

The Early Prophets - One Book, One Theme - class #45

Yerovam's Revolt & the Split Kingdom

- When Politics & Religion clash

Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/

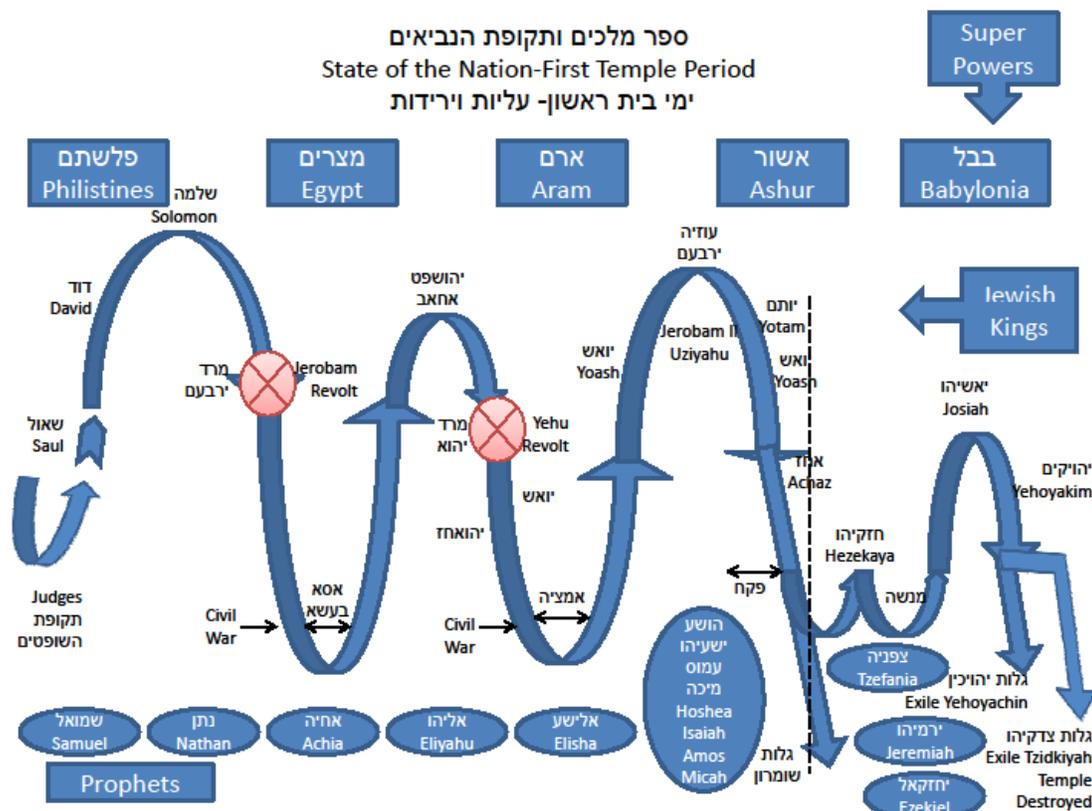
Introduction -

This week, we begin what could be considered one of the main topics of Sefer Melachim – i.e. the ‘split Kingdom’.

Note how the book oscillates between the King of the Northern Tribes and the King of Judah – so the story that leads to that split must be of thematic importance. Therefore, today’s shiur will focus on the revolt of Yerovam, and will discuss those events from both their political & religious perspectives.

I. Review of the time period of approx 400 years of Sefer Melachim Highlighting the disastrous results of a ‘split Kingdom’

Note how unity leads to political strength & visa versa:



II. A worker's revolt? Melachim Aleph – chapter 11

כּו וַיִּרְבֹּעַם בֶּן-נֶבֶט אֶפְרָתִי מִן-הַצִּרְדָּה,
וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ צְרוּעָה אִשָּׁה אֶלְמָנָה, עֶבֶד,
לְשִׁלְמָה; וַיִּרָם יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ.

26 And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zeredah, a servant of Solomon, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, he also lifted up his hand against the king.

