

1 Kings 11: 29-32, 12:19

Mark 7: 31-37

The response to the psalm today says, “I am the Lord your God; Listen to my warning.”

Today’s Reading details the account of Solomon’s disobedience. “When Solomon grew old his wives swayed his heart to other Gods.” God had previously warned Solomon about the consequences of such actions. So now God sent his prophet, Ahijah to pronounce judgement to Jeroboam by way of cutting his cloak into 12 pieces, the number of the tribes of Israel led by Solomon. An act proclaiming that eleven of the tribes would be scattered and only one remain in the House of David.

The Gospel gives an account of another act of disobedience. One which, at the time, seemed quite normal and of little consequence. Jesus performed a miracle in the act of curing a deaf man. Having done so, he ordered him, and those with him, ‘ to tell no one about it.’ But , of course, they were left in awe and admiration. ‘The more Jesus insisted, the more widely they published it.’

Jesus calls us to LISTEN to his words and to respond accordingly. No matter what our thoughts and feelings about the matter, there are always negative consequences when we don’t!