

JEROBOAM SACRIFICING AT BEIT-EL



- Jeroboam acting like a “Pope”
- Was inaugurating a new holiday at Beit-El in honor the golden calf-gods
- 15th day of the 8th month, mimicked Sukkot
- A man shouts at Yarov’am from the crowd

1ST KINGS 13: THE MAN OF GOD FROM JUDAH

- *Ish elohim* = man of God
- *Navi* = prophet
- May be simply to distinguish between 2 unnamed prophets
- 2nd Chron.9:20 and 12:15 speak of this man as *Ye'do* and *Iddo*



ISH ELOHIM CURSES THE ALTAR

- *“ish elohim va miyhuda bidbar Yehoveh...”*
- Man of God from Judah came by a word from YHWH
- Idea is that the word of God itself had inherent power
- Prophet was powerless to do anything but deliver God’s oracle to Beit-El
- Altar cursed because it cause the people to not go to the Temple in Jerusalem for proper worship



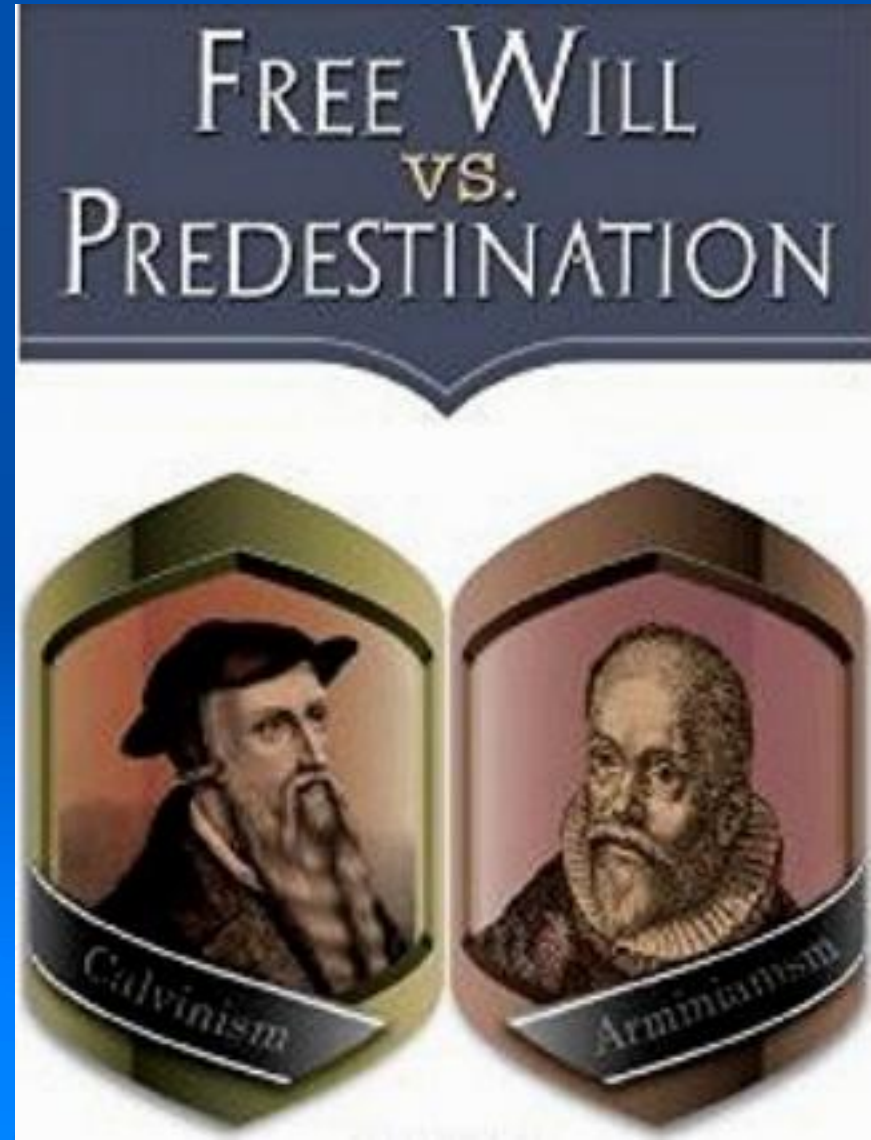


PATTERN OF FUTURE DESECRATION OF THE ALTAR

- Prophecy fulfilled by Josiah
- 2nd Kings 23:16
- Bones of the unrighteous dead priests of the golden-calf altar exhumed and burnt up
- Rev. 20:11 – 15
- The dead are only dead physically
- The Lord will judge the already dead and if found unrighteous they will be eternally destroyed (the 2nd death)

WAS JEROBOAM'S PATH PRE-DETERMINED?