כּז וְזֶה הַדָּבָר, אֲשֶׁר-הָרִים יָד בַּמֶּלֶךְ:
שְׁלֹמֹה, בָּנָה אֶת-הַמְּלוּא-
-סָגֹר, אֶת-פָּרֹץ עִיר דָּוִד אָבִיו.

27 And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breach of the city of David his father.

כח וְהָאִישׁ יִרְבֹּעַם, גִּבּוֹר חַיִּל; וַיֵּרָא שְׁלֹמֹה
אֶת-הַנָּעֹר, כִּי-עָשָׂה מְלָאכָה הוּא,
וַיִּפְקֹד אֹתוֹ, לְכָל-סָבַל בֵּית יוֹסֵף. {ס}

28 And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour; and Solomon saw the young man that he was industrious, and he gave him charge over all the labour of the house of Joseph. {S}

כט וַיְהִי בַעֲת הַהִיא, וַיִּרְבֹּעַם יֵצֵא
מִירוּשָׁלַם; וַיִּמְצָא אֹתוֹ אַחִיָּה הַשִּׁילֹנִי
הַנְּבִיא בַדְרֹךְ, וְהוּא מִתְכַּסֶּה בְּשִׁלְמָה
חֲדָשָׁה, וּשְׁנֵיהֶם לְבָדִם, בַּשָּׂדֶה.

29 And it came to pass at that time, when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the way; now Ahijah had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field.

ל וַיִּתְפֹּשׂ אַחִיָּה, בְּשִׁלְמָה הַחֲדָשָׁה אֲשֶׁר
עָלָיו; וַיִּקְרַעֶהָ--שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר, קָרְעִים.

30 And Ahijah laid hold of the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces.

לא וַיֹּאמֶר, לְיִרְבֹּעַם, קַח-לְךָ, עֶשְׂרֵה
קָרְעִים: כִּי כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל,
הַנְּנִי קִרַּע אֶת-הַמְּמַלְכָה מִיַּד שְׁלֹמֹה, וְנָתַתִּי
לְךָ, אֶת עֶשְׂרֵה הַשְּׁבָטִים.

31 And he said to Jeroboam: 'Take thee ten pieces; for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee--

לב וְהִשְׁבֵּט הָאֶחָד, יִהְיֶה-לוֹ--לְמַעַן עֲבָדִי
דָּוִד, וּלְמַעַן יְרוּשָׁלַם, הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר בְּחָרְתִּי
בָּהּ, מִכָּל שְׁבֵטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

32 but he shall have one tribe, for My servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel--

לג יַעַן אֲשֶׁר עֲזָבוּנִי, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲווּ לְעֶשְׂתֹרֶת
אֱלֹהֵי צִדְוֹן, לְכִמּוֹשׁ אֱלֹהֵי מוֹאָב, וּלְמִלְכָם
אֱלֹהֵי בְנֵי-עַמּוֹן; וְלֹא-הָלְכוּ בְּדַרְכֵי, לַעֲשׂוֹת
הַיָּשָׁר בְּעֵינָי וּחְקֹתַי וּמִשְׁפָּטַי--כְּדָוִד אָבִיו.

33 because that they have forsaken Me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon; and they have not walked in My ways, to do that which is right in Mine eyes, and to keep My statutes and Mine ordinances, as did David his father.

לד וְלֹא-אֶקַּח אֶת-כָּל-הַמְּמַלְכָה, מִיָּדוֹ:
כִּי נָשִׂיא אֲשַׁתְּנוּ, כָּל יְמֵי חַיָּיו, לְמַעַן דָּוִד עֲבָדִי
אֲשֶׁר בְּחָרְתִּי אֹתוֹ, אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַר מִצְוֹתַי וּחְקֹתַי.

34 Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand; but I will make him prince all the days of his life, for David My servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept My commandments and My statutes;

לה וְלָקַחְתִּי הַמְּלוּכָה, מִיַּד בְּנוֹ; וְנָתַתִּיהָ לָּךְ, אֶת עֶשְׂרֵת הַשְּׁבָטִים. 35 but I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes.

