

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

***SOLOMON'S SAD END /
ISRAEL BECAME TWO KINGDOMS***

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1 KINGS 11:1–13, 26–43; 12:1–24
SOLOMON'S SAD END /
ISRAEL BECAME TWO KINGDOMS
File no. 69

**King Solomon ruled over the
twelve tribes of Israel.**

**God had said to him,
'If you obey Me,
and do not worship other gods,
I will let your family rule forever.'**

**But Solomon did not obey God.
He made God angry
by worshipping other gods.**

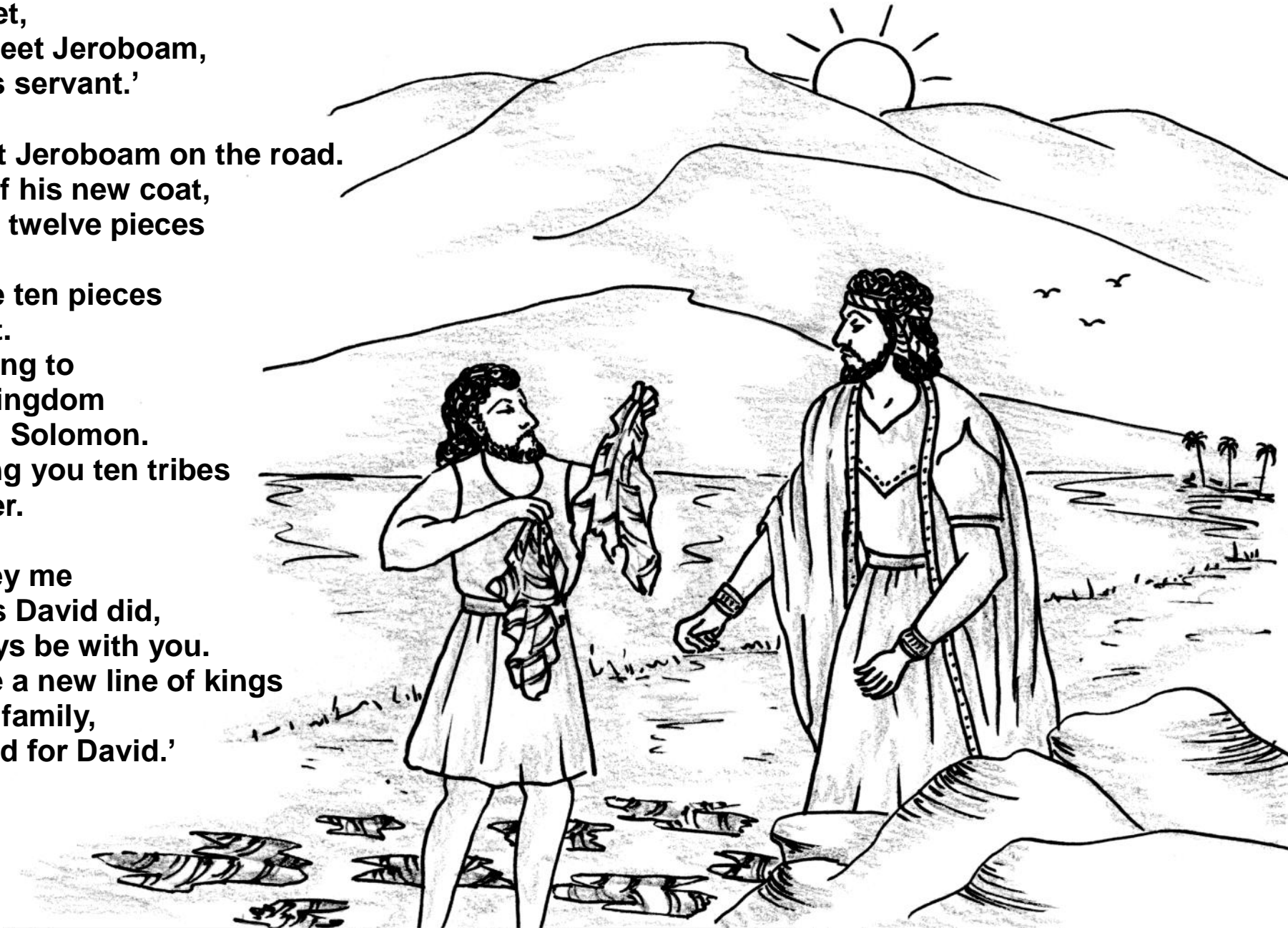
**God said to Solomon,
'When your son becomes king
I will divide Israel into two parts.
I will give one part to
your servant,
but because of My promise to
your father David
I will let your son rule over
the other part.'**



