

# Attacks on God's Word

The Man of God Compromises God's Word

1 Kings 13:1-22

# Attacks on God's Word

## DENIAL

*"God did not write it."*

Written by ordinary men

It's fiction just like any other book

Yes, parts of it are historical but that doesn't mean God wrote it

## QUESTIONING

*"Did God really say..."*

Are you sure that's what He meant?

It's too complicated so we can't really say anything with certainty

## ALTERING

*"God said it, but..."*

There are new revelations

We need to alter/modify the message for our time and day

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Questioning and altering God's word tend to be worse because they may come from people or groups that claim to also believe in God's word

# Jeroboam Alters God's Word

Introduced false worship  
because he was afraid that Israel  
would return to Rehoboam  
(1 Kings 12:26-33)

Made 2 calves

Made houses on high places

Made priests from the people

He made an altar

He dictated the time God should be worshipped

There was a form of Godliness, but he altered God's word to suit his needs –  
which was a great sin

# 1 Kings 13:1-22

## Man of God

- Prophecy against altar / false worship
- Sign to confirm prophecy
- Obey God's commands

## Jeroboam

- Tried to seize the man
- God paralyzed his hand
- Tried to reward the man for healing him

## Old Prophet

- His sons told him about the man
- Lied to the man of God
- Proclaimed the man's punishment

# Lessons Concerning God's Word

## Dictates Everything

His mission and punishment were based on God's Word

God's word is the absolute authority

## Opposition

He was opposed by Jeroboam and another prophet

Proclaiming His Word will be met with opposition

## Temptations

He was tempted by Jeroboam and another prophet

There will be temptations to compromise / disobey His Word

# God's Word Dictated Everything

## The Man of God's Mission

**1** Now behold, there **came** a man of God from Judah to Bethel **by the word of the Lord**, while Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn incense.

## Judgment on the Altar

**2** He **cried against the altar by the word of the Lord**, and said, "O altar, altar, **thus says the Lord**, 'Behold, a son shall be born..., Josiah ...he shall sacrifice the priests... who burn incense on you...

## The Sign Confirming the Prophecy

**5** The altar also was split apart and the ashes were poured out from the altar, **according to the sign** which the man of God had given **by the word of the Lord**.

## The Command

**9** For so it was **commanded me by the word of the Lord**, saying, ' You shall eat no bread, nor drink water, nor return by the way which you came.'

## The Man's Punishment

**20** ...as they were sitting down at the table, **the word of the Lord** came to the prophet... **21** and he cried to the man of God..., saying, "**Thus says the Lord**... **22** ...'**your body shall not come to the grave of your fathers.**'"

# Opposition to His Word

## 1 Kings 13:4 – Jeroboam’s Opposition

4 Now when **the king heard** the saying of the man of God, **which he cried against the altar in Bethel**, Jeroboam stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, **“Seize him.”** But his hand which he stretched out against him dried up, so that he could not draw it back to himself.

## 1 Kings 13:13-14 – Old Prophet’s Opposition

13 Then he said to his sons, **“Saddle the donkey for me.”** So they saddled the donkey for him and he rode away on it.

14 So **he went after the man of God and found him** sitting under an oak...

There is opposition because His Word is opposed to sin, which provides temporary benefits

- ❖ Jeroboam was afraid of losing power and his way of worship
- ❖ The old prophet and his sons may have benefited from Jeroboam’s false system of worship

Violence is a way to oppose God’s Word - like Jeroboam tried

Opposers will find out those who proclaim God’s Word – like the old prophet did

# God's Command to the Man of God



Eat No Bread



Drink No Water



Return Another Way

**1 Kings 13:9, 16-17, 22**

**17** For a command came to me by the word of the Lord, 'You shall **eat no bread, nor drink water there; do not return by going the way which you came.**'



# Temptation to Disobey / Compromise His Word

## 1 Kings 13:7-8 – Jeroboam’s Temptation

**7** Then the king said to the man of God, “**Come home with me** and **refresh yourself**, and **I will give you a reward.**”

**8** But the man of God said to the king, “If you were to give me half of your house I would not go with you, nor would I eat bread or drink water in this place.

The desires of the flesh and temporary pleasures of the world are a constant source of temptation to disobey / compromise His Word

## 1 Kings 13:18 – Old Prophet’s Temptation

**18** He said to him, “**I also am a prophet like you**, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the Lord, saying, ‘**Bring him back** with you to your house, that he may **eat bread and drink water.**’” But he lied to him.

Temptation can come from those we think are following God’s Word

# Warnings for the Christian

## 1 John 4:1-2

### False Prophets Distort the Gospel

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to **see whether they are from God**, because **many false prophets** have gone out into the world.

2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that **Jesus Christ has come in the flesh** is from God;

## Galatians 1:8

### God's Word Cannot Be Changed

8 But even if **we, or an angel from heaven**, should **preach to you a gospel contrary** to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

## 1 Corinthians 11:14-15

### Do Not Be Deceived

14 No wonder, for even **Satan disguises himself as an angel of light**.

15 Therefore it is not surprising if **his servants also disguise themselves** as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.