



Hillcrest Bible Church  
Sunday School  
Fall 2022

# **A Kingdom Divided**

## **A Study of 1 and 2 Kings**

*Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth:  
for the LORD hath spoken,  
I have nourished and brought up children,  
and they have rebelled against me.*

*The ox knoweth his owner,  
and the ass his master's crib:  
but Israel doth not know,  
my people doth not consider.*

*Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity,  
a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters:  
they have forsaken the LORD,  
they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger,  
they are gone away backward.*

*Isaiah 1:2-4 (KJV)*

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## Introduction: A Kingdom Divided

The books of 1 and 2 Kings in the Old Testament are a history of the nation Israel from the death of King David (ca. 970 B.C.) to the fall of Jerusalem in 586 B.C. This period of approximately 400 years opened with King Solomon reigning over a unified nation with a grandeur that has not been equaled in human history. Solomon's wisdom and riches were legendary. The nation was at peace and prosperous in the Promised Land. They had the Law of God. The temple was erected and the glory of the LORD filled it. The LORD God was in the midst of His people.

But this idyllic picture was not to last. Even before the death of King David there were indications of major problems, not only in the nation but in the royal family. Solomon's coronation had to be hastily arranged to prevent the throne being seized by his brother in an attempt that was supported by many of David's previously loyal men. Later, Solomon himself disregarded the clear word of the LORD and married many pagan women. They turned his heart to foreign gods. As a result, the nation began to experience the judgment of the LORD. After the death of Solomon, the LORD divided the kingdom. Jeroboam, the servant of Solomon, ruled 10 tribes in the north and Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, ruled Judah and Benjamin in the south. The division has not yet been repaired.

The history of the northern kingdom, called Israel or Ephraim, was consistently evil. It was ruled by a series of nine dynasties or individual kings. Idolatry flourished in the form of either the religion established by the first king Jeroboam or Baal worship institutionalized by king Ahab. Interestingly, it was this wicked kingdom that saw most of the ministries of the two great prophets, Elijah and Elisha. Their faithful ministries not withstanding, the nation continued its rush to evil until the LORD delivered them to the Assyrian army. Samaria, the capital city, fell in 722 B.C. The people were taken into captivity and the land populated by people from other nations.

The history of the southern kingdom was not much better. They continued to be ruled by the house of David. The Davidic throne was preserved only because the LORD remained faithful to His covenant with David despite the unworthiness of David's posterity. The quality of character of the kings varied greatly. At one extreme were Manasseh and his son Amon who exceeded the evil of the Canaanites whom the LORD had destroyed before them. At the other extreme were Hezekiah and Josiah. They immediately preceded and followed the two icons of iniquity and were two of the most godly men the nation had ever seen. But the goodness of some was not sufficient to overcome the evil of most, and Judah too was sent into captivity. In 586 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar sacked the city and destroyed the temple. He took Judah in captivity to Babylon. The remnant fled to Egypt.

Jesus Christ could well have been speaking of this time in Israel's history when He said, *"Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation."*<sup>1</sup> The political division of the Davidic Kingdom into north and south was a tragic first step that moved the children of Israel to their inevitable desolation. The divided kingdom could not stand.

But this is not just a political history of a divided nation. It is a spiritual history of a people with a deep division in their hearts. The sin of the day was not that the people consciously despised the LORD God, but that they sought to serve the LORD God along with the gods of their pagan neighbors. They did not reject true religion but divided their loyalty to the true with a devotion to the false. Elijah saw this when he challenged the people of Israel in that great contest on Mount Carmel: *"How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word."*<sup>2</sup> Elijah identified the real problem and they had no answer.

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<sup>1</sup> Matthew 12:25

<sup>2</sup> 1 Kings 18:21

## Introduction (continued)

They did not understand that *“no man can serve two masters.”*<sup>3</sup> Spiritual division brings spiritual desolation. The people must serve the LORD God exclusively or perish. Time and time again from Solomon to the fall of Jerusalem and from the north to the south, they sought to incorporate the worship of the One True God with pagan practices. The divided kingdom of a people with divided hearts perished from the land.

