

A blurred background image of chess pieces on a board, with a dark diagonal overlay at the bottom.

1&2 KINGS

A Leadership Series



THE DIVIDING LEADERSHIP OF REHOBOAM

¹ Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had gone there to make him king. ² When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard this (he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), he returned from Egypt. ³ So they sent for Jeroboam, and he and the whole assembly of Israel went to Rehoboam and said to him:

1 Kings 12:1-19

⁴ “Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but now lighten the harsh labour and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you.”
⁵ Rehoboam answered, “Go away for three days and then come back to me.” So the people went away. ⁶ Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime.

1 Kings 12:1-19

“How would you advise me to answer these people?” he asked. ⁷ They replied, “If today you will be a servant to these people and serve them and give them a favourable answer, they will always be your servants.”
⁸ But Rehoboam rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him.

1 Kings 12:1-19

⁹ He asked them, “What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, ‘Lighten the yoke your father put on us’?” ¹⁰ The young men who had grown up with him replied, “These people have said to you, ‘Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter.’ Now tell them, ‘My little finger is thicker than my father’s waist.

1 Kings 12:1-19

¹¹ My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.’” ¹² Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam, as the king had said, “Come back to me in three days.” ¹³ The king answered the people harshly.

1 Kings 12:1-19

Rejecting the advice given him by the elders,
14 he followed the advice of the young men
and said, “My father made your yoke heavy;
I will make it even heavier. My father
scourged you with whips; I will scourge you
with scorpions.” 15 So the king did not listen
to the people, for this turn of events was
from the LORD,

1 Kings 12:1-19

to fulfill the word the LORD had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah the Shilonite. ¹⁶ When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king: “What share do we have in David, what part in Jesse’s son? To your tents, Israel! Look after your own house, David!”
So the Israelites went home

1 Kings 12:1-19

17 But as for the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah, Rehoboam still ruled over them. 18 King Rehoboam sent out Adoniram, who was in charge of forced labour, but all Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam, however, managed to get into his chariot and escape to Jerusalem. 19 So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

1 Kings 12:1-19

**“Ressourcement” is the retrieval of
the riches of the past to help
illuminate the present**

- Dr. Michael Haykin -

The Order of the Old Testament:

1 & 2 Chronicles - Ezra - Nehemiah - Esther - Job -
Psalms - Proverbs - Ecclesiastes - Song of Solomon -
Isaiah - Jeremiah - Lamentations - Ezekiel - Daniel -
Hosea - Joel - Amos - Obadiah - Jonah - Micah - Nahum -
Habakkuk - Zephaniah - Haggai - Zechariah - Malachi

The Order of the Hebrew Tanakh:

Isaiah - Jeremiah - Ezekiel - The Twelve (all the minor prophets in one book) - Psalms - Job - Proverbs - Ruth - Song of Solomon - Ecclesiastes - Lamentations - Esther - Daniel - Ezra-Nehemiah (a joint book) - 1 & 2 Chronicles

And Rehoboam his son succeeded him
as king.