- *Ish elohim* offers proof that the curse is a sealed promise from God
- Altar split = future desecration
- Ashes spilling = priests who served the altar
- No "if" offered in this curse
- What about the free wills of the future priests?

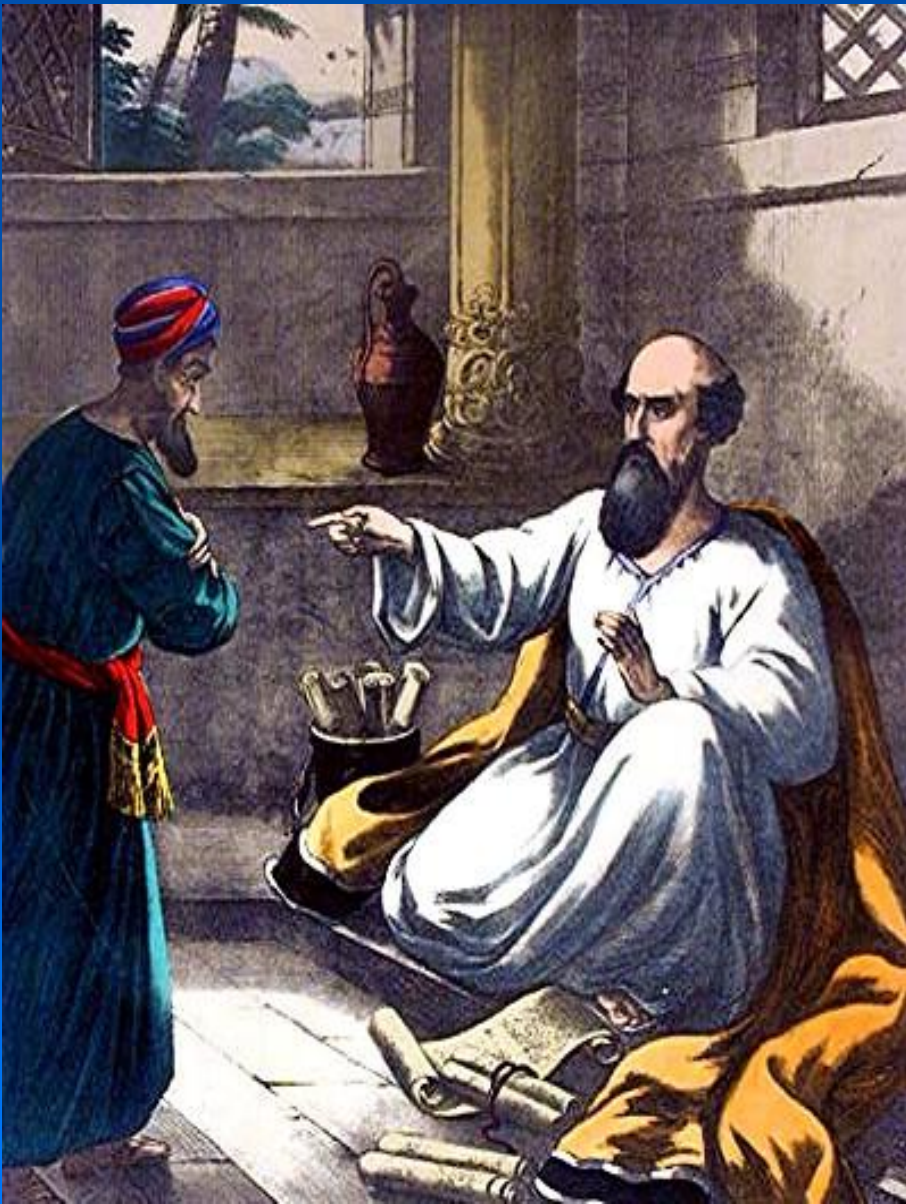


THE SIGN IS REALIZED



- Jeroboam points his arm towards the *ish elohim* and it freezes
- The altar splits, the ashes fall
- Jeroboam asks man of God to pray to “his God” for his arm to be released
- Jeroboam had willingly renounced his relationship with YHVH
- Jeroboam flatters the prophet in hopes of receiving a blessing
- *Ish elohim* not to:
 - 1) Eat food
 - 2) drink water
 - 3) return home by the same route

THE *NAVI* MEETS THE *ISH ELOHIM*



- *Navi* was a false prophet living in Beit-El
- *Navi* from *Shomron* (Samaria) so probably a prophet of Ba'al
- 2nd Kings 23:17-18
- *Navi* from Beit-El lies to the man of God and tells him that an angel told him to disregard God's instructions to him

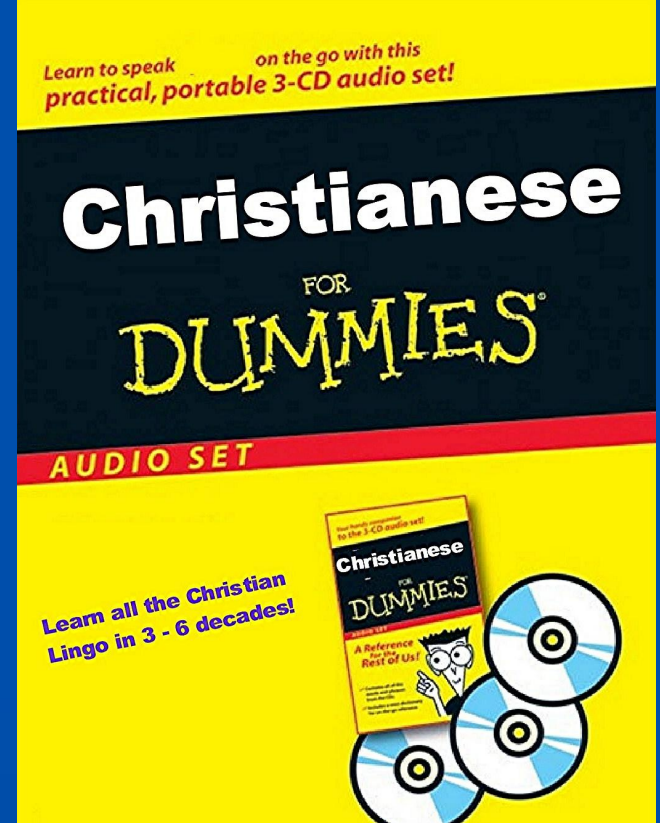
THE PROPHETS BEHAVE LIKE BALAAM OF OLD

- The man of God did as much wrong as the old prophet of Beit-El
- Balaam was a deist who believed in all gods
- *Ish elohim* willing to simply be a container for any message
- Suddenly the *navi* gets a TRUE message from God and tells the *ish elohim* that he has done wrong and will die!



RELIGIOUS LINGO

- Manipulation can occur using the right language
- Old Prophet of Beit-El sounded like a colleague and used prophet-lingo to persuade the man of God to disobey his instructions from the Lord
- 1) The Word of God does NOT contradict itself
- 2) We can't break God's Scriptural commands in the name of following God
- 3) God's direct commandment to us is not amendable by someone else





- Old Prophet's prophecy comes true and the man from God is killed by a lion on the way back to Judah
- Old Prophet brings the ish elohim back, and buries him in his own family graves
- Part of what he is trying to do is to avoid having his own bones burned up in the future!

CONSEQUENCES OF BAD LEADERSHIP



- After all this, Jeroboam did not change his ways
- His dynasty was doomed and so was Israel
- In a little over 130 years Israel was exiled from the land
- They have remained exiled for 2700 years
- The process of restoration has begun in our lifetimes!