The sin of 1 and 2 Kings is the sin of our own generation. We view with disgust the accommodation made by the people of God with the pagan culture in the divided kingdom, but the Christian church in the 21st century is doing the same. The sin of a divided heart is just as fatal today as it was in the days of the divided kingdom. The enemy who, *“as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour”*<sup>4</sup> is too subtle to propose an outright rejection of God’s truth. Rather, he seeks our destruction by encouraging a division of the heart. He tempts us to divide our allegiance between

God and the world around us. Such a division will as surely lead to desolation today as it did in the days of the kings of Israel.

There is another message in these books. The Righteous Judge is also the God of grace. Repeatedly He delivers His people from their well-deserved disasters. Repeatedly He states that he has not forgotten His promise to David. The divided heart of man demanded final judgment. The grace of God provides forgiveness. At the end of 2 Kings, a very interesting event is recorded. Thirty-seven years after going into captivity, the king of Judah, the son of David, is elevated to a place of honor. This was God’s way of telling the people that although they were under condemnation, the Lord God was not through with them. He had not forgotten His promise to David and the patriarchs. He will provide a final solution. He will give new hearts that are incapable of division. This unity of heart comes in our union with Jesus Christ. It is experienced in part in this lifetime and in its perfection in the life to come.

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<sup>3</sup> Matthew 6:24

<sup>4</sup> 1 Peter 5:8



## Schedule

September 4	Lesson 1: Solomon Becomes King 1 Kings 1-2
September 11	Lesson 2: The Grace of God to Solomon 1 Kings 3-4
September 18	Lesson 3: Solomon Builds the Temple 1 Kings 5-8
September 25	Lesson 4: Solomon Rejects God's Word 1 Kings 9-11
October 2	Lesson 5: A Kingdom Divided 1 Kings 12-14
October 9	Lesson 6: Provoking the LORD God of Israel 1 Kings 15-16
October 16	Lesson 7: Elijah and the Word of the LORD 1 Kings 17-19
October 23	Lesson 8: Ahab – Sold to Do Evil 1 Kings 20-22
October 30	Lesson 9: Fire, a Whirlwind, and Water 2 Kings 1-3
November 6	Lesson 10: Elisha, the Man of God 2 Kings 4-5
November 13	Lesson 11: Elisha's Sovereign LORD 2 Kings 6-7
November 20	Lesson 12: The LORD God Rules in the Affairs of Men 2 Kings 8-10
November 27	Lesson 13: Revival in Judah – Mercy in Israel 2 Kings 11-13
December 4	Lesson 14: The LORD Removes Israel 2 Kings 14-17
December 11	Lesson 15: Hezekiah – A Godly King 2 Kings 18-20
December 18	Lesson 16: A Great Awakening 2 Kings 21-23
December 25	Lesson 17: The Fall of Jerusalem 2 Kings 24-25

## Scripture Memorization

### 1 Chronicles 29:10-15

10. Wherefore David blessed the LORD  
before all the congregation:  
and David said,  
Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel  
our father, for ever and ever.

11. Thine, O LORD, is the greatness,  
and the power, and the glory,  
and the victory, and the majesty:  
for all that is in the heaven  
and in the earth is thine;  
thine is the kingdom, O LORD,  
and thou art exalted as head above all.

12. Both riches and honour come of thee,  
and thou reignest over all;  
and in thine hand is power and might;  
and in thine hand it is to make great,  
and to give strength unto all.

13. Now therefore, our God,  
we thank thee,  
and praise thy glorious name.

14. But who am I,  
and what is my people,  
that we should be able to offer  
so willingly after this sort?  
for all things come of thee,  
and of thine own have we given thee.

15. For we are strangers before thee,  
and sojourners,  
as were all our fathers:  
our days on the earth are as a shadow,  
and there is none abiding.

## **Scripture Memorization (continued)**

### **Jeremiah 2:11-13**

11. Hath a nation changed their gods,  
which are yet no gods?  
but my people  
have changed their glory  
for that which doth not profit.
12. Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this,  
and be horribly afraid,  
be ye very desolate,  
saith the LORD.
13. For my people have committed two evils;  
they have forsaken me  
the fountain of living waters,  
and hewed them out cisterns,  
broken cisterns,  
that can hold no water.

