

1 Kings 13

King James Version (KJV)

13 And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. (Now Jeroboam was acting like a priest)

(The prophet came out of Judah. All the righteous people left Israel when Jeroboam created his golden calf religion. They all moved into Judah)

NOTE: (Moses' cousin Korah tried doing the same thing to Aaron. He and his followers wanted to become the priests of God. God killed them for it. Don't mess with God or with His church)

²And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee. (Josiah = whom Yah heals)

(Burning the priests' bones on the altar would desecrate the false altars. Unfortunately, Josiah won't come for another 360 years)

³And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out. (This sign would happen then, to prove out the future prophecy of Josiah)

⁴And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him. (Jeroboam's hand withered and paralyzed instantly, because he assaulted a prophet of God)

⁵The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD. (The altar fell apart before his eyes as God had prophesied)

⁶And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Intreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

(the LORD thy God - not the LORD my God – that says it all concerning Jeroboam)

(This miracle should have straightened Jeroboam out, but it didn't. He went right back to his golden calf worship)

⁷And the king said unto the man of God, Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward.

⁸And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place:

⁹For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest. (This prophet must have remembered what happened to Balam)

Numbers-22 & 24 (Balam was a greedy prophet whom Balak hired to curse Israel. God intervened before he could do it)

Also see 1Corinthians-5:11(Don't break bread with heathen and idolaters)

¹⁰So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Bethel. (He did that for his own safety. It was dangerous to refuse the king)

¹¹Now there dwelt an old prophet in Bethel; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father. (There were no true prophets left in Bethel. This guy was where one of the golden calves was set up as a god. This old prophet was a false prophet)

¹²And their father said unto them, What way went he? For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah. (No doubt they also told the old man about the reward that Jeroboam had offered the true prophet)

¹³And he said unto his sons, Saddle me the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon,

¹⁴ And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah? And he said, I am.

¹⁵ Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

¹⁶ And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

¹⁷ For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest. (Verse-9)

¹⁸ He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him. (The false prophet convinced the true prophet that God made a mistake earlier; when He had told the true prophet not to go eat with them)

(God doesn't make mistakes. The true prophet should have seen through this guy's lies)

¹⁹ So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water. (Big mistake – always listen to God, not to man. The true prophet should have known better)

²⁰ And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet that brought him back: (The false prophet from Bethel finally hears from God – for real)

²¹ And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,

(These are the same words that God spoke to Moses; when he and Aaron disobeyed Him and struck the rock at Miraba, instead of just speaking to it. It caused God to not allow either of them to enter the Promised Land) Numbers-20

²² But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which the Lord did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.

(This was a place of idolatry. The true prophet will meet an untimely death)

²³ And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

²⁴ And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his carcase was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcase. (The lion didn't eat the carcass nor did it attack the ass. This was a sign that God had intervened and judged the prophet)

²⁵ And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcase cast in the way, and the lion standing by the carcase: and they came and told it in the city where the old prophet dwelt. (Bethel)

²⁶ And when the prophet that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, It is the man of God, who was disobedient unto the word of the LORD: therefore the LORD hath delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake unto him. (The true prophet died because he listened to this liar)

²⁷ And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him.

²⁸ And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass. (This was divine intervention by God)

²⁹ And the prophet took up the carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back: and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.

³⁰ And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, Alas, my brother! (a common lamentation of those days)

³¹ And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones:

³² For the saying which he cried by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel, and against all the houses of the high places which are

in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass. (God's prophecies always come to pass. Even this false prophet knew that. You would think that that would be enough to convince him to repent and return to God. It didn't)

2Kings-23:17-18 (When Josiah arrives and burns the bones of false prophets, he did not burn the bones in this sepulcher. This guy is just looking out for his own bones. This was not an act of repentance on the part of the false prophet)

³³ After this thing Jeroboam returned not from his evil way, but made again of the lowest of the people priests of the high places: whosoever would, he consecrated him, and he became one of the priests of the high places. (Who the priests were didn't really matter because the whole thing was a false religion made up by Jeroboam. God had no part in it)

³⁴ And this thing became sin unto the house of Jeroboam, even to cut it off, and to destroy it from off the face of the earth. (He had his chance to repent and he refused it. At this point, pretty much all of the 10 tribes had become idolaters; and had turned away from God)