



A just weight  
and balance

are the  
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- If

An Angel

# Galatians 1:8

**But even if we  
or an angel from heaven  
should preach to you a  
gospel that is different  
from the one we preached  
to you, may he be  
condemned to hell!**

- Our lesson for today is found in **1 Kings 13**
  - The main characters are:
    - **A King**
    - **A Young Prophet**
    - **An Old Prophet**
    - **A Lion**
    - **A Donkey**
  - **But 1<sup>st</sup> a few Bible verses:**

# Romans 15:4

**For whatever was  
written in former days  
was written  
for our instruction  
(ESV)**

- **Warning Against Neglecting Salvation**
- **Heb 2:1** Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.
- **2:2** For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;
  - **2:3** **How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation;**

- Some rat poison is 98 percent corn meal and two percent poison.
- If it weren't 98 percent corn meal, the rats wouldn't eat it;
- But two percent poison is enough to kill the rats.
  - **Believing a lie can cost our souls.**

- We read in Matthew 7:13-14 of a “Narrow Way” and a “Broad Way”.
  - *It is the narrow way, the Lord’s way that leads to life.*
- *The broad way is very popular in that many travel that way.*
  - *It is the easy way, but it leads to destruction (Matthew 7:13-14).*

- The king in our lesson is the wicked king

Jeroboam.

- Some 20 times

his name

is followed by the term

“made Israel to sin”

Holy Scripture give  
**some terrible warnings**  
as to the  
power and danger  
of temptation.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 13

forms part of a very remarkable narrative.

- The miraculous element is so prominent that certain critics would have the chapter expunged from Holy Scripture.

The natural and the supernatural are closely interwoven.

**A man of God prophesies  
against Jeroboam's altar,**

and foretells  
the destruction of that altar,  
and of its idolatrous priests by  
**Josiah**

and gives Jeroboam a sign  
that the prophecy should be  
accomplished,

**(1 Kings 13:1-3)**

- He is entrusted with the task of revealing the coming of Divine judgments to King Jeroboam,
- On account of his great sin in making the lowest of the people priests of the high places,
  - and of his open abominable idolatry.

- **The arrival of the prophet**  
at Bethel is right on time.
  - It just so happens that  
**Jeroboam is standing**  
**at the altar to burn incense.**
  - To face a guilty monarch  
and unveil the Divine denunciations  
threatened on account of  
his rebellious conduct,  
**is by no means an easy task.**

- The young prophet does not direct his message to King Jeroboam.
- Instead he addresses the altar:  
"O altar, altar,  
this is what the LORD says:  
(1 Kings 13:3)
  - The evil king  
does not  
deserve the honor of  
being addressed as King.

- The prophet has a message of Divine origin.
- Nothing could more forcibly suggest the source from which all religious teachers draw their power.
  - It is “the Word of the Lord,” which is the sign of the true prophet.  
(1 Kings 13:2)

- **A sign is given**  
for the confirming of the truth  
of this prediction,
  - The altar  
**is to be shaken to pieces**  
**by an invisible power**
  - **And the ashes**  
**of the sacrifice scattered**  
(**1Ki 13:3**),
  - All of which  
**came to pass immediately,**  
(**1Ki 13:5**)

This was,

1. A proof that the prophet **was sent of God.**
2. A present indication of **God's displeasure against false teachers.**

- How can the worship be acceptable when the **pulpit is an abomination?**

### **Contemporary English Version**

**Your sacrifices are worthless,  
and your incense disgusting.  
I can't stand the evil you do  
(**Isaiah 1:13**)**

- The young prophet foretells of an avenging king to be born some 300 years later.
- His name is Josiah.
- You may read about him in 2 Kings 23.

- Centuries elapsed before the **fulfillment** of this threat,
- but it came **at last**,
  - and came at **the appointed time**,
- proclaiming to all future ages **this solemn truth**,  
which it is madness to ignore:
- **“the wages of sin is death.”**  
**(Romans 6:23)**

**Jeroboam is enraged,**  
and orders the man of God  
to be seized;

**1Kings 13:4**

**When King Jeroboam heard this,  
he pointed at him and ordered,  
"Seize that man!"**

**At once the king's arm  
became paralyzed so  
**that he couldn't pull it back.****

- **The sinner is destroyed**  
by his own sin.
- **And this is in harmony**  
with all that we know  
of God's works.

## **Lament over Jerusalem**

### **Matthew 23:37**

**"Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
you kill the prophets  
and stone to death those sent to you!  
How often I wanted to gather your children  
together the way a hen  
gathers her chicks under her wings!  
But you would not.**

## In verses 5 & 6

The altar is ripped in two,  
and the ashes poured out,  
according to the  
sign given by the man of God;  
and at request of the prophet  
Jeroboam's arm is restored.