### **Lamentations 3:22-24**

22. It is of the LORD's mercies  
that we are not consumed,  
because his compassions fail not.
23. They are new every morning:  
great is thy faithfulness.
24. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul;  
therefore will I hope in him.



# God Moves in a Mysterious Way

William Cowper, 1774

Lowell Mason, 1832

1. God moves in a mys - te - rious way His won - ders to per - form;  
 2. Deep in un - fath - om - a - ble mines Of nev - er - fail - ing skill  
 3. Ye fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take; The clouds ye so much dread  
 4. Judge not the Lord by fee - ble sense, But trust him for his grace;  
 5. His pur - pos - es will rip - en fast, Un - fold - ing ev - 'ry hour;  
 6. Blind un - be - lief is sure to err, And scan his work in vain;

He plants his foot-steps in the sea, And rides up - on the storm.  
 He treas - ures up his bright de - signs, And works his sov - ereign will.  
 Are big with mer - cy, and shall break In bless - ings on your head.  
 Be - hind a frown - ing prov - i - dence He hides a smil - ing face.  
 The bud may have a bit - ter taste, But sweet will be the flow'r.  
 God is his own in - ter - pre - ter, And he will make it plain. A - men.

# Lesson 1: Solomon Becomes King

## 1 Kings 1-2

**Memory: 1 Chronicles 29:10**

**Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

*Chapter 1: In King David's old age, his loyal servants sought his comfort while his son Adonijah sought his throne. The prophet Nathan uncovered the plot, and David set his son Solomon on his throne.*

*Chapter 2: David gave final instructions to Solomon; and, after his death, King Solomon justly punished the rebels who opposed his father.*

1. How did King David's servants care for him?
2. Who was Adonijah, and what did he do?
3. Who joined with Adonijah, and who did not?
4. How did the prophet Nathan bring this plot to David's attention?
5. What did David do when he heard of the plot?
6. What happened when Adonijah and his guests heard that David had made Solomon king?
7. What did David tell Solomon about how he should live?
8. What did King Solomon do to each of these men?
  - Adonijah, his half brother
  - Abiathar, the high priest
  - Joab, David's commander
  - Shimei, the man who cursed David (2 Samuel 16:5-13)

## Lesson 2: The Grace of God to Solomon 1 Kings 3-4

**Memory: 1 Chronicles 29:10-11**    **Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 3: Solomon made a treaty with Egypt and married Pharaoh's daughter. The LORD appeared to Solomon. He granted his request for wisdom and added a promise of riches and honor.*

*Chapter 4: Solomon's administration is described and an account given of his wisdom, riches and honor.*

1. Although Solomon loved the LORD, what did he do that displeased the LORD?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Where was Solomon, and what was he doing when the LORD appeared to him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How did the LORD respond to Solomon's request for wisdom?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What did Solomon do after the LORD appeared to him in the dream?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How did Solomon demonstrate his wisdom, and how did the people respond?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What were the daily needs of Solomon's household, and how were they met?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What were conditions like in the land when Solomon reigned?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What gifts did God give Solomon, and how were they seen?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What effect did Solomon's reign have upon the nations?

## **Lesson 3: Solomon Builds the Temple** **1 Kings 5-8**

**Memory: 1 Chronicles 29:10-12    Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 5: Solomon purchased cedar and cypress logs from Hiram king of Tyre to build the temple. He raised up a labor force in Israel to harvest the trees and quarry large stones for the foundation.*

*Chapter 6: The temple which Solomon built is described. It took seven years to build.*

*Chapter 7: Solomon built his own house in 13 years. Solomon brought Hiram from Tyre to do the finish work and make the temple furnishings.*

*Chapter 8: The Ark was brought to the temple. Solomon blessed the people and praised God. Many sacrifices were offered in a feast that lasted 14 days.*

1. Why did Solomon write to Hiram king of Tyre?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How did Solomon organize his work force to get the timbers and stones he needed for the temple?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What did the LORD say was necessary for Him to dwell among the children of Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How long did it take to build the temple and Solomon’s house?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Who was Hiram, and what did he do?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What happened when the Ark was placed in the temple?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Why did Solomon bless the LORD God of Israel in his prayer of dedication?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What place did Solomon see for the temple in the life of the nation Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What did Solomon ask the LORD to do for the people?