1 Kings 11:43

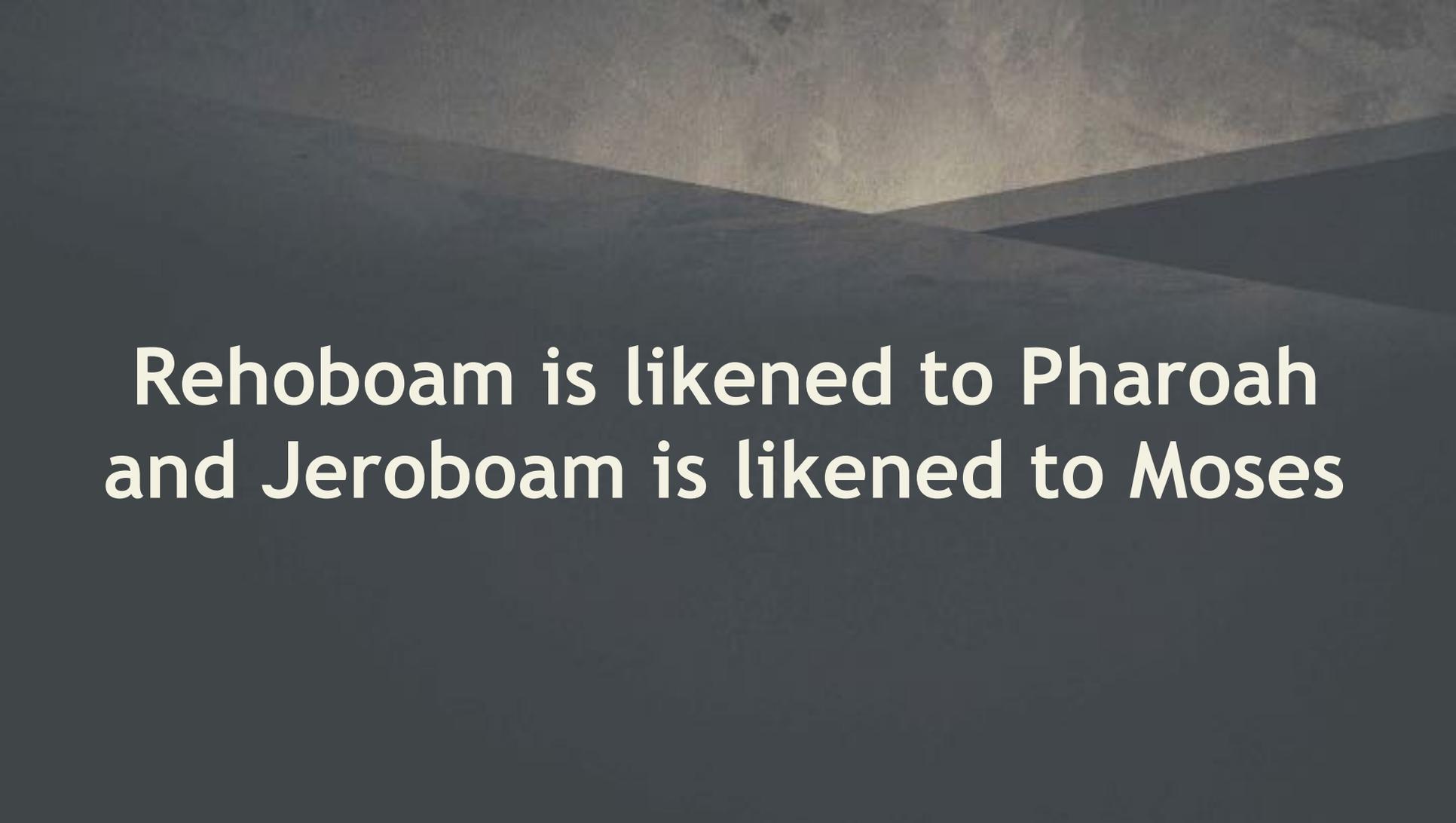
Jeroboam son of Nebat... was one of Solomon's officials, an Ephraimite from Zeredah, and his mother was a widow named Zeruah.

1 Kings 11:26

**1) ARE YOU A
SLAVE-DRIVER?**

³ So they sent for Jeroboam, and he and the whole assembly of Israel went to Rehoboam and said to him: ⁴ “Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but now lighten the harsh labour and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you.” ⁵ Rehoboam answered, “Go away for three days and then come back to me.”
So the people went away.

