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1 Kings 11:1-13,28-40



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Solomon was the king of Israel. He was the wisest man who ever lived. But as wise as Solomon was, he disobeyed God. First, he married a princess from Egypt. She brought statues of false gods with her and worshiped them in Solomon's house. Then Solomon married more and more foreign princesses. They brought their statues and idols with them, too.

For years, Solomon's wives told him to worship these false gods. After a while, Solomon began to do what his wives said to do. Solomon even prayed to these statues because he thought they had some sort of power. Solomon disobeyed God.

God told Solomon, "You know that I have always said to worship only Me. You have disobeyed Me. After you die, I am going to divide your kingdom

in two. Your son will be king over only a small part. One of your servants will be king over the biggest part." God's words made Solomon sad. But he still disobeyed God and did not ask God to forgive him.

One day, Solomon's servant Jeroboam was walking on a road. He met a prophet who showed God's message to Jeroboam. The prophet ripped Jeroboam's coat into 12 pieces. He told Jeroboam to take 10 of the pieces because he would rule most of Solomon's kingdom. Solomon heard what happened and did another foolish thing—he tried to kill Jeroboam! Even though Solomon was the wisest man who ever lived, he stopped being wise when he stopped obeying God and loving Him more than anything else.