לו וְלִבְנוֹ, אֶתֶן שֵׁבֶט-אֶחָד--לְמַעַן הִיֹּת-נִיר לְדָוִד-עַבְדִּי כָּל-הַיָּמִים לְפָנַי, בִּירוּשָׁלַם, הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר בַּחֲרָתִי לִי, לְשׁוֹם שְׁמִי שָׁם. 36 And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David My servant may have a lamp alway before Me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen Me to put My name there.

לז וְאֶתְּךָ אֶקַּח--וּמַלְכָּתָּ, בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר-תִּאְוָה נַפְשְׁךָ; וְהִיִּיתָ מֶלֶךְ, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. 37 And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign over all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel.

לח וְהָיָה, אִם-תִּשְׁמַע אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר אֶצְוֶה, וְהִלַּכְתָּ בְּדַרְכֵי וְעָשִׂיתָ הַיָּשָׁר בְּעֵינָי לְשִׁמּוֹר חֻקֹּתַי וּמִצְוֹתַי, כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה דָּוִד עַבְדִּי-- וְהִיִּיתִי עִמָּךְ, וּבְנִיתִי לָּךְ בַּיִת-נֶאֱמָן כַּאֲשֶׁר בְּנִיתִי לְדָוִד, וְנָתַתִּי לָּךְ, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל. 38 And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in My ways, and do that which is right in Mine eyes, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as David My servant did, that I will be with thee, and will build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee.

לט וְאֶעֱנָה אֶת-זֶרַע דָּוִד, לְמַעַן זֹאת-אֶךְ, לֹא כָּל-הַיָּמִים. {ס} 39 And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever.' {S}

מ וַיִּבְקֹשׁ שְׁלֹמֹה, לְהַמִּית אֶת-יָרָבֶעַם; וַיָּקָם יָרָבֶעַם, וַיִּבְרַח מִצְרַיִם אֶל-שִׁישַׁק מֶלֶךְ-מִצְרַיִם, וַיְהִי בְּמִצְרַיִם, עַד-מוֹת שְׁלֹמֹה. {ס} 40 Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam; but Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon. {S}

מא וְיֵתֶר דְּבָרֵי שְׁלֹמֹה וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה, וְחֻקְמָתוֹ--הֲלוֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי שְׁלֹמֹה. 41 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon?

מב וְהַיָּמִים, אֲשֶׁר מָלַךְ שְׁלֹמֹה בִּירוּשָׁלַם עַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל--אַרְבָּעִים, שָׁנָה. 42 And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.

מג וַיִּשְׁכַּב שְׁלֹמֹה, עִם-אֲבֹתָיו, וַיִּקְבֹּר, בְּעִיר דָּוִד אָבִיו; וַיִּמְלֹךְ רְחֹבָעַם בְּנוֹ, תַּחְתָּיו. {ס} 43 And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father; and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead. {S}