1 Kings 12:3-5

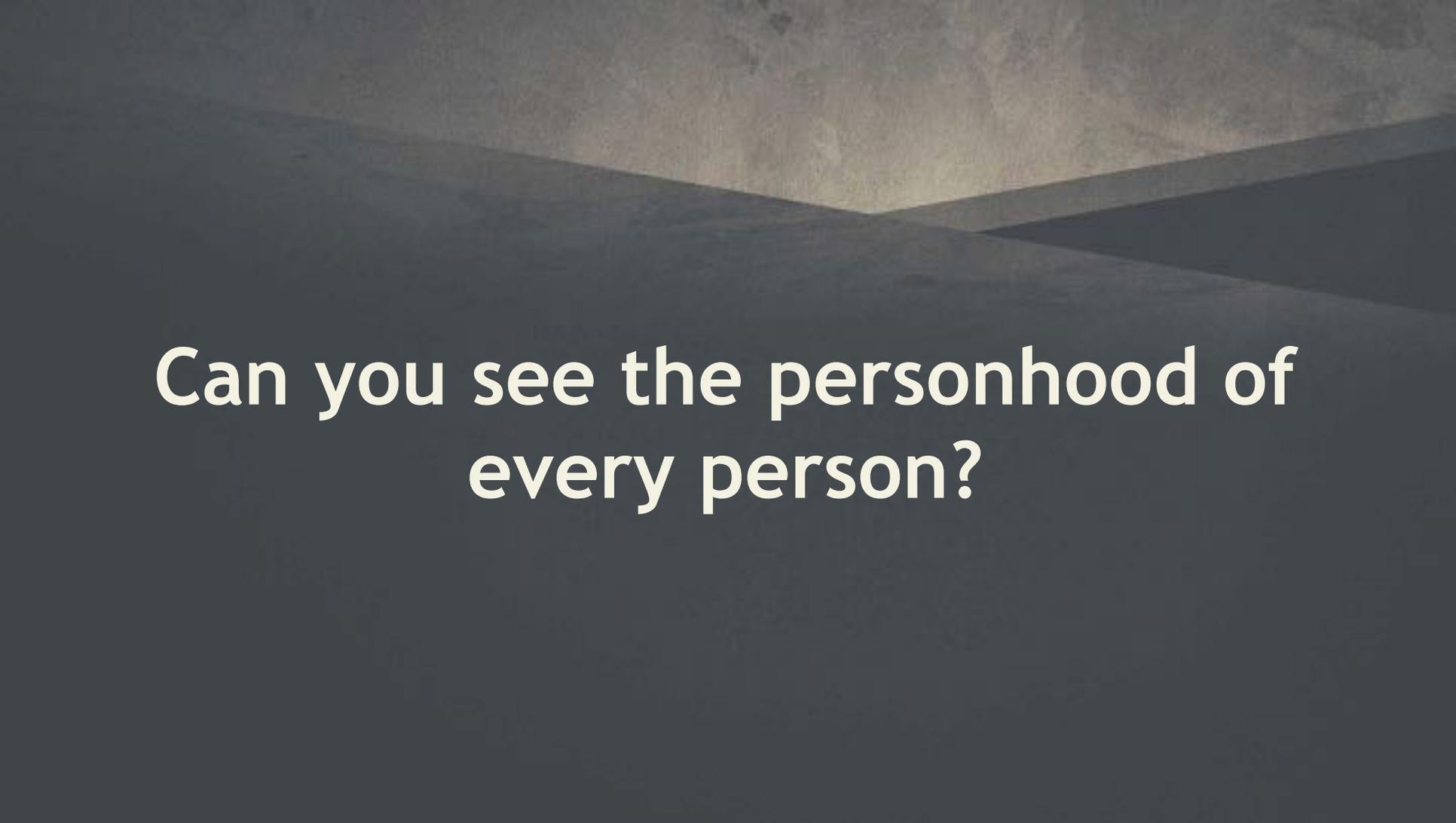


**Rehoboam is likened to Pharoah
and Jeroboam is likened to Moses**

**Many of the hurts we have
experienced have come from
Christians, not non-Christians**

Set an example for the believers in speech,
in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12



**Can you see the personhood of
every person?**

¹⁶ No longer as a slave, but better than a
slave, as a dear brother.

Philemon 1:16

**The ends do not necessarily
justify the means**

2) ARE YOU A SERVANT-LEADER?

⁶ Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime. “How would you advise me to answer these people?” he asked. ⁷ They replied, “If today you will be a servant to these people and serve them and give them a favourable answer, they will always be your servants.