**Then God said to Ahijah,
the prophet,
'Go and meet Jeroboam,
Solomon's servant.'**

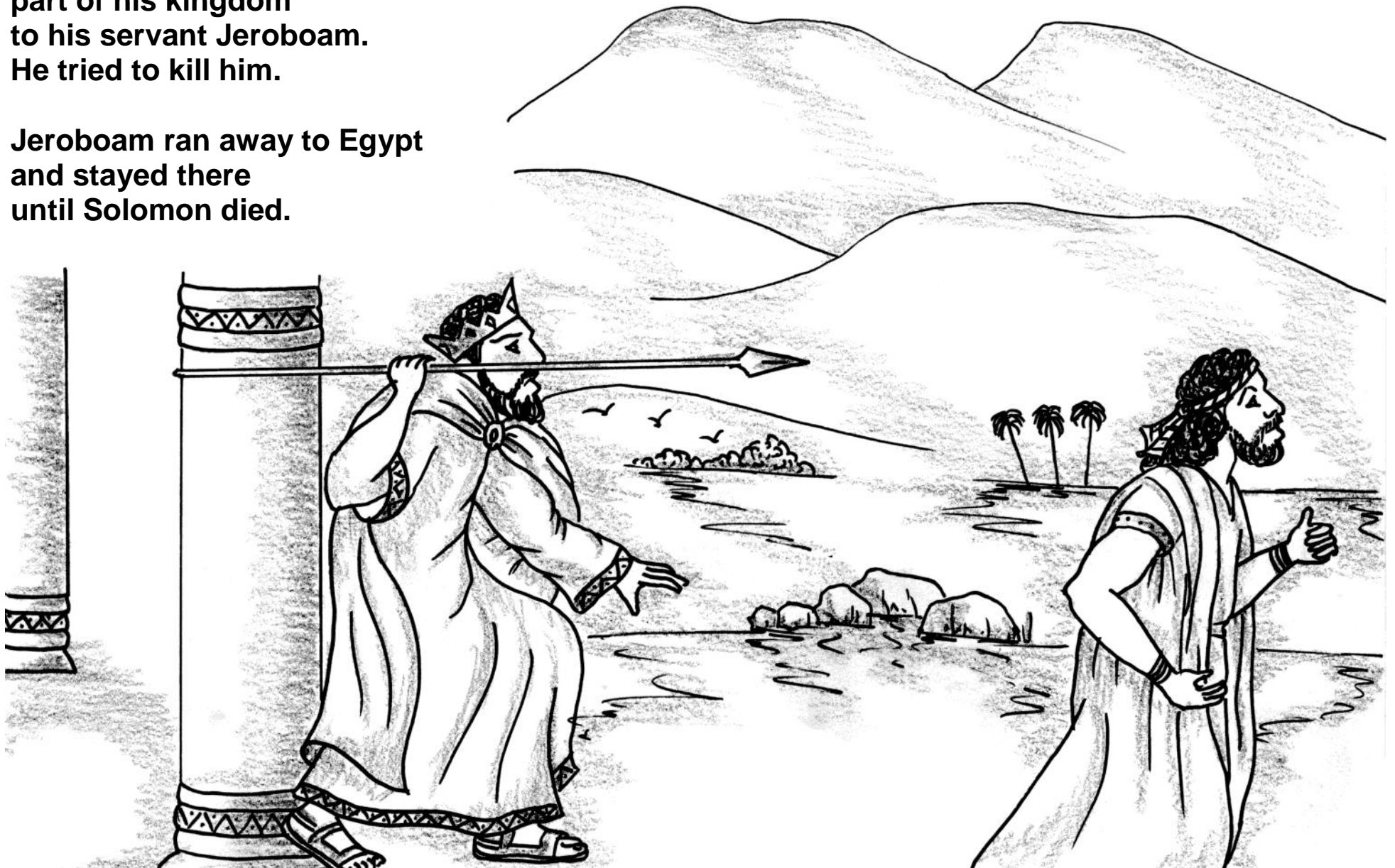
**Ahijah met Jeroboam on the road.
He took off his new coat,
tore it into twelve pieces
and said,
'Here, take ten pieces
of my coat.
God is going to
tear this kingdom
away from Solomon.
He is giving you ten tribes
to rule over.**