III. What were the building projects?

Chapter 9

- ד** וַיִּשְׁלַח חִירָם, לְמֶלֶךְ,
מֵאֵה וְעֶשְׂרִים, כֶּכֶר זָהָב.
14 And Hiram sent to the king
sixscore talents of gold.
- טו** וְזֶה דְבַר-הַמָּס אֲשֶׁר-הֶעֱלָה הַמֶּלֶךְ
שְׁלֹמֹה, לְבָנוֹת אֶת-יְהוָה
וְאֶת-בֵּיתוֹ וְאֶת-הַמְּלוּא,
וְאֶת, חוֹמַת יְרוּשָׁלַם;
וְאֶת-חֲצוֹר וְאֶת-מְגִדּוֹ, וְאֶת-גִּזְרֹ.
15 And this is the account of the levy
which king Solomon raised; to build
the house of the LORD, and his own
house, and Millo, and the wall of
Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo,
and Gezer.
- טז** פַּרְעֹה מֶלֶךְ-מִצְרַיִם עָלָה, וַיִּלְכֹּד אֶת-גִּזְרֹ
וַיִּשְׂרָפָהּ בְּאֵשׁ, וְאֶת-הַכְּנַעֲנִי הַיֹּשֵׁב בְּעִיר, הָרָג;
וַיִּתְּנָהּ, שְׁלָחִים, לְבָתוֹ, אִשְׁתׁ שְׁלֹמֹה.
16 Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone
up, and taken Gezer, and burnt it with
fire, and slain the Canaanites that
dwelt in the city, and given it for a
portion unto his daughter, Solomon's
wife.
- יז** וַיְבַן שְׁלֹמֹה אֶת-גִּזְרֹ, וְאֶת-בֵּית חוֹרֹן תַּחְתּוֹן.
17 And Solomon built Gezer, and
Beth-horon the nether,
- יח** וְאֶת-בַּעֲלָת וְאֶת-תַּדְמוֹר (תַּדְמוֹר) בְּמִדְבָּר, בְּאֶרֶץ.
18 and Baalath, and Tadmor in the
wilderness, in the land,
- יט** וְאֵת כָּל-עָרֵי הַמְּסֻכָּנוֹת, אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ לְשְׁלֹמֹה,
וְאֵת עָרֵי הָרֶכֶב, וְאֵת עָרֵי הַפָּרָשִׁים; וְאֵת חֲשֻׁק
שְׁלֹמֹה, אֲשֶׁר חֲשַׁק לְבָנוֹת בִּירוּשָׁלַם וּבְלִבְנוֹן,
וּבְכָל, אֶרֶץ מְמִשְׁלָתוֹ.
19 and all the store-cities that
Solomon had, and the cities for his
chariots, and the cities for his
horsemen, and that which Solomon
desired to build for his pleasure in
Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all
the land of his dominion.
- כ** כָּל-הָעָם הַנּוֹתָר מִן-הָאֱמֹרִי הַחֲתִי הַפְּרִזִּי,
הַחִוִּי וְהַיְבוּסִי, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הֵמָּה.
20 All the people that were left of the
Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites,
the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who
were not of the children of Israel;
- כא** בְּנֵיהֶם, אֲשֶׁר נָתְרוּ אַחֲרֵיהֶם בְּאֶרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר
לֹא-יָכְלוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְהַחְרִימָם;
וַיַּעֲלֵם שְׁלֹמֹה לְמַס-עֲבָד, עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה.
21 even their children that were left
after them in the land, whom the
children of Israel were not able utterly
to destroy, of them did Solomon raise
a levy of bondservants, unto this day.
- כב** וּמִבְּנֵי, יִשְׂרָאֵל, לֹא-נָתַן שְׁלֹמֹה, עֲבָד: כִּי-
הֵם אֲנָשֵׁי הַמִּלְחָמָה, וְעַבְדָּיו וְשָׂרָיו וְשְׁלִישָׁיו,
וְשָׂרֵי רֶכֶבוֹ, וּפָרָשָׁיו. {ס}
22 But of the children of Israel did
Solomon make no bondservants; but
they were the men of war, and his
servants, and his princes, and his
captains, and rulers of his chariots and
of his horsemen. {S}
- כג** אֵלֶּה שָׂרֵי הַנְּצָבִים, אֲשֶׁר עַל-הַמְּלָאכָה
לְשְׁלֹמֹה, חֲמִשִּׁים, וְחֲמִשָּׁן מְאוֹת--הָרֹדִים בְּעַם,
הַעֲשִׂים בַּמְּלָאכָה.
23 These were the chief officers that
were over Solomon's work, five
hundred and fifty, who bore rule over
the people that wrought in the work.
- כד** אֵדָן בַּת-פַּרְעֹה, עָלְתָה מֵעִיר דָּוִד, אֶל-
בֵּיתָהּ, אֲשֶׁר בָּנָה-לָּהּ; אַז, בָּנָה אֶת-הַמְּלוּא.
24 But Pharaoh's daughter came up
out of the city of David unto her house
which [Solomon] had built for her;
then did he build Millo.

כה וְהֵעֲלָה שְׁלֹמֹה שְׁלֹשׁ פְּעָמִים בַּשָּׁנָה עֹלוֹת וְשִׁלְמִים, עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר בָּנָה לַיהוָה, וְהִקְטִיר אֹתוֹ, אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וְשָׁלַם, אֶת-הַבַּיִת.