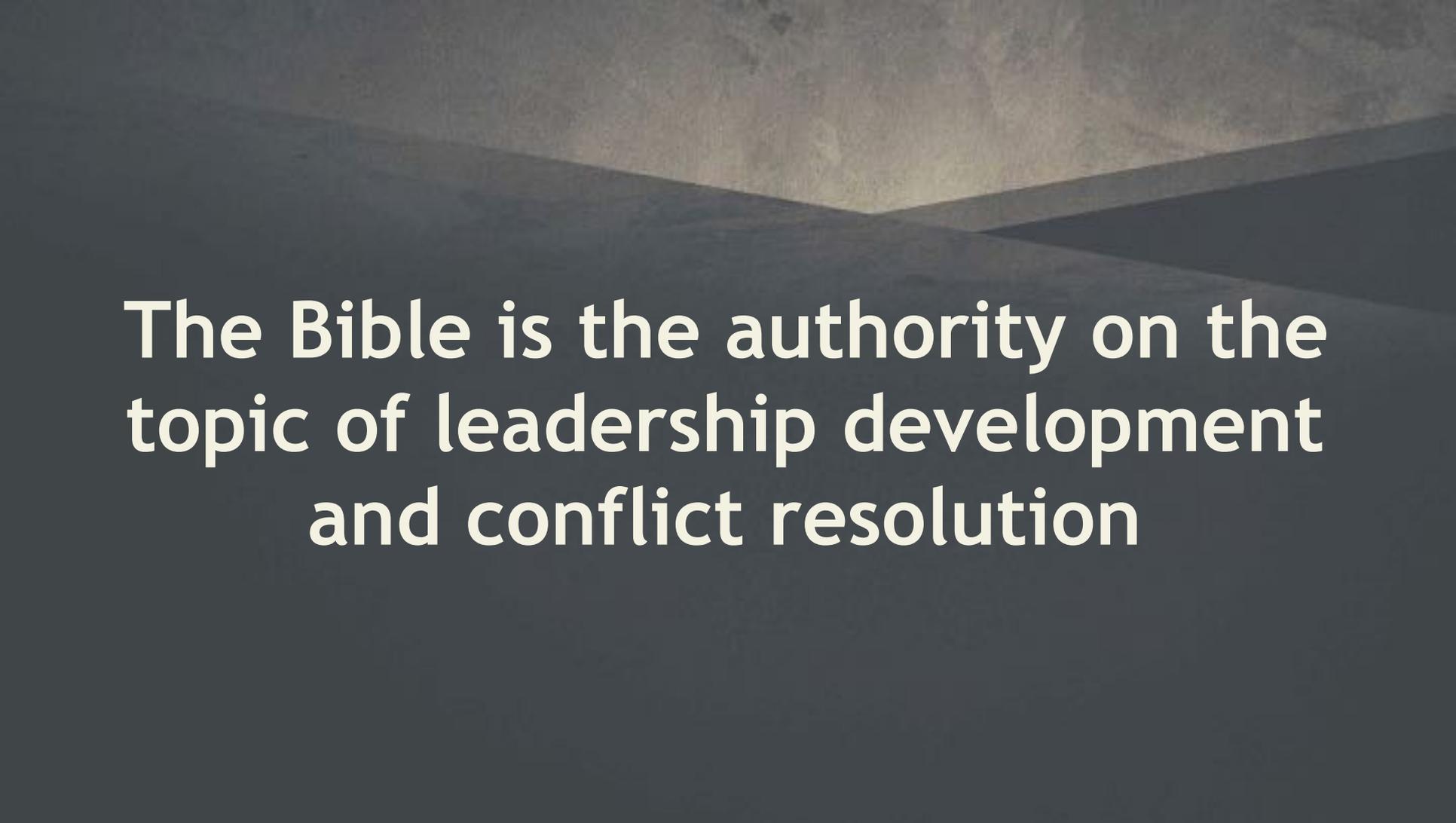
1 Kings 12:6-11

⁸ But Rehoboam rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him. ⁹ He asked them, “What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, ‘Lighten the yoke your father put on us’?”

1 Kings 12:6-11

¹⁰ The young men who had grown up with him replied, “These people have said to you, ‘Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter.’ Now tell them, ‘My little finger is thicker than my father’s waist. ¹¹ My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.’”

1 Kings 12:6-11



**The Bible is the authority on the
topic of leadership development
and conflict resolution**

**A) THE ADVICE OF
HIS ELDERS**

² And these were his chief officials: Azariah son of Zadok—the priest; ³ Elihoreph and Ahijah, sons of Shisha—secretaries; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud—recorder; ⁴ Benaiah son of Jehoiada—commander in chief; Zadok and Abiathar—priests;

1 Kings 4:2-6

⁵ Azariah son of Nathan—in charge of the district governors; Zabud son of Nathan—a priest and adviser to the king; ⁶ Ahishar—palace administrator.