## **Lesson 4: Solomon Rejects God's Word** **1 Kings 9-11**

**Memory: 1 Chronicles 29:10-13    Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

*Chapter 9: The LORD appeared again to Solomon with a solemn warning. Solomon prospered greatly.  
Chapter 10: The Queen of Sheba came to see Solomon and was impressed with his wisdom, his prosperity, and his God. King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.  
Chapter 11: Solomon's many wives turned his heart away from the LORD. The LORD raised up adversaries against Solomon. The prophet Ahijah warned of a coming division in the kingdom.*

1. What warning did the LORD give Solomon in a second appearance to him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What were some of Solomon's accomplishments?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Why did the Queen of Sheba come to see Solomon?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What impressed the Queen of Sheba about Solomon?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How did Solomon measure up to the instructions for kings given in Deuteronomy 17:14-20?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why was the LORD angry with Solomon, and what did He say He would do?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What men were raised up to be adversaries to Solomon?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What did the prophet Ahijah tell Jeroboam?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What word of hope did the prophet Ahijah give for the descendants of David?

## **Lesson 5: A Kingdom Divided** **1 Kings 12-14**

**Memory: 1 Chronicles 29:10-14    Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 12: After the death of Solomon, the LORD fulfilled His word and the kingdom was divided. Rehoboam spurned wise counsel and precipitated the division. Jeroboam became king over the ten northern tribes and set up a false religion with golden calves in Bethel and Dan.*

*Chapter 13: The LORD sent a prophet to warn against Jeroboam’s false religion. The prophet was killed after he failed to carefully obey the word of the LORD.*

*Chapter 14: The sickness and death of Jeroboam’s son was another occasion for the LORD to warn Jeroboam of coming judgment. In the south, evil prevailed. Egypt invaded and desecrated the temple.*

1. What did Rehoboam do when the people asked for relief from the burden imposed by Solomon?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Whose counsel did Rehoboam follow, and why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Why did Rehoboam discontinue his military attempts to stop the rebellion of Jeroboam?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What did Jeroboam do to prevent his people from returning to Rehoboam?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What message did the man of God bring to Jeroboam, and what signs did he give?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why was the man of God killed by the lion?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What did the prophet Ahijah tell Jeroboam’s wife?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What was it like in Judah in the days of Rehoboam?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What happened in the fifth year of Rehoboam’s reign?

## **Lesson 6: Provoking the LORD God of Israel** **1 Kings 15-16**

**Memory: 1 Chronicles 29:10-15    Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 15: Rehoboam was succeeded by his wicked son Abijam. He, in turn, was followed by his son Asa who was a good king. However, he used temple treasures to make a treaty with Syria against Israel. In the north, Nadab the son of Jeroboam became king but was killed and replaced by Baasha.*

*Chapter 16: Because of sin, Baasha’s dynasty ended when his son Elah was killed by his servant Zimri. After a time of civil war, Omri emerged as victor and became king. He was followed by his son Ahab who was more wicked than all the preceding kings. He established Baal worship as the religion of the land.*

1. Why did the LORD preserve the throne of Abijam?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What was good about King Asa?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What did King Asa do when he was confronted with an attack by Baasha king of Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How did Baasha become king of Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What word did Jehu bring from the LORD against Baasha?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. How did Zimri become king, and how long did he reign?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How did Omri become king?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What did Omri do as king?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What was so evil about Ahab?