**'If you obey me
and live as David did,
I will always be with you.
I will make a new line of kings
from your family,
just as I did for David.'**



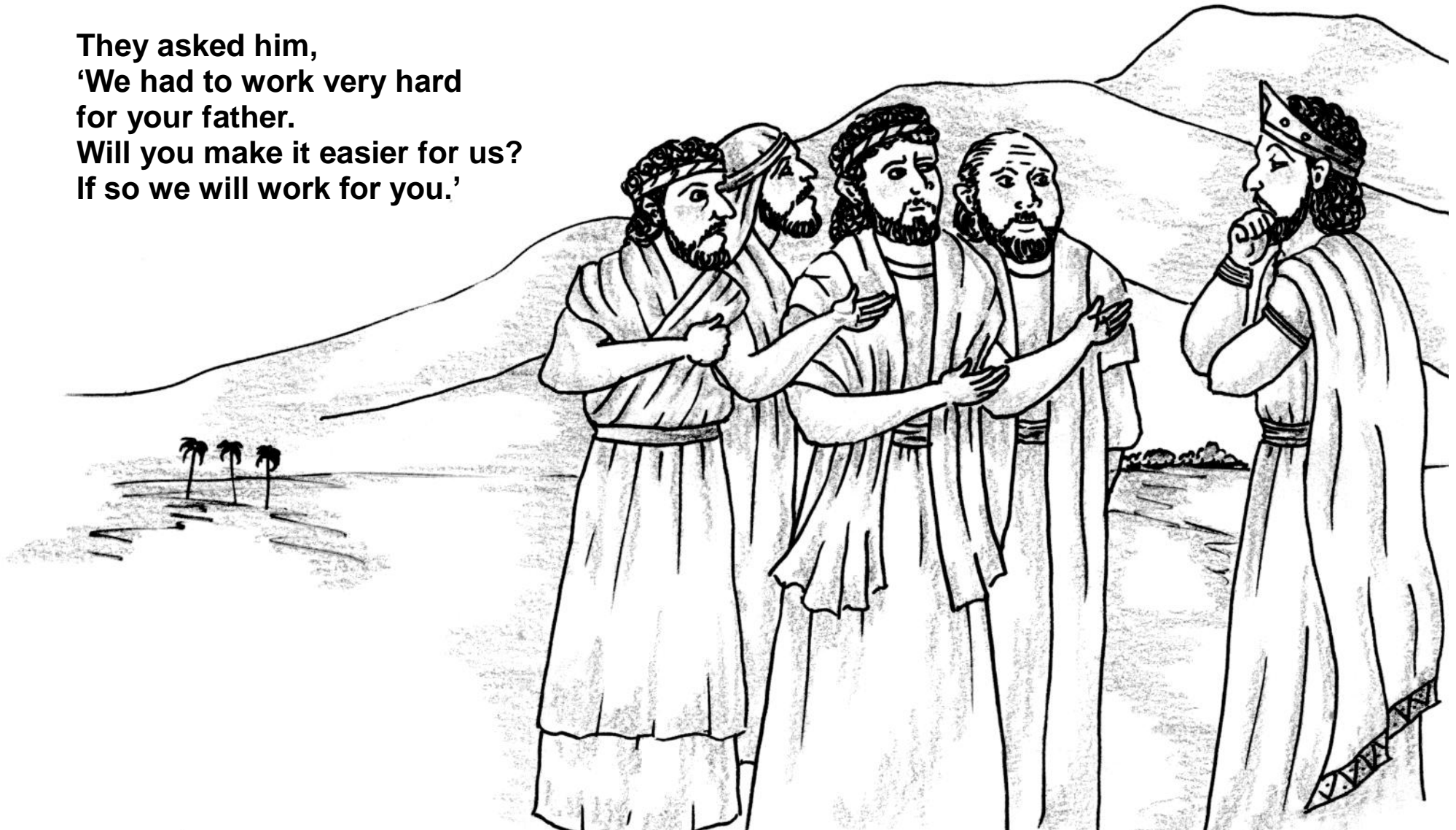
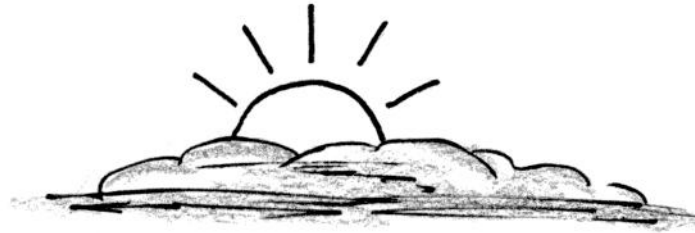
Solomon was angry when he heard that God was going to give part of his kingdom to his servant Jeroboam. He tried to kill him.