1 Kings 4:2-6

“⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

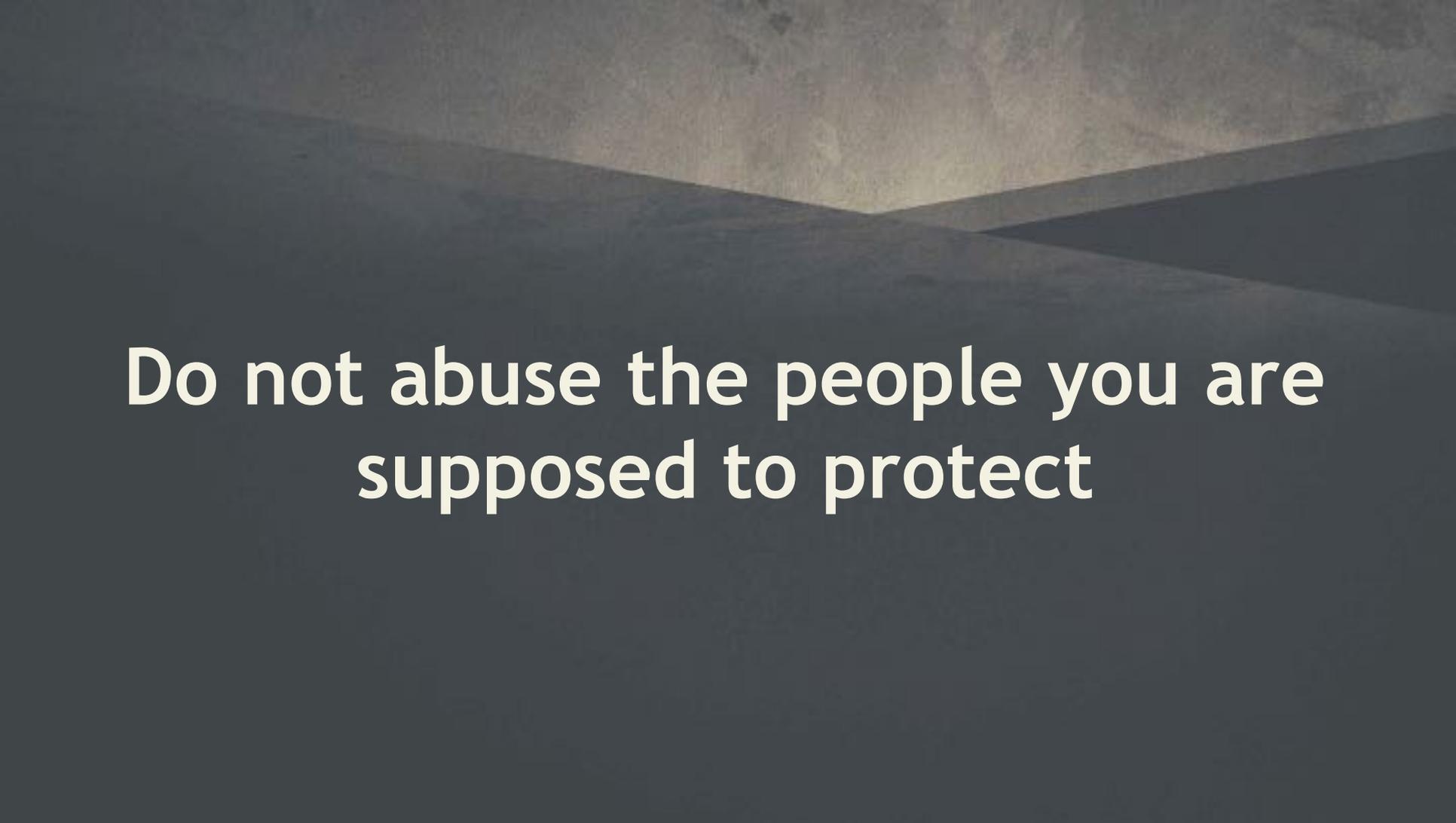
“Head tables have replaced the towel and washbasin as symbols of leadership among God’s people”

**- C. Gene Wilkes -
“Jesus on Leadership”**

B) THE ADVICE OF HIS PEERS

³ But among you there must not be even a hint of... ⁴ obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place.

