

described in I Kings 12. Now we are told in these previous passages ~~that~~ the cause of the ~~destruction~~ disruption. The cause of the disruption is the fact that Solomon had sinned against God. The circumstances leading up to the disruption are the circumstances of a disunity within the kingdom which goes back for centuries before this time which might break out into a division, and then the circumstances at this time of Solomon's very harsh treatment of the people in order to squeeze as much out of them as he can to build his wonderful buildings and glorify his kingdom. Then we have the occasion of the disruption in Chapter 12. And you see the difference: the cause, the circumstances leading up to it, and the occasion. The occasion is a little incidental thing which starts it, just as the occasion of the last war was the attack at Pearl Harbor. That was certainly not the cause, but it was an occasion; it was the immediate situation which brought it about. Here the immediate situation is one which has happened in many kingdoms when a new man has become king very often he has shown just as little sense as Rehoboam showed and still has gone and ruled. Very often that has happened. The occasion alone would not have ~~brought~~ brought it, but the occasion, with the cause before and the circumstances before, the occasion was like striking a match to a lot of stuff that is already to go up at any moment. The match was struck in Rehoboam's lack of wisdom in dealing with the people. So in Chapter 12 we have the account of how the people came to Rehoboam asking for some good promises and instead of giving them good promises Rehoboam gave them harsh words, and the result of the harsh words was that his kingdom was split. When the kingdom was split, we find Jeroboam already there. Jeroboam hears of Solomon's death, and ~~comes~~ comes right up there ~~in~~ in order to be the ringleader of the trouble there in Israel. So the kingdom is split; the northern two-thirds refuses to be subject to Rehoboam and rebels as we read in verse 19, "so Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day. When you read "unto this day", you say, "Well, Kings was probably written while there were still two kingdoms. The northern kingdom has rebelled unto this