### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 10

1Well, RehoBoam went to SheChem, which was where he was to receive his coronation as king over IsraEl. 2And when JeroBoam (son of NaBat) heard of it, he returned from Egypt (where he’d been living after he’d fled from King Solomon), 3because the assembly of IsraEl had called for him.  
  
And when he got there, he and the entire assembly went to the king and said:  
  
 4‘Your father put a hard yoke on us... So now, free us from the hard service and the heavy yoke that your father laid upon us, and we will serve you!’  
  
5And [RehoBoam] replied:  
  
 ‘Leave me for three days, and then return [for an answer].’  
  
So, the people then left.  
  
6And thereafter, King RehoBoam assembled all the older men who had served his father Solomon during his entire life, and asked them:  
  
 ‘How do you suggest that I answer the people?’  
  
7And they told him:  
  
 ‘If you give a good reply to these people today and think well of them, they’ll serve you for as long as you live.’  
  
8However, he rejected this advice of the older men and listened to the advice of the younger men whom he’d grown up around and whom he’d chosen as his councilors.  
  
9For when he asked them:  
  
 ‘What do you suggest that I tell these people who came before me and asked me to remove the yoke that my father put on them?’  
  
10The young men who’d grown up with him replied:  
  
 ‘When you speak to them say:  
  
 ‘My little finger is greater than the hips of my father. 11So if my father disciplined you with a heavy load, I’ll add to the weight of your yoke.  
  
 ‘And if my father disciplined you with whips, I’ll discipline you with scorpions!’  
  
12As a result, when all the people and JeroBoam came before RehoBoam on the 3rd day (for the king had said, ‘Return to me on the 3rd day’), 13the king gave them the hard answer, because he’d rejected the council of the older men and told the people what the younger men had suggested.  
  
He said:  
  
 14‘My father put you under a heavy yoke, so I will add to it.  
  
 ‘And my father disciplined you with whips, so I’ll discipline you with scorpions!’  
  
15However, the [reason why the] king had refused to listen to what the people said was because God had caused the words that He’d said through AhiJah the ShiLonite concerning JeroBoam (son of NaBat) 16and all IsraEl to be fulfilled… And that’s what kept him from listening to them.  
  
17So the people said to the king:  
  
 ‘What [do we owe to] David and the inheritance of the sons of JesSe?  
  
 ‘Run to your Tents, O IsraEl… And you can go back to your own house of David!’  
  
So, all the men of IsraEl returned to their homes, and thereafter RehoBoam only ruled over those who lived in Judah. 18For when King RehoBoam sent AdoniRam to collect their taxes, they threw rocks at him and killed him, and King RehoBoam had to run to his chariot and flee to JeruSalem!  
  
19Therefore, IsraEl annulled their allegiance to the house of David, which is still true to this day.