Ephesians 5:3-4



**Do not abuse the people you are
supposed to protect**

**3) ARE YOU A
UNITY-BREAKER?**

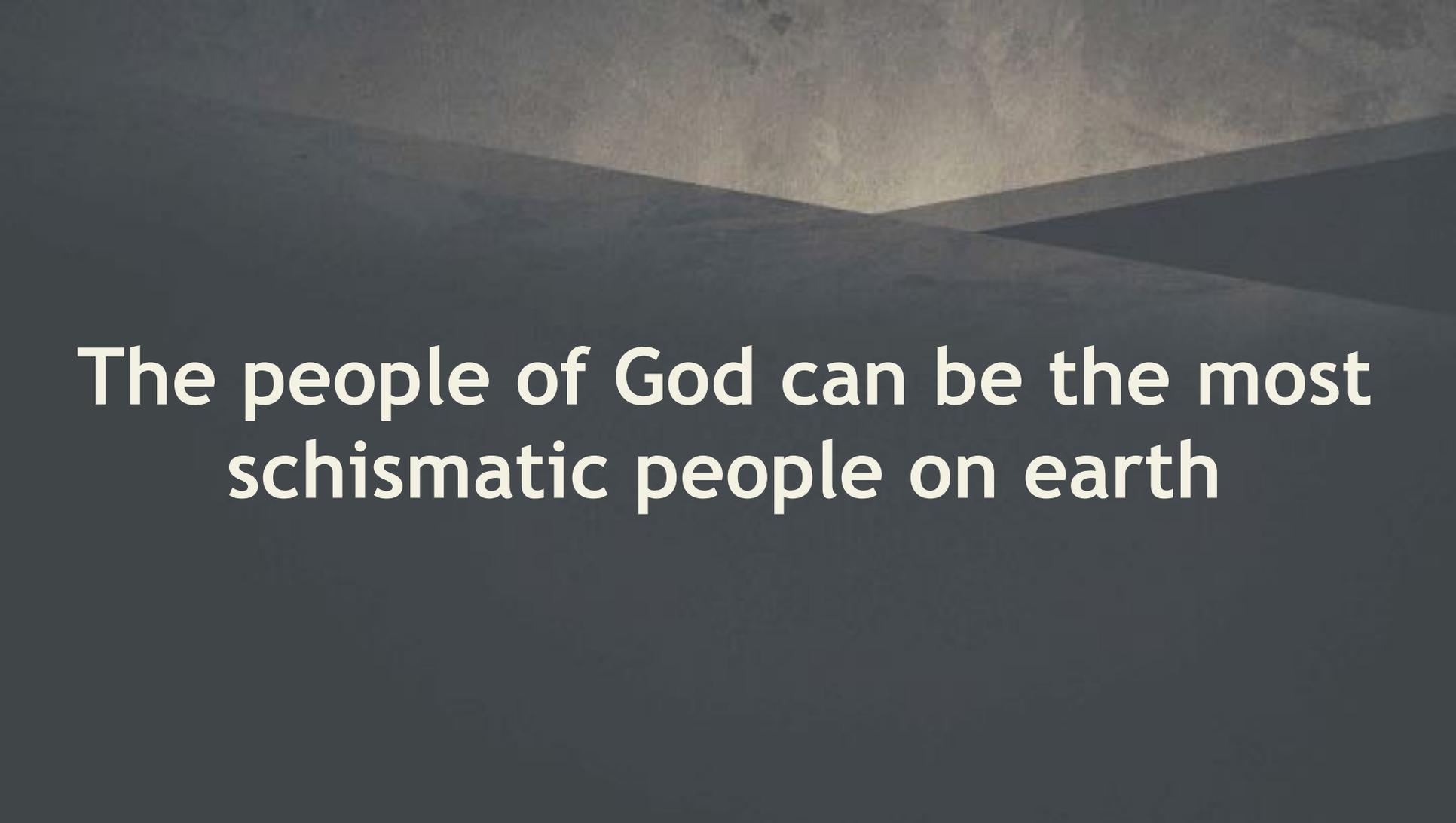
¹⁶ When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king: “What share do we have in David, what part in Jesse’s son? To your tents, Israel! Look after your own house, David!” So the Israelites went home. ¹⁷ But as for the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah, Rehoboam still ruled over them.

