

schemes in trying to strengthen his kingdom and get himself a dynasty that will last, but when he comes into serious trouble, he looks back to the beliefs of his youth, and tries to get help from Ahijah, the prophet of God, who had originally told him that he would be king. But he says ~~that~~, "I know that Ahijah wouldn't talk to me if he knew who I was. I ~~walk send my wife~~ won't go to see him; I will send my wife. He won't recognize her, and then she can be disguised so that she will simply come as one asking for help. She will bring a nice present with her, and she will ask him 'What about my child? My child is sick. Can my child recover from his illness?' And the old prophet will have sympathy with the woman whose child is sick and will give her help." So she came ~~and Ahijah~~. It wasn't Jeroboam that Ahijah knew. It was his wife whom he had probably never seen. Perhaps her picture had been in the illustrated section of the newspaper. He might have seen her in the distance sometime, ~~but~~ he never had had direct contact with her so he would be less apt to recognize her. Then in addition she was disguised. Then we find in addition to that Ahijah's eyes were set by reason of his age. He may have had cataracts or he had lost his accommodation. He was unable to see well. He was pretty elderly. Under these circumstances it would be very strange indeed if he would have any idea as to who it was who was coming to him. But, when she came in, the Lord gave Ahijah a message. He told him who was coming and what ~~he~~ was going to do and what he should do. So Ahijah, who gave the promise of blessing to Jeroboam if he would be true to God, is the one who gives the final declaration of ~~the~~ destruction of his kingdom. He declares to her that she ~~is~~ Jeroboam's wife and why should she pretend to be another. He has heavy tidings for her. Jeroboam has done that which is evil; therefore God is going to utterly destroy every male from the house of Jeroboam. He is going to bring a complete end to his family. Only one child is to die a natural death and that is this one who is sick now. He only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave. The rest would die a tragic death in upheaval. He says, "The Lord will smite Israel and ~~not~~ give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam. So Jeroboam's wife arose and departed. Where did she go? (Asks students) Now she went to Persia. We