

Chapter 11

Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines.

Many of these women were foreigners.

As Solomon grew old, his foreign women swayed his heart to allow the worship of foreign idols.

This displeased the Lord and led to the breakup of Solomon's kingdom.

Solomon was king for 40 years and then died.

Dear God, please protect leaders from corruption

Chapters 12 – 16

After Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king.

The people asked Rehoboam not to be harsh like Solomon. Solomon had imposed heavy taxes, enforced labor etc.

Rehoboam asked the elders for advice.

They said "Treat the people kindly and they will serve you."

Rehoboam asked his peers for advice.

They said "Treat the people more harshly than your father."

Rehoboam accepted the advice of his peers.

Therefore the people of Israel rejected him as king.

Only the people of Judah accepted him.

The people of Israel made Jeroboam king.

He had previously led an unsuccessful revolt against Solomon.

Rehoboam and Jeroboam died and were succeeded by various kings who ruled over Judah and Israel.

Dear God, please help leaders be kind to their people