25 And three times in a year did Solomon offer burnt-offerings and peace-offerings upon the altar which he built unto the LORD, offering thereby, upon the altar that was before the LORD. So he finished the house.

כו וְאֶנִּי עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹה בְּעֶצְיוֹן-גִּבְרָא אֲשֶׁר אֶת-אֵלוֹת, עַל-שִׁפְתַי יַם-סוּף--בְּאֶרֶץ אֱדוֹם.

26 And king Solomon made a navy of ships in Ezion-geber, which is beside Eloth, on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom.

כז וַיִּשְׁלַח חִירָם בְּאֶנְי, אֶת-עֲבָדָיו, אֲנָשֵׁי אֲנִיּוֹת, יֹדְעֵי הַיָּם--עִם, עֲבָדֵי שְׁלֹמֹה.

27 And Hiram sent in the navy his servants, shipmen that had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

כח וַיָּבֹאוּ אוֹפִירָה--וַיִּקְחוּ מִשָּׁם זָהָב, אַרְבַּע-מֵאוֹת וְעֶשְׂרִים כֶּפֶר; וַיָּבֹאוּ, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹה. {פ}

28 And they came to Ophir, and fetched from thence gold, four hundred and twenty talents, and brought it to king Solomon. {P}

III. A. Change of Society due to industrialization:

Discussion:

Who paid for all the building projects

How did the new professions change daily life

Agriculture vs. Industry

B. Why would this cause political unrest?

What was Yerovam in charge of:

“sevel bet Yosef” - the work force?

“mas” – financial tax, or actual labor tax

[like “miluim” service]

C. Compare the religious [Divine] reason for revolt

[see chapter 11:1-13]

with the political [People’s] reason

[see also 11:14-25 / note parallel to Moshe\Yitro]

Note contrast – Shlomo & Egypt – pre/ post

IV. The revolt - chapter 12

א וַיֵּלֶךְ רְחָבְעָם, שָׁכֵם: כִּי שָׁכַם בָּא כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְהַמְלִיךְ אֹתוֹ.

1 And Rehoboam went to Shechem; for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him king.

ב וַיְהִי כִּשְׁמַע יְרָבְעָם בֶּן-נֶבֶט, וְהוּא עֹדֵנוּ בְּמִצְרַיִם, אֲשֶׁר בָּרַח, מִפְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹה; וַיֵּשֶׁב יְרָבְעָם, בְּמִצְרַיִם.

2 And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it--for he was yet in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt,

ג וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ, וַיִּקְרְאוּ-לוֹ, וַיָּבֹאוּ (וַיָּבֹאוּ) יְרָבְעָם, וְכָל-קְהַל יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיְדַבְּרוּ, אֶל-רְחָבְעָם לֵאמֹר.

3 and they sent and called him--that Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spoke unto Rehoboam, saying:

ד אָבִיךָ, הִקְשָׁה אֶת-עַלְנוֹ; וְאַתָּה עֲתָה הִקַּל מֵעֲבֹדֵת אָבִיךָ הַקְּשָׁה, וַיִּמְעַלּוּ הַכֶּבֶד אֲשֶׁר-נָתַן עָלֵינוּ--וְנַעֲבֹדְךָ.

4 'Thy father made our yoke grievous; now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.'

ה וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם, לָכוּ-עַד שְׁלֹשָׁה יָמִים--וַיָּשׁוּבוּ אֵלַי; וַיֵּלְכוּ, הָעָם.

5 And he said unto them: 'Depart yet for three days, then come again to me.' And the people departed.

ו וַיִּוָּעֵץ הַמֶּלֶךְ רְחָבְעָם, אֶת-הַזְּקֵנִים אֲשֶׁר-הָיוּ עִמָּדִים אֶת-פְּנֵי שְׁלֹמֹה אָבִיו, בְּהִיטוֹ חַי, לֵאמֹר: אֵיךְ אַתֶּם נוֹעֲצִים, לְהָשִׁיב אֶת-הָעָם-הַזֶּה דָּבָר.