1 Kings 12:16-19

¹⁸ King Rehoboam sent out Adoniram, who was in charge of forced labour, but all Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam, however, managed to get into his chariot and escape to Jerusalem. ¹⁹ So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

1 Kings 12:16-19



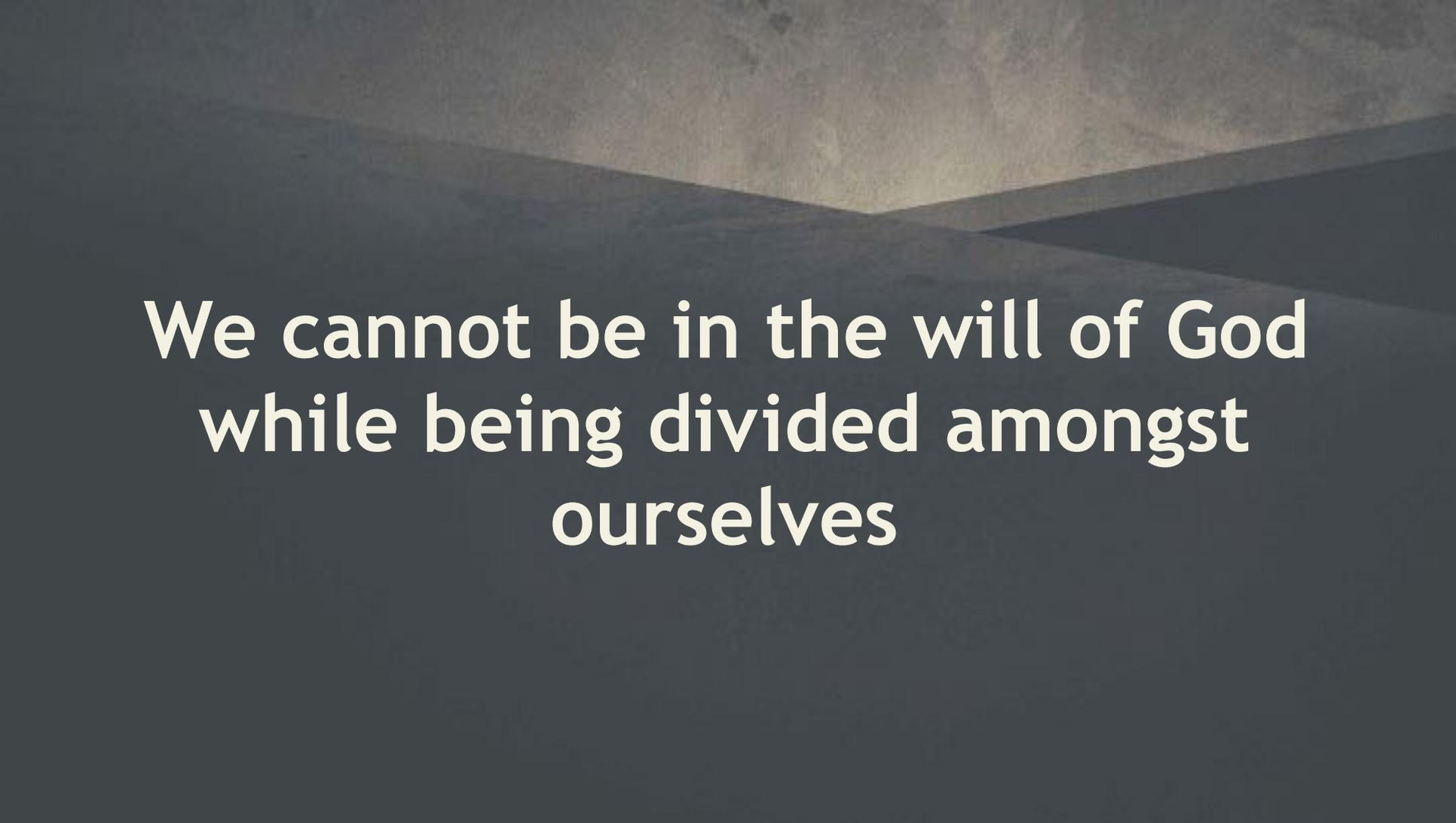


**The people of God can be the most
schismatic people on earth**



“Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.”

Matthew 12:25



**We cannot be in the will of God
while being divided amongst
ourselves**

³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:3-5

¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12:16-18

**Division comes at a cost and is not
without its causalities**

This feud lasted from 930 BC with the death of Solomon until 586 BC with the death of Zedekiah; a divided dynasty for 344 years

**Disunity is not a temporary guest,
but a permanent resident**



The Berlin Wall

“No man-made barrier can obliterate the fact that God’s children reside on both sides. There is no East, no West, no North, no South, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole, wide world.. Wherever reconciliation is taking place, men are ‘breaking down the dividing walls of hostility’ which separate them from their brothers, there Christ continues to perform His ministry.”

**- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. -
The Berlin Wall, 1964**



1&2KINGS

a biblical theology series