## **Lesson 7: Elijah and the Word of the LORD** **1 Kings 17-19**

**Memory: Jeremiah 2:11**

**Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 17: Elijah proclaimed a drought in the land. The LORD cared for Elijah by ravens at the Brook Cherith and by the widow at Zarephath. When the widow's son died, Elijah raised him up again.*  
*Chapter 18: The LORD told Elijah that He would send rain. In the contest on Mount Carmel, the prophets of Baal failed, but the LORD heard Elijah and sent fire from heaven. Elijah prayed for rain and it came.*  
*Chapter 19: Elijah fled for his life from Jezebel. The LORD encouraged Elijah by His sovereign power. Elijah was sent to anoint the next kings of Syria and Israel and Elisha as his successor.*

1. After Elijah announced the drought, how did the LORD first care for him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How did the LORD care for Elijah at Zarephath?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What happened when the widow's son died?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Who was Obadiah, and how did he show that he feared the LORD greatly?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How did Elijah propose to show the people that the LORD is God?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What was Elijah's prayer, and how was it answered?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What did Elijah do when Jezebel sought to kill him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What did Elijah learn when he stood before the LORD on the mountain?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What did the LORD tell Elijah to do after hearing his complaint?



## **Lesson 8: Ahab – Sold to Do Evil** **1 Kings 20-22**

**Memory: Jeremiah 2:11-12**

**Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 20: The LORD gave Ahab two miraculous victories over Ben-hadad's Syrian army. When Ahab made a treaty of friendship with Ben-hadad, the LORD's prophet announced judgement upon Ahab.*  
*Chapter 21: Ahab coveted the field of Naboth. Jezebel devised a wicked plan to murder Naboth, and Ahab got the field. Elijah proclaimed the judgment of the LORD on Ahab. Ahab repented.*  
*Chapter 22: Ahab was killed in a battle in which he joined with King Jehoshaphat of Judah against Syria. Jehoshaphat, a good king, made some critical compromises.*

1. How did Ahab defeat Ben-hadad and the Syrian army in their first battle?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Why did the LORD enable Ahab to defeat the Syrians the second time?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Why was the LORD displeased with Ahab?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How did Jezebel get Naboth's field for Ahab?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What did Elijah tell Ahab, and how did Ahab respond?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What preparations did Ahab and Jehoshaphat make for the battle against the Syrians?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How did Micaiah explain the message of the false prophets?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How did Ahab seek to thwart the prophet's message, and what happened?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What did Jehoshaphat do that was not right in the eyes of the LORD?

## **Lesson 9: Fire, a Whirlwind, and Water** **2 Kings 1-3**

**Memory: Jeremiah 2:11-13**

**Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

*Chapter 1: Ahaziah was injured and inquired of Baal-zebub whether he would recover. Because of this, Elijah said he would die. Elijah called fire from heaven to prove that he spoke from God.*

*Chapter 2: Elijah ascended to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw and received his mantle. He showed that he was truly Elijah's successor by miraculous works, some of mercy and some of wrath.*

*Chapter 3: Jehoram succeeded his brother Ahaziah on their father Ahab's throne. He removed Baal worship but re-established the false religion of Jeroboam. He joined with Jehoshaphat to fight Moab.*

1. Why was Elijah given a message for the king of Samaria?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What happened to the first two groups of men which Ahaziah sent to get Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What happened the third time a captain of fifty was sent with his men to get Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What happened to Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How did Elisha demonstrate that he had a double portion of the spirit of Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What happened to the youths who mocked Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How did Elisha respond when Jehoshaphat and Jehoram sought counsel from him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What word of the LORD did Elisha give to the two kings?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What was the outcome of the battle?

## Lesson 10: Elisha, the Man of God 2 Kings 4-5

**Memory: Lamentations 3:22**

**Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 4: Elisha saved a woman from her creditor by a supply of oil. He prophesied the birth of a son to the Shunammite woman and later raised the child from the dead. He purified poisonous stew and fed 100 men with 20 loaves and some corn.*

*Chapter 5: Naaman, a Syrian soldier, was healed by Elisha of his leprosy by dipping in the Jordan River. Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, was judged with leprosy because of his greed.*

1. Who was the woman who came to Elisha, and what was her problem?
2. How did Elisha help her with her problem?
3. What did the Shunammite woman and her husband do for Elisha?
4. What did Elisha do for the Shunammite woman and her husband?
5. What happened to the son of the Shunammite woman?
6. How did Naaman find Elisha?
7. How was Naaman healed?
8. What lesson did Naaman learn from his healing?
9. Why did Gehazi become a leper?

