**CHAPTER** **10**

*Roboam answereth the people roughly: upon which ten tribes revolt.*

**1** And Roboam went to Sichem: for thither all Israel were assembled, to make him king.

**2** And when Jeroboam the son of Nabat, who was in Egypt, (for he was fled thither from Solomon,) heard it, forthwith he returned.

**3** And they sent for him, and he came with all Israel, and they spoke to Roboam, saying:

**4** Thy father oppressed us with a most grievous yoke, do thou govern us with a lighter hand than thy father, who laid upon us a heavy servitude, and ease some thing of the burden, that we may serve thee.

**5** And he said to them: Come to me again after three days. And when the people were gone,

**6** He took counsel with the ancients, who had stood before his father Solomon, while he yet lived, saying: What counsel give you to me, that I may answer the people?

**7** And they said to him: If thou please this people, and soothe them with kind words, they will be thy servants for ever.

**8** But he forsook the counsel of the ancients, and began to treat with the young men, that had been brought up with him, and were in his train.

**9** And he said to them: What seemeth good to you? or what shall I answer this people, who have said to me: Ease the yoke which thy father laid upon us?

**10** But they answered as young men, and brought up with him in pleasures, and said: Thus shalt thou speak to the people, that said to thee: Thy father made our yoke heavy, do thou ease it: thus shalt thou answer them: My little finger is thicker than the loins of my father.

**11** My father laid upon you a heavy yoke, and I will add more weight to it: my father beat you with scourges, but I will beat you with scorpions.

**12** So Jeroboam, and all the people came to Roboam the third day, as he commanded them.

**13** And the king answered roughly, leaving the counsel of the ancients.

**14** And he spoke according to the advice of the young men: My father laid upon you a heavy yoke, which I will make heavier: my father beat you with scourges, but I will beat you with scorpions.

**15** And he condescended not to the people’s requests: for it was the will of God, that his word might be fulfilled which he had spoken by the hand of Ahias the Silonite to Jeroboam the son of Nabat.

**16** And all the people upon the king’s speaking roughly, said thus unto him: We have no part in David, nor inheritance in the son of Isai. Return to thy dwellings, O Israel, and do thou, O David, feed thy own house. And Israel went away to their dwellings.

**17** But Roboam reigned over the children of Israel that dwelt in the cities of Juda.

**18** And king Roboam sent Aduram, who was over the tributes, and the children of Israel stoned him, and he died: and king Roboam made haste to get up into his chariot, and fled into Jerusalem.

**19** And Israel revolted from the house of David unto this day.