

# MAY 11

## Read 2 Chronicles 10–13

### CHAPTER 10

**A**ND Rehoboam went to Shechem: for to Shechem were all Israel come to make him king.

2 And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who *was* in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of Solomon the king, heard *it*, that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt.

3 And they sent and called him. So Jeroboam and all Israel came and spake to Rehoboam, saying,

4 Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father, and his heavy yoke that he put upon us, and we will serve thee.

5 And he said unto them, Come again unto me after three days. And the people departed.

6 ¶ And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, What counsel give ye *me* to return answer to this people?

7 And they spake unto him, say-

ing, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants for ever.

8 But he forsook the counsel which the old men gave him, and took counsel with the young men that were brought up with him, that stood before him.

9 And he said unto them, What advice give ye that we may return answer to this people, which have spoken to me, saying, Ease somewhat the yoke that thy father did put upon us?

10 And the young men that were brought up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou answer the people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou *it* somewhat lighter for us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little *finger* shall be thicker than my father's loins.

11 For whereas my father put a heavy yoke upon you, I will put more to your yoke: my father chastised you with whips, but I *will chastise you* with scorpions.

12. So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king bade, saying, Come again to me on the third day.

13 And the king answered them roughly; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men,

14 And answered them after the advice of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto: my father chastised you with whips, but I *will chastise you* with scorpions.

15 So the king hearkened not unto the people: for the cause was of God, that the LORD might perform his word, which he spake by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

16 ¶ And when all Israel *saw* that the king would not hearken unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? and *we have* none inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to your tents, O Israel: *and* now, David, see to thine own house. So all Israel went to their tents.

17 But *as for* the children of Israel that dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

18 Then king Rehoboam sent

Hadoram that *was* over the tribute; and the children of Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. But king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to *his* chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

19 And Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day.

## CHAPTER 11

**A**ND when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he gathered of the house of Judah and Benjamin an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen *men*, which were warriors, to fight against Israel, that he might bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam.

2 But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying,

3 Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying,

4 Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house: for this thing is done of me. And they obeyed the words of the LORD, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

5 ¶ And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for defence in Judah.

6 He built even Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa,

7 And Bethzur, and Shoco, and Adullam,

8 And Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph,

9 And Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah,

10 And Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which *are* in Judah and in Benjamin fenced cities.

11 And he fortified the strong holds, and put captains in them, and store of victual, and of oil and wine.

12 And in every several city *he put* shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong, having Judah and Benjamin on his side.

13 ¶ And the priests and the Levites that *were* in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts.

14 For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the LORD:

15 And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made.

16 And after them out of all the

tribes of Israel such as set their hearts to seek the LORD God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the LORD God of their fathers.

17 So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years: for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

18 ¶ And Rehoboam took him Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David to wife, *and* Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse;

19 Which bare him children; Jeush, and Shamariah, and Zaham.

20 And after her he took Maachah the daughter of Absalom; which bare him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith.

21 And Rehoboam loved Maachah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took eighteen wives, and threescore concubines; and begat twenty and eight sons, and threescore daughters.)

22 And Rehoboam made Abijah the son of Maachah the chief, *to be* ruler among his brethren: for *he thought* to make him king.

23 And he dealt wisely, and dispersed of all his children throughout all the countries of Judah and Benjamin, unto every fenced city: and he gave them victual in abundance. And he desired many wives.

## CHAPTER 12

**A**ND it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom, and had strengthened himself, he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel with him.

2 And it came to pass, *that* in the fifth year of king Rehoboam Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had transgressed against the LORD,

3 With twelve hundred chariots, and threescore thousand horsemen: and the people *were* without number that came with him out of Egypt; the Lubims, the Sukkiims, and the Ethiopians.

4 And he took the fenced cities which *pertained* to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.

5 ¶ Then came Shemaiah the prophet to Rehoboam, and *to* the princes of Judah, that were gathered together to Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Ye have forsaken me, and therefore have I also left you in the hand of Shishak.

6 Whereupon the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves; and they said, The LORD *is* righteous.

7 And when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, They have humbled themselves; *therefore* I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance; and my wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.

8 Nevertheless they shall be his servants; that they may know my service, and the service of the kingdoms of the countries.

9 So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he took all: he carried away also the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

10 Instead of which king Rehoboam made shields of brass, and committed *them* to the hands of the chief of the guard, that kept the entrance of the king's house.

11 And when the king entered into the house of the LORD, the guard came and fetched them, and brought them again into the guard chamber.