Jeroboam ran away to Egypt and stayed there until Solomon died.



After Solomon died
Jereboam returned home.
He and his friends
visited the new king,
King Rehoboam.

They asked him,
'We had to work very hard
for your father.
Will you make it easier for us?
If so we will work for you.'

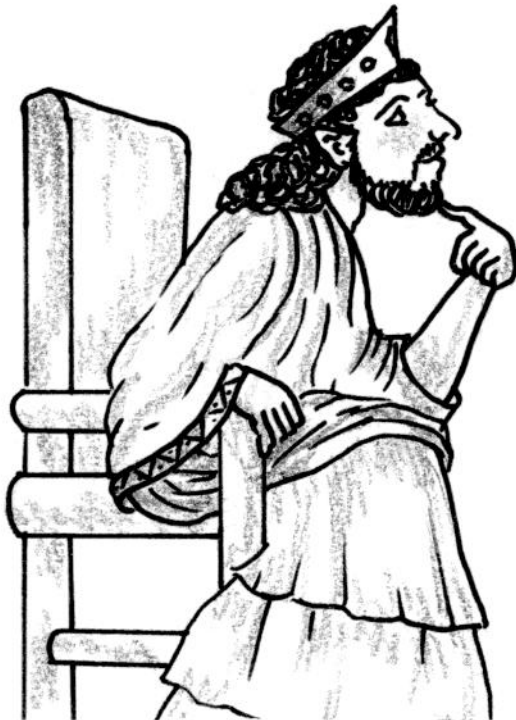
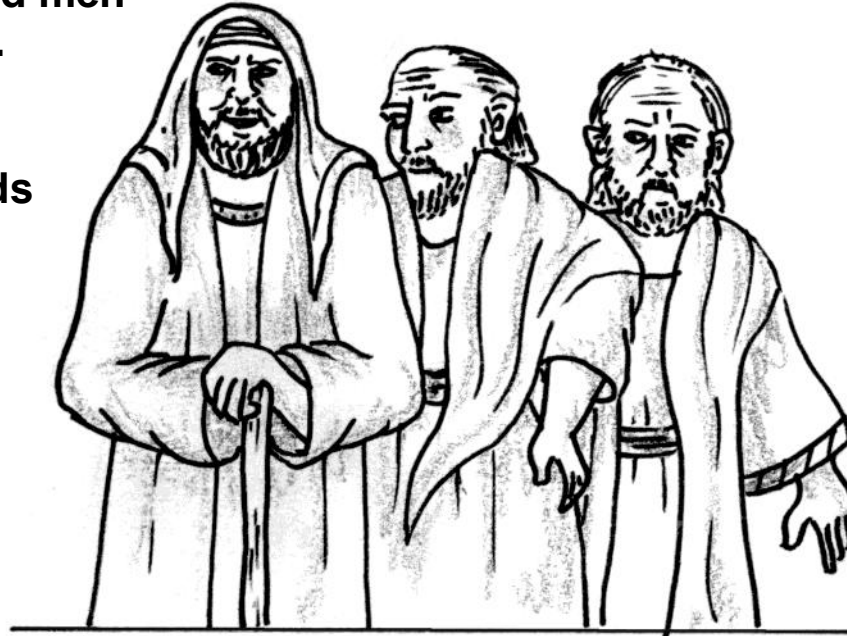