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?'

ז וַיְדַבֵּר (וַיְדַבְּרוּ) אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר, אִם-הָיוּם תְּהִיָּה-עֶבֶד לָעָם הַזֶּה וְעַבַּדְתֶּם, וְעֲנִיתֶם, וַדַּבַּרְתָּ אֲלֵיהֶם דְּבָרִים טוֹבִים--וְהָיוּ לְךָ עֲבָדִים, כָּל-הַיָּמִים.

7 And they spoke unto him, saying: 'If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.'

ח וַיַּעֲזֹב אֶת-עֲצַת הַזְּקֵנִים, אֲשֶׁר יַעֲצָהוּ; וַיִּוָּעֵץ, אֶת-הַיְלָדִים אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוּ אִתּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר הָעִמָּדִים, לִפְנָיו.

8 But he forsook the counsel of the old men which they had given him, and took counsel with the young men that were grown up with him, that stood before him.

ט וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם, מָה אַתֶּם נוֹעֲצִים, וְנָשִׁיב דְּבָר, אֶת-הָעָם הַזֶּה--אֲשֶׁר דַּבְּרוּ אֵלַי, לֵאמֹר, הִקַּל מִן-הָעֵל, אֲשֶׁר-נָתַן אָבִיךָ עָלֵינוּ.

9 And he said unto them: 'What counsel give ye, that we may return answer to this people, who have spoken to me, saying: Make the yoke that thy father did put upon us lighter?'

י וַיְדַבְּרוּ אֵלָיו, הַיְלָדִים אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוּ אִתּוֹ לֵאמֹר, כֹּה-תֹאמַר לָעָם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר דַּבְּרוּ אֵלֶיךָ לֵאמֹר אָבִיךָ הִכְבִּיד אֶת-עַלְנוֹ, וְאַתָּה

10 And the young men that were grown up with him spoke unto him, saying: 'Thus shalt thou say unto this people that spoke unto thee, saying: Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt

הַקֵּל מֵעַלְיָנוּ: כֹּה תִדְבֹר אֵלֵיהֶם, קִטְנֵי עֲבָה
מִמֶּתְנֵי אָבִי.

thou speak unto them: My little finger
is thicker than my father's loins.

יא וְעַתָּה, אָבִי הֶעֱמִיס עָלֵיכֶם עַל כָּבֵד,
וְאָנִי, אוֹסִיף עַל-עַלְכֶם; אָבִי, יִסֹר אֶתְכֶם
בְּשׁוֹטִים, וְאָנִי, אֲיִסֹר אֶתְכֶם בְּעַקְרָבִים.

11 And now whereas my father did
burden you with a heavy yoke, I will
add to your yoke; my father chastised
you with whips, but I will chastise
you with scorpions.'

יב וַיָּבֹאוּ יָרֵבֶעַם וְכָל-הָעָם אֶל-רְחֹבַעַם, בַּיּוֹם
הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר הַמֶּלֶךְ לֵאמֹר, שׁוּבוּ
אֵלַי בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי.

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

יג וַיַּעַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-הָעָם, קָשָׁה; וַיַּעֲזֹב אֶת-
עֲצַת הַזְּקֵנִים, אֲשֶׁר יַעֲצֶהוּ.

13 And the king answered the people
roughly, and forsook the counsel of
the old men which they had given
him;

יד וַיִּדְבֹר אֵלֵיהֶם, בְּעֲצַת הַיְלָדִים לֵאמֹר,
אָבִי הִכְבִּיד אֶת-עַלְכֶם, וְאָנִי אוֹסִיף עַל-
עַלְכֶם; אָבִי, יִסֹר אֶתְכֶם בְּשׁוֹטִים, וְאָנִי,
אֲיִסֹר אֶתְכֶם בְּעַקְרָבִים.

14 and spoke to them after the counsel
of the young men, saying: 'My father
made your yoke heavy, but I will add
to your yoke; my father chastised you
with whips, but I will chastise you
with scorpions.'

