

Rehoboam's Folly. 1 Kings 12:13-14.

Such madness is scarcely credible in the son of Solomon. These two kings present a remarkable contrast:

1. Solomon at twenty years of age is the wisest man of his time.
2. Rehoboam, at forty, is unfit to rule himself or his people.

In Rehoboam's life we consider three things:

1. Rehoboam's boastfulness of his power.

"My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins." 1 Kings 12:10.

A proverbial expression denoting that his power was greater than his father's.

1. At the first out break of rebellion this boaster, "made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem." V.18
2. A strong character expresses itself not in great words but in great deeds.
  1. The boastful Peter fails. Matt. 26:35.
  2. The silent John stands firm.
  3. The Pharisee rejected...the publican justified. Luke 18:9-14.
2. Rehoboam's abuse of his authority.
  1. My father made your yoke heavy and I will add to your yoke. Verse 11.
3. Rehoboam's neglect of prayer.

"Depart yet for three days and then come again to me. V.5

1. He consulted with old and young men.
2. If he sought God's help it is not on record. Verses 6-11

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