12 And when he humbled himself, the wrath of the LORD turned from him, that he would not destroy *him* altogether: and also in Judah things went well.

13 ¶ So king Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam *was* one and forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name *was* Naamah an Ammonitess.

14 And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD.

15 Now the acts of Rehoboam, first and last, *are* they not written in the book of Shemaiah the prophet, and of Iddo the seer concerning genealogies? And *there were* wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually.

16 And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Abijah his son reigned in his stead.

### CHAPTER 13

**N**OW in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam began Abijah to reign over Judah.

2 He reigned three years in

Jerusalem. His mother's name also *was* Michaiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.

3 And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, *even* four hundred thousand chosen men: Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, *being* mighty men of valour.

4 ¶ And Abijah stood up upon mount Zemaraim, which *is* in mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me, thou Jeroboam, and all Israel;

5 Ought ye not to know that the LORD God of Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, *even* to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?

6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord.

7 And there are gathered unto him vain men, the children of Belial, and have strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tenderhearted, and could not withstand them.

8 And now ye think to withstand the kingdom of the LORD in the hand of the sons of David; and ye

be a great multitude, and *there are* with you golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods.

9 Have ye not cast out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you priests after the manner of the nations of *other* lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bullock and seven rams, *the same* may be a priest of *them that are* no gods.

10 But as for us, the LORD *is* our God, and we have not forsaken him; and the priests, which minister unto the LORD, *are* the sons of Aaron, and the Levites *wait* upon *their* business:

11 And they burn unto the LORD every morning and every evening burnt sacrifices and sweet incense: the shewbread also *set they in order* upon the pure table; and the candlestick of gold with the lamps thereof, to burn every evening: for we keep the charge of the LORD our God; but ye have forsaken him.

12 And, behold, God himself *is* with us for *our* captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the LORD God of your fathers; for ye shall not prosper.

13 ¶ But Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind them: so they were before Judah, and the ambushment *was* behind them.

14 And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle *was* before and behind: and they cried unto the LORD, and the priests sounded with the trumpets.

15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout: and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass, that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.

16 And the children of Israel fled before Judah: and God delivered them into their hand.

17 And Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter: so there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand chosen men.

18 Thus the children of Israel were brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied upon the LORD God of their fathers.

19 And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took cities from him, Bethel with the towns thereof, and Jeshanah with the towns thereof, and Ephraim with the towns thereof.

20 Neither did Jeroboam recover

strength again in the days of Abijah: and the LORD struck him, and he died.

21 ¶ But Abijah waxed mighty, and married fourteen wives, and

begat twenty and two sons, and sixteen daughters.

22 And the rest of the acts of Abijah, and his ways, and his sayings, *are* written in the story of the prophet Iddo.

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## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Yesterday, in chapter 8, we read of Solomon's prosperity.

This chapter covered his building activities as well as his religious activities. We also read of the visit of the Queen of Sheba, and of Solomon's death.

Solomon's reign in Jerusalem over all Israel lasted forty years. His annual income amounted to 666 talents of gold, approximately \$30,000,000.00. However, despite all his wealth and the goodness of God, Solomon's heart was turned from Jehovah. Chronicles does not record the details, but it would be good for us to refer back to I Kings 11 and read again how the wise man, so greatly blessed of God, turned from Jehovah. The latter part of that chapter shows the anger and chastening of Jehovah.

Chapter 10 records the accession and folly of Rehoboam. Rehoboam was obedient to the Lord for three years. He then fell into sin and apostasy. His punishment was the invasion of Shishak, but his repentance avoided complete destruction.

In chapters 11 and 12 Rehoboam is pressured into leading a war against the ten tribes who had rebelled against the house of David. He gathered 180,000 men of Judah and Benjamin to fight against them and restore them to his kingdom. Shemaiah, the man of God, received a message from the Lord and faithfully delivered it to Rehoboam. He said, "Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house; for this thing is done of me." Rehoboam and the people obeyed and did not go to war. For a brief season Rehoboam's kingdom was strengthened. But then apostasy set in.

Rehoboam had lived in the indulgence of the flesh. "He forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel with him." Idolatry in high places was encouraged by Rehoboam. Shortly thereafter, Judah was invaded and the punishment of God fell upon the people. Rehoboam's death is recorded in chapter 12. Since Rehoboam, like most of us, could not learn from history, he learned by experience.

## PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Treasures of wickedness profit nothing; but righteousness delivereth from death" (Proverbs 10:2).

## TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

**ASSIGNMENT 15:** For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 9.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

**CHERYL TURNER**

## HYMN FOR TODAY

### **CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS**

**by Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894,  
and Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903**

The One who bore the crown of thorns while on the cross is now crowned with "many crowns" as the reigning monarch of heaven. Each crown in this hymn text exalts Christ for some specific aspect of His person or ministry: Stanza one for His eternal Kingship; stanza two for His love demonstrated in redemptive suffering; stanza three for His victorious resurrection and ascension; stanza four as a member of the Triune Godhead ever worthy of worship and praise.

This worshipful text is the combined effort of two distinguished Anglican clergymen, each of whom desired to write a hymn of exaltation to our suffering but now victorious Lord. Matthew Bridges' version first appeared in 1851 with six stanzas. Twenty-three years later Godfrey Thring wrote six additional stanzas, which appeared in his collection *Hymns and Sacred Lyrics*. The hymn's present form includes stanzas one, two, and four by Bridges and the third verse by Thring. The tune, "Diademata" (the Greek word for *crowns*), was composed especially for this text by George Elvey, a noted organist at St. George's Chapel in Windsor, England, where British royalty often attend.

*Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne:  
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King thru all eternity.*

*Crown Him the Lord of love: Behold His hands and side—  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified;  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.*

*Crown Him the Lord of life: Who triumphed o'er the grave,  
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save;  
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.*

*Crown Him the Lord of heav'n: One with the Father known;  
One with the Spirit thru Him giv'n from yonder glorious throne.  
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died;  
be Thou, O Lord, thru endless days adored and magnified.*

### **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY TRADITION SAYS THAT MAY 11 IS THE DATE OF THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST.**

Whether this be true or not, we can thank God for the ascension of our Lord. It was my joy to stand on the Mount of Olives at the place of the ascension and remember the words of the two men in white apparel who watched the men of Galilee gazing up into Heaven watching Jesus go back to the Father. We are reminded that we are not to gaze up into Heaven, but rather to be witnesses to those without Christ. These are days of astronauts and space flights. Blessed be God for Jesus, our Astronaut, who took his space flight all the way to Heaven and is now seated at the right hand of the Father.

### **MINNESOTA WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION.**

There are many godly people in this state. Let us pray for them today. It has been my joy to preach in

Minnesota and to meet many fine Christian friends. Pray for the work of Christ and the workers for Christ in this state.

### **1949 THE UNITED NATIONS ADMITTED ISRAEL.**

This certainly was a red-letter day in history. What a struggle it had been through the centuries for God's scattered people. Now they have their flag and their nation. It is a thrill to drive down the highways of Israel and to see the orchards flourishing, the orange trees laden, and the desert as if it were blossoming as a rose. Pray for the Jews today. Witness to those whom you know and tell them about Jesus being the Messiah and Saviour.

### **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1807  
IRA ALDRIDGE, GREAT 19TH CENTURY  
BLACK ACTOR, BORN.** He was famous throughout the world. He died in 1867.

**1965  
BLACKS HELD MASS MEETING IN NORFOLK  
(VA.) AND DEMANDED EQUAL RIGHTS AND  
BALLOTS.**

Other equal rights meetings and conventions were held in Petersburg, Va., June 6; Vicksburg, Miss., June 19; Alexandria, Va., August 3; Nashville, Tenn., August 7-11; Raleigh, N.C., September 29-October 3; Richmond, September 18; Jackson, Miss., October 7.

**1967  
NINE CARAVANS OF POOR PEOPLE ARRIVED  
IN WASHINGTON FOR FIRST PHASE OF POOR  
PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN.**

Caravans started from different sections of the country on May 2 and picked up demonstrators along the way. In Washington, demonstrators erected camp called Resurrection City on sixteen-acre site near Lincoln Memorial.

**1981  
DEATH OF HOYT J. FULLER (57), LITERARY  
CRITIC AND EDITOR OF FIRST WORLD  
MAGAZINE AND FORMER EDITOR OF BLACK  
WORLD, IN ATLANTA.**

# The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

## MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

### DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I MUST BECOME BETTER BEFORE BECOMING A CHRISTIAN"

(Assignment 15)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV page.)

(        ) Luke 5:31

And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.

(        ) Luke 5:32

I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

(        ) Luke 18:10

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

(        ) Luke 18:11

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

(        ) Luke 18:12 (see Luke 18:13-14)

I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.