טו וְלֹא-שָׁמַע הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-הָעָם: כִּי-הִיְתָה
סִבָּה, מֵעַם יְהוָה, לִמְעַן הַקִּים אֶת-דְּבָרוֹ
אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה בְּיַד אַחִיָּה הַשִּׁילֹנִי, אֶל-
יָרֵבֶעַם בֶּן-נֶבֶט.

15 So the king hearkened not unto the
people; for it was a thing brought
about of the LORD, that He might
establish His word, which the LORD
spoke by the hand of Ahijah the
Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of
Nebat.

טז וַיִּרְא כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, כִּי לֹא-שָׁמַע הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֵלֵיהֶם, וַיָּשָׁבוּ הָעָם אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ דֹּבֵר לֵאמֹר
מִה-לָּנוּ חֵלֶק בְּדָוִד וְלֹא-נַחֲלָה בְּבֶן-יִשָׁי
לְאֵהֲלִיף יִשְׂרָאֵל, עַתָּה רְאֵה בֵּיתְךָ דָּוִד;
וַיֵּלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְאֵהֲלָיו.

16 And when all Israel saw that the
king hearkened not unto them, the
people answered the king, saying:
'What portion have we in David?
neither have we inheritance in the son
of Jesse; to your tents, O Israel; now
see to thine own house, David.' So
Israel departed unto their tents.

יז וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַיֹּשְׁבִים בְּעָרֵי יְהוּדָה--
וַיִּמְלֹךְ עֲלֵיהֶם, רְחֹבַעַם. {פ}

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

יח וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ רְחֹבַעַם, אֶת-אֲדָרָם אֲשֶׁר
עַל-הַמָּס, וַיִּרְגְּמוּ כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל בּוֹ אֲבָן,
וַיָּמָת; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ רְחֹבַעַם, הִתְאַמֵּץ לָעֲלוֹת
בְּמַרְכָּבָה, לָנוֹס, יְרוּשָׁלַם.

18 Then king Rehoboam sent
Adoram, who was over the levy; and
all Israel stoned him with stones, so
that he died. And king Rehoboam
made speed to get him up to his
chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

יט וַיִּפְשְׁעוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּבֵית דָּוִד, עַד הַיּוֹם
הַזֶּה. {ס}

19 So Israel rebelled against the house
of David, unto this day. {S}

כ וַיְהִי כַשְׁמַע כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, כִּי-שָׁב יִרְבֵּעַם, וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֹתוֹ אֶל-הָעֵדָה, וַיִּמְלִיכוּ אֹתוֹ עַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל: לֹא הָיָה אַחֲרֵי בֵית-דָּוִד, זֹולָתִי שִׁבְט-יְהוּדָה לְבַדּוֹ.

20 And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was returned, that they sent and called him unto the congregation, and made him king over all Israel; there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

כא וַיָּבֹאוּ (וַיָּבֵא) רַחֲבָעָם, יְרוּשָׁלַם, וַיִּקְהַל אֶת-כָּל-בֵּית יְהוּדָה וְאֶת-שִׁבְט בְּנֵימִן מֵאָה וּשְׁמָנִים אָלֶף בַּחֹר, עָשָׂה מִלְחָמָה--לְהִלָּחֵם, עִם-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְהָשִׁיב אֶת-הַמְּלוּכָה, לְרַחֲבָעָם בֶּן-שְׁלֹמֹה. {פ}

21 And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, and the tribe of Benjamin, a hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men that were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom back to Rehoboam the son of Solomon. {P}

כב וַיְהִי דְבַר הָאֱלֹהִים, אֶל-שְׁמַעְיָה אִישׁ-הָאֱלֹהִים לֵאמֹר.

22 But the word of God came unto Shemaiah the man of God, saying:

כג אָמַר, אֶל-רַחֲבָעָם בֶּן-שְׁלֹמֹה מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, וְאֶל-כָּל-בֵּית יְהוּדָה, וּבְנֵימִן; וְיִתֵּר הָעָם, לֵאמֹר.