## **Lesson 11: Elisha's Sovereign LORD**

### **2 Kings 6-7**

**Memory: Lamentations 3:22-23 Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

*Chapter 6: Elisha caused a lost axe head to float. He warned the king of Israel about planned Syrian attacks and then brought the Syrian army captive to the king. Later, the Syrian siege caused a famine.  
Chapter 7: Elisha foretold the deliverance from the siege in 24 hours. The next day, four lepers discovered that the Syrian army had fled in haste. Food was available in abundance.*

1. How did the prophets lose their axe head?
  
  
  
  
  
2. How did Elisha recover the borrowed axe head?
  
  
  
  
  
3. Why was the Syrian king troubled?
  
  
  
  
  
4. What did Elisha's servant learn when he found the city surrounded by the Syrian army?
  
  
  
  
  
5. What did Elisha do to the Syrian army?
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why was the king so angry with Elisha in the days when Ben-hadad besieged Samaria?
  
  
  
  
  
7. What did Elisha say to the king's officer who doubted his prophecy of deliverance?
  
  
  
  
  
8. Why did the four lepers leave the city, and what did they find?
  
  
  
  
  
9. What happened when the people discovered that the lepers had spoken the truth?

## **Lesson 12: The LORD God Rules in the Affairs of Men 2 Kings 8-10**

**Memory: Lamentations 3:22-24 Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 8: The LORD providentially restored the property of the Shunammite woman. Elisha told Hazael he would become king of Syria and that he would do great evil. These were evil days in Judah. Jehoram ruled with his wife Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab. Their son Ahaziah ruled next.*

*Chapter 9: Elisha anointed Jehu as king of Israel and told him to destroy the house of Ahab. He killed King Joram of Israel, King Ahaziah of Judah and Jezebel. Her body was eaten by dogs.*

*Chapter 10: The slaughter continued and included 70 sons of Ahab, 42 brothers of Ahaziah, all the remaining family of Ahab and all the priests of Baal.*

1. What happened when the Shunammite woman went to appeal to the king for her property?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What did Hazael learn when he asked Elisha if his master, King Ben-hadad, would recover?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How did Jehoram and his son Ahaziah conduct themselves as kings of Judah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What did the prophet sent by Elisha tell Jehu?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What happened to Joram king of Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What happened to Jezebel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How did Jehu fulfill the Word of the LORD spoken by Elijah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How did Jehu eliminate Baal worship?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What happened after Jehu destroyed Baal from Israel?

## **Lesson 13: Revival in Judah – Mercy in Israel**

### **2 Kings 11-13**

#### **Memory: Review**

#### **Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 11: Athaliah, daughter of Ahab, killed the royal heirs and became queen of Judah. The priest Jehoiada hid Jehoash, the only remaining heir. After seven years, he led a coup to make Jehoash king.*

*Chapter 12: Jehoash was a good king all the days of Jehoiada the priest. He restored the temple, but later used the sacred articles from the temple to buy protection from Syria. He was killed by his servants.*

*Chapter 13: The dynasty of Jehu did evil in the sight of the LORD despite gracious deliverance by the LORD from Syria. Elisha died after a final prophecy of three victories over Syria.*

1. Why did Athaliah not murder her grandson Jehoash (Joash)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How did Jehoash become king?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What did Jehoiada and the people do after Athaliah was killed?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What instructions did Jehoash give to the priests?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How was the temple finally repaired?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What did Jehoash do when Hazael king of Syria came against him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What happened in the days of Jehoahaz king of Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What final prophecy did Elisha make to Joash the king of Israel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Why did the LORD not destroy Israel in those days?