**King Rehoboam went to his wise old men
and asked them what he should do.**

**They said to him,
'Be kind to Jeroboam and his friends
and they will work for you.'**

**Then King Rehoboam went to his
young friends and asked them
what he should do.**

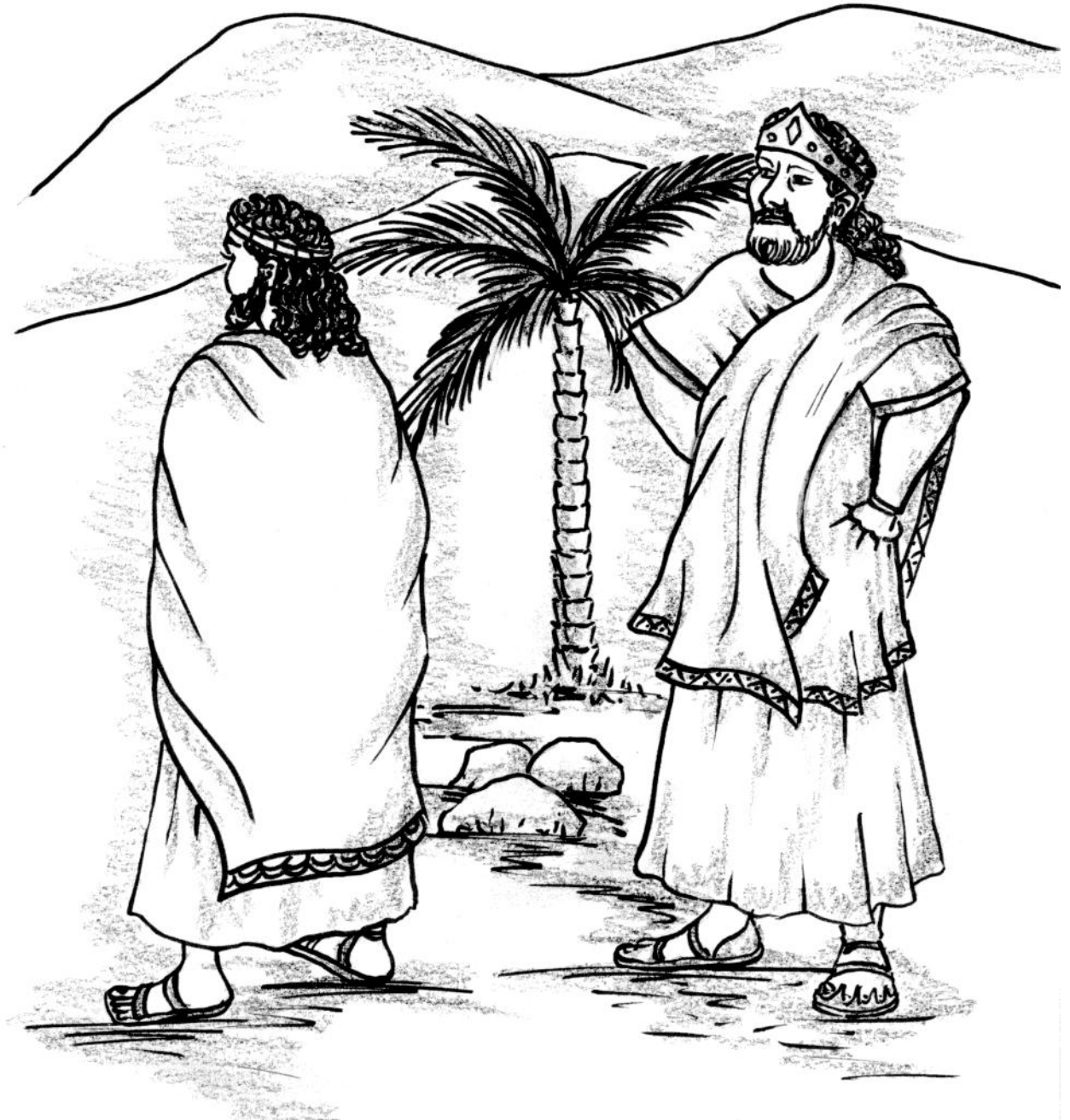
**They said,
'Be rough with them
and make their work harder.'**



King Rehoboam liked what his young friends said, so when he saw Jeroboam he spoke roughly to him.

When Jeroboam saw that they had not been listened to, he and his friends went away from the king.

Jeroboam's friends then made Jeroboam king over the ten tribes in the north, just as God had said.



King Rehoboam was angry
with Jeroboam.
He did not want him
to be king of the north.
Rehoboam and his soldiers
set out to fight them.

But a prophet of God
stopped him saying,
'Do not fight. Go home!
God has made this happen.'

Rehoboam went home
and was king over two tribes.

*God's promise to David
did not stop.
His blessing was for
the whole world
and would come
through his family.*

