

# 1 Kings 12:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:

## Analysis

**But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:**

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 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

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 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## 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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בָּתַּהֲרָה	אֲשֶׁר	אֲתָּה	עִזָּת	פִּזְקָה	יְמִינְךָ	אֲשֶׁר	אֲשֶׁר	בָּתַּהֲרָה
<b>But he forsook</b>	H853	<b>the counsel</b>	H6098	<b>of the old men</b>	H2205	<b>him and consulted</b>	H3289	
H5800								
בָּתַּהֲרָה	אֲשֶׁר	אֲתָּה	פִּילְדִּים	אֲשֶׁר	בָּתַּהֲרָה	אֲתָּה	בָּתַּהֲרָה	
<b>him and consulted</b>	H853	<b>with the young men</b>	H3206	<b>that were grown up</b>	H1431			H854
H3289								
בָּתַּהֲרָה	אֲשֶׁר	אֲתָּה	פָּנָיוֹן	לְפָנָיוֹן				
<b>with him and which stood</b>	H5975	<b>before</b>	H6440					
H834								

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 19:20** (Parallel theme): Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

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