## Lesson 14: The LORD Removes Israel

### 2 Kings 14-17

#### Memory: Review

#### Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

*Chapter 14: The righteous king, Amaziah, prospered in Judah but then was captured by Jehoash, the wicked king of Israel. The temple was desecrated again. Israel prospered under the evil king Jeroboam.*

*Chapter 15: Azariah (Uzziah), a righteous king in Judah, was struck by the LORD with leprosy. Israel was ruled by a series of kings in a period marked by conspiracy, murders and great evil. Jotham followed his father Azariah, a good king in Judah.*

*Chapter 16: Jotham was followed by Ahaz on the throne of David. He was a very wicked man. He made a treaty with Assyria and brought the Assyrian religion into the temple. Urijah the priest assisted.*

*Chapter 17: The king of Assyria made Hoshea king of Israel his vassal. When Hoshea conspired against Assyria, the Assyrians took Israel into captivity and repopulated the land from other countries.*

#### 1. Briefly describe each king and a distinctive of his reign.

Amaziah (Judah)

Jeroboam (Israel)

Azariah (Judah)

Zechariah (Israel)

Shallum (Israel)

Menahem (Israel)

Pekahiah (Israel)

Pekah (Israel)

Hoshea (Israel)

Jotham (Judah)

Ahaz (Judah)

#### 2. Why was the LORD angry with Israel?

## Lesson 15: Hezekiah – A Godly King

### 2 Kings 18-20

**Memory: Review**

**Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 18: Hezekiah, the most godly of all the kings of Judah, prospered wherever he went. Sennacherib came against Judah and challenged Hezekiah's trust in the LORD.*

*Chapter 19: Isaiah promised deliverance and the Assyrians departed. When they returned, Hezekiah turned again to the LORD and the angel of the LORD destroyed the Assyrian army.*

*Chapter 20: Hezekiah became sick and nearly died. The LORD extended his life for 15 years. Hezekiah courted the favor of the Babylonians and was rebuked by Isaiah the prophet.*

1. How is King Hezekiah described?
2. What did Hezekiah do when Sennacherib, King of Assyria, came against Judah?
3. What was Rabshakeh's challenge to Hezekiah?
4. What was Rabshakeh's challenge to the people?
5. What answer did Hezekiah get from Isaiah after he asked him to pray for Judah?
6. What did Hezekiah do when received the letter from the Assyrians?
7. How did the LORD answer Hezekiah's prayer?
8. How did the LORD answer Hezekiah's prayer when he was sick?
9. What did Isaiah tell Hezekiah after he had received the Babylonians?



## **Lesson 16: A Great Awakening** **2 Kings 21-23**

**Memory: Review**

**Hymn: “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”**

*Chapter 21: Manasseh followed his father Hezekiah on the throne and was a very wicked king. The prophets warned of judgment. Amon, the next king, was equally wicked. He was killed by his servants.*  
*Chapter 22: The next king, Josiah, ruled righteously. The Book of the Law was found and read. Josiah mourned for the sins of the nation. Huldah the prophetess promised a delay in God's wrath.*  
*Chapter 23: Josiah restored true worship in the land and destroyed the idolatrous religion. He was killed in battle against Pharaoh-nechoh. His two sons ruled after him and were both evil.*

1. What evil did Manasseh do in the sight of the LORD?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What comparison is made for Manasseh?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What message did the prophets bring?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What kind of a king was Amon and what happened to him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Why did Josiah tear his clothes?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What message did Huldah the prophetess have for Josiah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What did Josiah do after he heard the message of the LORD through Huldah?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What was the significance of Josiah's actions at Bethel?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What happened after the death of Josiah?

## **Lesson 17: The Fall of Jerusalem 2 Kings 24-25**

**Memory: Review**

**Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

*Chapter 24: During Jehoiakim's reign, Judah was attacked by several nations. His son Jehoiachin reigned next and was taken captive to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar who made his uncle Zedekiah king.*  
*Chapter 25: Zedekiah rebelled. Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem, destroyed the temple and took the people into captivity. The puppet governor Gedaliah was murdered and the remnant fled to Egypt. In Babylon, Jehoiachin was given a place of honor after 37 years in captivity.*

1. What happened during the reign of Jehoiakim, and why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What happened in the days of Jehoiachin?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Who was Mattaniah, and what happened to him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. State what Nebuchadnezzar and the Chaldean army did with each of the following:  
Zedekiah:  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
the temple:  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
the walls of Jerusalem:  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
the chief priests:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Who was Gedaliah, and what happened to him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What happened to Jehoiachin?

