitute for God. Rather than finding his right relationship with God and remaining humble, Jeroboam had to find a god that was "his size," so he made one. Many people today make gods and then worship them, and cause others to worship them. The Bible has very serious warnings for those who would lead others in a false way. When Jeroboam saw his hand dry up and he lost the control of it, he became very concerned. He implored the man of God to return his hand to its previous condition. It would have been much better for him had he seen through this sign and been concerned for his eternal condition. The Bible teaches us that we are not to be concerned about those who can destroy the body, but He who can establish the eternal resting place of the soul.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #13

March 28, 2004

First Quarter

JEROBOAM LEADS ISRAEL INTO IDOLATRY

LESSON TEXT: *1 Kings 12:25-33; 13:1-6*

LESSON SETTING: Israel under Jeroboam's rule.

TIME: Approximately 975 B.C.

- I. A SUBSTITUTE FOR GOD.** 1 Kings 12:25-29
 - A. Selfish Thinking (vs. 27) Ezekiel 33:31; Micah 2:2; Habakkuk 2:9
 - B. Golden Calves (vs. 28) 2 Kings 10:29; 17:16
 - C. Idolatry (vs. 30) Jeremiah 8:2; Acts 12:22; Acts 14:11; 1 Corinthians 10:20
- II. A SUBSTITUTE FOR WORSHIP.** 1 Kings 12:30-33
 - A. Man Appointed Priests (vs. 31) 2 Kings 23:5
 - B. A Man Appointed Feast (vs. 32) Ezekiel 22:9
 - C. Jeroboam Offers Sacrifices (vs. 33) 1 Samuel 13:12-13
- III. A SIGN FROM THE LORD.** 1 Kings 13:1-6
 - A. Through a Man of God (vs. 1) Isaiah 2:1; Isaiah 6:8-9
 - B. A Sign Given (vs. 3) 2 Kings 20:9-10; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 2:12
 - C. God's Judgment (vs. 4) 1 Kings 13:26; 1 Samuel 15:22-28
 - D. Sign Fulfilled (vs. 5) 2 Kings 20:11; Matthew 1:24-25; Luke 2:16

GOLDEN TEXT: ... *KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS.*

1 John 5:21

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Luke 23:26-49

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 22:1-31 Matthew 27:32-56;
Mark 15:21-41; John 19:16-37

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, the Son of Man

TOPIC: BEHOLDING THE SAVIOUR

INTRODUCTION:

The two malefactors picture so vividly the two aspects in our lives. Christ said when He returns, two men will be in one bed, one will be taken, the other left. Two women will be grinding, one will be taken the other left. There are only two sides, two ways, no middle road, no in-between, no compromising. It is either receive Christ, or reject Him. We are either saved, or lost.

The two malefactors, seemingly up to the time they were placed on the cross, were alike. But on the cross a momentous difference occurred. One beheld the Saviour and received those most precious words from the dying lips of Christ: "Today thou shalt be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)

How we, as Christians, long for that wonderful day when we hear Christ say "Today thou shalt be with me, today behold thy Saviour"! We long for that day, but while we are still here, we can go forward, joyfully each day beholding our Saviour who is ever near.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Christ died on Calvary so all those who look to Him for salvation may be saved.

GOLDEN TEXT: LOOK UNTO ME, AND BE YE SAVED, ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

Isaiah 45:22

A cosmonaut who circled the earth years ago mockingly said, "I didn't see God up there." The three American astronauts who circled the moon reacted differently. As they viewed the earth from out in space they were filled with awe, and acknowledged the work of God's hands. Sometimes we may wonder why God created the earth and all that it contains. God, speaking in Isaiah gives the answer. "For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens: God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else." (Isaiah 45:18) God also created men to inhabit the earth and to honor and obey Him. Man disobeyed and dishonored God and fell into sin and "death by sin."

At Calvary, Jesus completed the work of redemption so that men might find remission of sins and salvation, to again become a new creation in the image of God, in the likeness of His Son. We can either say "we don't see God" in the work of His hands, or we can obey the exhortation "Look unto me, and be ye saved."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF March 29 - April 4

- M. The Saved Son. Genesis 22:6-18
- T. The Saved Nation. Exodus 12:3-13
- W. *The Saviour's Sad Prophecy. Luke 23:26-31
- T. *The Saviour's Persecution. Luke 23:32-38
- F. *The Saviour's Death. Luke 23:39-49
- S. The Saved Jailer. Acts 16:23-34
- S. The Saved Persecutor. Acts 26:8-20