

Recognizing the path to spiritual disaster

1 Kings 12:25-33

- I. Altering true worship – Jeroboam established a similar but false worship system (1 Kings 12:25-30).
 - A. Jeroboam feared that true worship in Jerusalem would weaken his control (12:25-26).
 - B. Jeroboam made two golden calves and established two rival places of worship (12:27-30).
 - Spiritual error begins when people use the Bible or religion for selfish motives.
 - Authentic worship is lost when we choose convenience over commitment.
 - Authentic worship is eroded when people focus on physical objects instead God himself.

- II. Ignoring God's word – Jeroboam established clearly disobedient worship practices (1 Kings 12:31-33).
 - A. Jeroboam built shrines contrary to God's word.
 - B. Jeroboam appointed non-Levites as priests and made sacrifices himself contrary to God's word.
 - C. Jeroboam established festivals contrary to God's word.
 - D. Jeroboam sacrificed to the golden calves contrary to God's word.
 - The path to spiritual disaster incorporates biblical truth with serious error.

Spiritual maturity requires knowing and obeying God's word – Acts 17:11; Ephesians 4:11-14; James 1:22

- Disregarding God's word in one area escalates into more and more disobedience.