

# 1 Kings 12:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Beth-el, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed in Beth-el the priests of the high places which he had made.

## Analysis

**And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Beth-el, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed in Beth-el the priests of the high places which he had made.**

This verse contributes to the broader narrative of kingdom divided: rehoboam and jeroboam, within the book's focus on kingdom division as judgment for Solomon's idolatry. The sacrificial system points forward to Christ's ultimate sacrifice, fulfilling all temple offerings (Hebrews 10:1-18).

The Hebrew text reveals nuances important for understanding this passage's contribution to 1 Kings' theological message about kingship, covenant, and faithfulness to Yahweh. This verse demonstrates the consequences when God's people—especially their leaders—either follow or forsake the covenant established at Sinai.

## Historical Context

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First Kings was written during or after the Babylonian exile (6th century BCE), reflecting on the monarchy period (10th-9th centuries BCE) to explain why the kingdoms fell. The kingdom division (c. 930 BCE) created the northern kingdom (Israel, 10 tribes) and southern kingdom (Judah, 2 tribes).

Ancient Near Eastern kingship ideology viewed kings as divine representatives responsible for maintaining cosmic order through right worship. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Megiddo, Hazor, and Samaria confirm the historical reliability of 1 Kings' descriptions of building projects and administrative structures.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How can leaders today avoid Rehoboam's mistakes and lead with wisdom rather than pride?
2. What does the kingdom division teach about the long-term consequences of generational sin and compromise?
3. How does this verse point toward or prepare for the coming of Christ and His eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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עִשְׂרֵה בְּחַמְשָׁה הַשְׁמִינִי לְחַדְשָׁה כְּפָנָיו יְרַבֵּעַ מִזְמָרָה:  
So did And Jeroboam a feast month in the eighth on the fifteenth H6240  
H6213 H3379 H2282 H2320 H8066 H2568

עַל יְמֵינֵךְ לְחַדְשָׁה אֲשֶׁר בְּיְהוּדָה וְבַיּוֹם הַזֶּה  
day month a feast that is in Judah and he offered H5921  
H3117 H2320 H2282 H3063 H5927

לְעַלְלֵי יְמֵינֵךְ לְזִבְחַת אֲלֵיכֶם בְּמִזְבֵּחַ בְּבֵית  
upon the altar So did he in Bethel sacrificing unto the calves H5695  
H4196 H3651 H6213 H1008 H2076 H5695

כְּהַבְנֵי אֲתָת אֲלֵיכֶם וְבְבֵית אֲשֶׁר  
H834 So did and he placed he in Bethel the priests H3548  
H6213 H5975 H1008 H853 H3548

עַשְׂתָּה אֲשֶׁר בְּבֵית וְבְבֵית  
of the high places So did H1116 H834 H6213

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 8:5** (Parallel theme): And king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel, that were assembled unto him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

**1 Kings 8:2** (Parallel theme): And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.