

# Characters In The Making

## “Jeroboam & Man-Made Religion”

(1 Kings 12:25-33)

- Introduction: 1. The occasion of this text is just subsequent to the division of God’s people.  
2. Jeroboam leads a revolt and his followers make him their king (1 Kings 12:12-14).  
3. This lesson is an examination of Jeroboam’s actions in regard to the religion he instituted, and to note similarities to today’s religions.
- I. The Object Of Worship Is God Alone  
A. (Exodus 20:3-5; Deuteronomy 6:13).  
B. Jeroboam made two golden calves (vs. 28).  
C. (Matthew 4:10).
- II. The Place Of Worship Was Jerusalem  
A. (Deuteronomy 12:10-11).  
B. Jeroboam set up his golden calves in Dan and Bethel (v. 29).  
1. And the people were foolish enough to worship it (v. 30).
- III. God Had Chosen The Tribe Of Levi To Be The Priests  
A. (Numbers 3:5-13).  
B. Jeroboam made priest from among every class of people (v. 31).
- IV. God Commanded That A Feast Be Held On The 7<sup>th</sup> Month, 15<sup>th</sup> Day  
A. (Leviticus 23:33-34).  
B. Jeroboam celebrated his feast day on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 8<sup>th</sup> month (v. 32).
- V. Religion Must Have Its Origin From God  
A. Everything had to be done according to the pattern (Hebrews 8:5).  
B. Jeroboam’s religion had its origin in the human heart (vs. 26, 32).  
C. In reality there are only two types of religion:  
1. “I say” -vs- “God says.”  
2. “I think” -vs- “It is written.”  
D. (Jeremiah 10:23; Isaiah 55:9; Proverbs 16:25).  
E. (Matthew 15:13).
- VI. The Purpose Of Religion Is To Honor God  
A. (Malachi 1:6).  
B. Jeroboam’s religion was instituted for his own selfish ends (vs. 27-29).
- VII. God’s Way Is Demanding  
A. (Matthew 7:13-14).  
B. Jeroboam’s religion was accommodating and convenient for the people (v. 28).
- VIII. The Results Of Follow God  
A. Those who follow God have fellowship with him (1 John 1:9).  
B. Those who follow man have no fellowship with God (2 John 9-11).
- Conclusion: 1. False religion is not knew.  
2. Satan doesn’t mind one being religious, so long as he does not obey and follow the Lord.