

# Are We Too Narrow-Minded?

- A. To be *narrow-minded* is “to be unreceptive to new ideas; to have a closed mind.”
- B. Is that an accurate description of us? If so, what should we do? If not, how should we respond?

## I. Are We Too Narrow-Minded? It Depends on Our \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Is our goal to humbly acknowledge and follow our Creator’s revealed will? If so:
  - 1. *Hebrews 9:15-28* - Jesus Christ died to mediate for us on the basis of a new covenant
  - 2. *Matthew 28:18-20* - he possesses and commissions with all authority in heaven and on earth
  - 3. *John 8:31-32* - the truth he has revealed and fulfilled can set his disciples free
  - 4. *John 14:15* - if we love him, we will keep his commandments
  - 5. *Acts 2:37-47* - the earliest Christians devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching
  - 6. *John 17:20-21* - the prayer of Jesus is that all who believe through the apostles would be one
  - 7. *Ephesians 3:1-6* - when we read the apostles’ letters, we can understand the will of Christ
  - 8. *Ephesians 4:1-6* - we are called to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace
  - 9. *Galatians 1:6-9* - we are strongly warned about those who would distort the gospel of Christ
  - 10. *1 Corinthians 4:6* - we are clearly instructed to avoid going beyond what is written
  - 11. *Jude 3* - we are charged with contending for the faith that was once for all delivered
  - 12. *2 Timothy 3:16-17* - God-breathed Scripture equips us for every good work
  
- B. Is our goal to design and construct a religious project of our own will? If so, consider Jeroboam:
  - 1. God had established a context with him through the prophet Ahijah (*1 Kings 11:26-40*)
  - 2. In response to Rehoboam’s pride, Jeroboam is made king over all Israel (*1 Kings 12:1-20*)
  - 3. Jeroboam designs and constructs a religious project of his own will:
    - a. The source was his own \_\_\_\_\_ (*1 Kings 12:31-33*)
    - b. The motive was \_\_\_\_\_-centered (*1 Kings 12:26-27*)
    - c. The appeal was to \_\_\_\_\_ sensibilities (*1 Kings 12:28-29*)
    - d. The consequences were devastating (*1 Kings 12:30; 11:38; 13:33-34; 2 Kings 17:21-23*)
  
- C. Question: was the man of God who confronted Jeroboam too narrow-minded? (*1 Kings 13:1-10*)

## II. The Aim of God’s People: To Build According to the Pattern and Restore What Has Been Lost

- A. “Behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah” (*1 Kings 13:2; 2 Kings 22:1-2, 13*).
  
- B. “This book that has been found”: the spirit of restoration in terms that all can understand.
  
- C. Our great privilege and responsibility: to align our minds with “the mind of \_\_\_\_\_” (*1 Cor 2:16*).