- You would think that Jeroboam would have repented at this point.
- Instead of trembling he was defiant and angry.  
(1 Kings 13:4)

- **Proverbs 1:24**

Because I have called and you **refused to listen**, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded,

- **1:25** because you have **ignored all my counsel** and would have none of my reproof,

- **1:26** I also will **laugh** at your calamity; I will **mock** when terror strikes you,

- **The courage of the prophet**  
was his awareness  
that he was God's messenger.
  - It was this awareness  
which prepared **Moses**  
to dare the wrath of Pharaoh,
  - Which nerved **Elijah**  
to stand alone face to face  
with the prophets of Baal;
- Which enabled **Peter** and **John**  
unshaken to face the Sanhedrin.

- Now, for the interesting part!
  - Jeroboam wishes to employ him in his service, but the prophet refuses,
    - Telling the king that he was ordered by God not even to eat or drink in that place and take a different route home.
  - And so he departs for home.  
(**1 Kings 13:7-10**)

- King Jeroboam tempts the Young Prophet a gift.  
(**1 Kings 13:7**)
- Doubtless there are many who like the prophet have been tempted to betray their Lord.
  - Tempted and have replied:  
“**How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?**”

- However, there is a **second temptation**, which we must not overlook,
- This temptation was **successful** and **fatal**.
- It came from a most **unexpected source**.
- That source being an **“old prophet,”** who lived near by.

## 1Kings 13:13-18

The old prophet ...  
went after the man of God  
and invited him to .

13:15 "Come home with me, and eat a meal,"

13:16 The man of God said,  
"I'm not allowed to go back with you.  
I'm not allowed to eat or drink with you.

13:18 The old prophet said,

"I'm also a prophet, like you.

An angel spoke the  
word of the LORD to me.

He said, 'Bring him home with you  
so that he may have something to eat and drink.'"

(But the old prophet was lying.)

- Let us ask why  
this temptation succeeded,  
while that of Jeroboam failed.

- All due to the  
appearance of a  
seemingly innocent  
man of God.

- Jeremiah 10:23

**O LORD, I know that the way of man *is*  
not in himself: *it is* not in man that  
walks to direct his steps.**

# Test the Spirits

## 1 John 4:1

Believe not every spirit,  
but try the spirits whether  
they are of God:  
because many false  
prophets are gone out  
into the world.

# Godlessness in the Last Days

## 2 Timothy 3:1

**This know also,  
that in the last days  
perilous times shall come.**

**3:2 For men shall be**

**lovers of their own selves,**

**3:5 Having a form of godliness,  
but denying the power thereof:  
from such turn away.**

Who would think  
**such a small matter**  
would lead to death?

**1Kings 13:19**

**So he went back with him  
and ate bread in his  
house and drank water.**

## **1Kings 13:20**

**And as they sat at the table,  
the word of the LORD  
came to the prophet  
who had brought him back.**

**13:21 And he cried to the man of God who  
came from Judah, "Thus says the LORD,  
'Because you have disobeyed the word of the  
LORD and have not kept the command that  
the LORD your God commanded you,**

**13:22 ..... your body  
shall not come to  
the tomb of your fathers.'"**

## 1Kings 13:23

And it happened, after he had eaten bread and after he had drunk, that he saddled the donkey for him, *namely*, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

13:24 And when he had gone, a lion met him by the way and killed him. And his body was cast in the way and the donkey stood by it. The lion also stood by the body.

(MLV)

- The last lesson which I would point out to you from this passage of Scripture is, that no command of God is to be lightly regarded,
- The sin of the young prophet may be expressed in one word:
  - Disobedience to an express command.
  - In the same vein as that of Uzzah touching the Ark of God.  
(**2 Samuel 6:6**)

- An act may seem trifling and small; and yet it may involve a momentous principle.
- It was a small thing for Eve to take the fruit of the tree; but it was an act of direct disobedience.
- It is in what we call trifles that God tests our obedience and love.

- Let us take to heart this lesson:
- No command of God is to be lightly regarded.

- **God forbade his messenger**  
to eat or drink in Bethel,  
**to show his**  
detestation of their idolatry  
and apostasy from God,
  - And to teach us to have  
**no fellowship with the**  
**works of darkness.**  
**(Ephesians 5:11)**

- Notwithstanding these warnings, Jeroboam continues in his idolatry, (1 Kings 13:33-34)

- Due to the continued rebellion of Jeroboam's family they were shortly obliterated from the face of the earth as promised by the Lord. (1Kings 14:10; 15:25-29)

## Romans 2:5

**Because of your  
hard and impenitent heart  
you are storing up wrath  
for yourself  
on the day of wrath**

**when God's righteous judgment  
will be revealed.**

**2:6 He will render to each one  
according to his works:**

## Romans 2:7-8

2:7 to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality,

he will give eternal life;

2:8 but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

- ***Think on these things***
  - (Philippians 4:8)

**The doors of the church  
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride  
Say  
“Come”.**

**Revelation 22:17**