23 'Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the rest of the people, saying:

כד כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה לֹא-תַעֲלוּ וְלֹא-תִלָּחֲמוּ עִם-אַחֵיכֶם בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל, שׁוּבוּ אִישׁ לְבֵיתוֹ--כִּי מֵאִתִּי נִהְיָה, הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה; וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה, וַיָּשׁוּבוּ לָלֶכֶת כַּדְּבַר יְהוָה. {ס}

24 Thus saith the LORD: Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel; return every man to his house; for this thing is of Me.' So they hearkened unto the word of the LORD, and returned and went their way, according to the word of the LORD. {S}

כה וַיִּבֶן יִרְבֵּעַם אֶת-שֶׁכֶם בְּהַר אֶפְרַיִם, וַיֵּשֶׁב בָּהּ; וַיֵּצֵא מִשָּׁם, וַיִּבֶן אֶת-פְּנוּאֵל.

25 Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill-country of Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and he went out from thence, and built Penuel.

כו וַיֹּאמֶר יִרְבֵּעַם, בְּלִבּוֹ: עַתָּה תָּשׁוּב הַמְּמֻלְכָה, לְבֵית דָּוִד.

26 And Jeroboam said in his heart: 'Now will the kingdom return to the house of David.

כז אִם-יַעֲלֶה הָעָם הַזֶּה, לַעֲשׂוֹת זְבָחִים בְּבַיִת-יְהוָה בִּירוּשָׁלַם, וְשָׁב לֵב הָעָם הַזֶּה אֶל-אַדְנֵיהֶם, אֶל-רַחֲבָעָם מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה; וְהִרְגֵנִי, וְשָׁבוּ אֶל-רַחֲבָעָם מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה.

27 If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then will the heart of this people turn back unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah; and they will kill me, and return to Rehoboam king of Judah.'

כח וַיִּזְעַץ הַמֶּלֶךְ--וַיַּעַשׂ, שְׁנֵי עֲגֹלֵי זָהָב; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם, רַב-לָכֶם מַעֲלוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם--הִנֵּה אֱלֹהֵיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱלוּךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם.

28 Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold; and he said unto them: 'Ye have gone up long enough to Jerusalem; behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.'

כט וַיִּשֶׂם אֶת-הָאֶחָד, בְּבֵית-אֵל; וְאֶת-הָאֶחָד, נָתַן בְּדָן.

29 And he set the one in Beth-el, and the other put he in Dan.

ל וַיְהִי הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, לְחַטָּאת; וַיֵּלְכוּ הָעָם לְפָנֵי הָאֶחָד, עַד-דָּן.

30 And this thing became a sin; for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan.

לא וַיַּעַשׂ, אֶת-בָּיִת בָּמוֹת; וַיַּעַשׂ כְּהֲנִים מִקְצוֹת הָעָם, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-הָיוּ מִבְּנֵי לֵוִי.

31 And he made houses of high places, and made priests from among all the people, that were not of the sons of Levi.

לב וַיַּעַשׂ יִרְבְּעָם חֹג בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁמִינִי בַּחֲמִשָּׁה-עָשָׂר יוֹם לַחֹדֶשׁ כַּחֹג אֲשֶׁר בִּיהוּדָה, וַיַּעַל עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ--כִּן עָשָׂה בְּבֵית-אֵל, לְזַבַּח לְעֹגְלִים אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה; וְהָעֹמִיד בְּבֵית אֵל, אֶת-כְּהֲנֵי הַבָּמוֹת אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה.

32 And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he went up unto the altar; so did he in Beth-el, to sacrifice unto the calves that he had made; and he placed in Beth-el the priests of the high places that he had made.

לג וַיַּעַל עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה בְּבֵית-אֵל, בַּחֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁמִינִי--בַּחֹדֶשׁ, אֲשֶׁר-בָּדָא מַלְבָּד (מִלְבָּו); וַיַּעַשׂ חֹג לְבָנָי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיַּעַל עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ לְהַקְטִיר. {פ}

33 And he went up unto the altar which he had made in Beth-el on the fifteenth day in the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised of his own heart; and he ordained a feast for the children of Israel, and went up unto the altar, to offer. {P}