

“Just LISTEN to Me for a Second!”

1 Kings 12:1-24

June 2, 2019

*“So the king [Rehoboam, son of Solomon] did not listen to the people...” – 1 Kings 12:15*

- **Historical background:** the tension between the northern and southern tribes (2 Sam 5:3-5; 20:1), Solomon’s policies of high taxation and the use of forced labor (1 Ki 4:7, 22-23, 27-28; 5:13-16), the punishment of God for Solomon’s idolatry and breach of the covenant
- **Lesson:** by listening neither to the people nor to the wise counsel of the elders who had served his father Solomon, King Rehoboam was refusing to listen to the LORD. A gentle answer would have turned away the people’s wrath, but his harsh answer stirred it up (Prov. 15:1).
- **Application:** think of one situation you are facing: how is God revealing his will to you (i.e., a Holy Spirit prompting, a Bible verse or the counsel of a trusted friend/advisor), and are you heeding his counsel? If yes, may God bless you from Zion! If not, why not?