# 1 Kings

## A Kingdom Divided Against Itself

971 B.C.	966		931	586 B.C.					
1	2:12	4	5	9:10	11	12	16:29	22	
Solomon Crowned	Early Days of Solomon's Reign	Administration	Solomon in his Glory		Golden Age	Apostasy and Death	Antagonisms between Israel and Judah	King Ahab and Prophet Elijah	Temple Destroyed (2 Kings 24)
David Succeeded by Solomon			Israel Contemporaneous with Judah			Split of the Kingdom			2 Kings
United Kingdom			Divided Kingdom						
40 Years			90 Years						

A Key Phrase: **As David his Father**

Key Verses: **9:4, 5**

# 2 Kings      Kingdoms Taken Captive

Mainly about Elisha	Mainly about the Kings of Israel and Judah	The Closing Years of Judah
---------------------	--	----------------------------

1      8:16      18      25:27

Kings of Israel	Divided Kingdom		Surviving Kingdom		
	Ahaziah and Joram	Jehu to Hoshea			
Kings of Judah	Jehoram to Ahaz		Hezekiah to Zedekiah		
	8:16	9:11			
B.C.	853	About 130 Years	722	About 135 Years	586

Key Words and Phrases:  
**In the sight of the LORD**  
**Howbeit, but**  
**Men of God**  
**Word of the LORD**

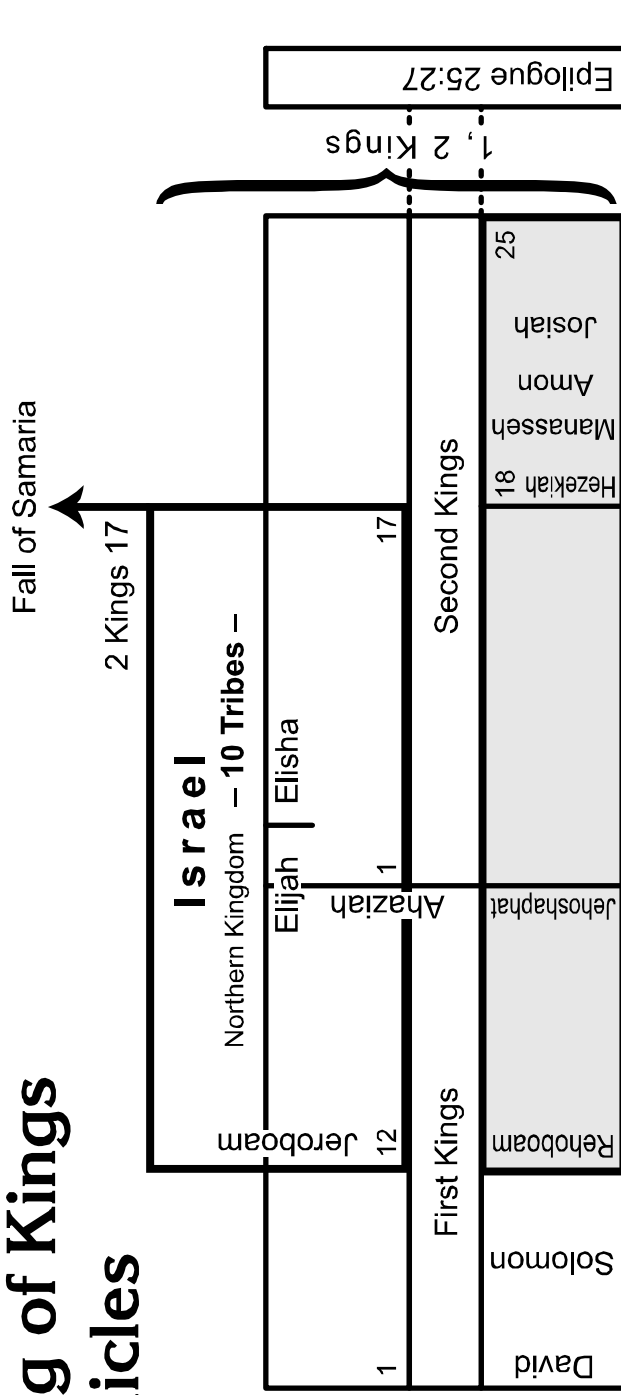
Key Verses: 17:18-19; 23:27

→ Captivity to Assyria

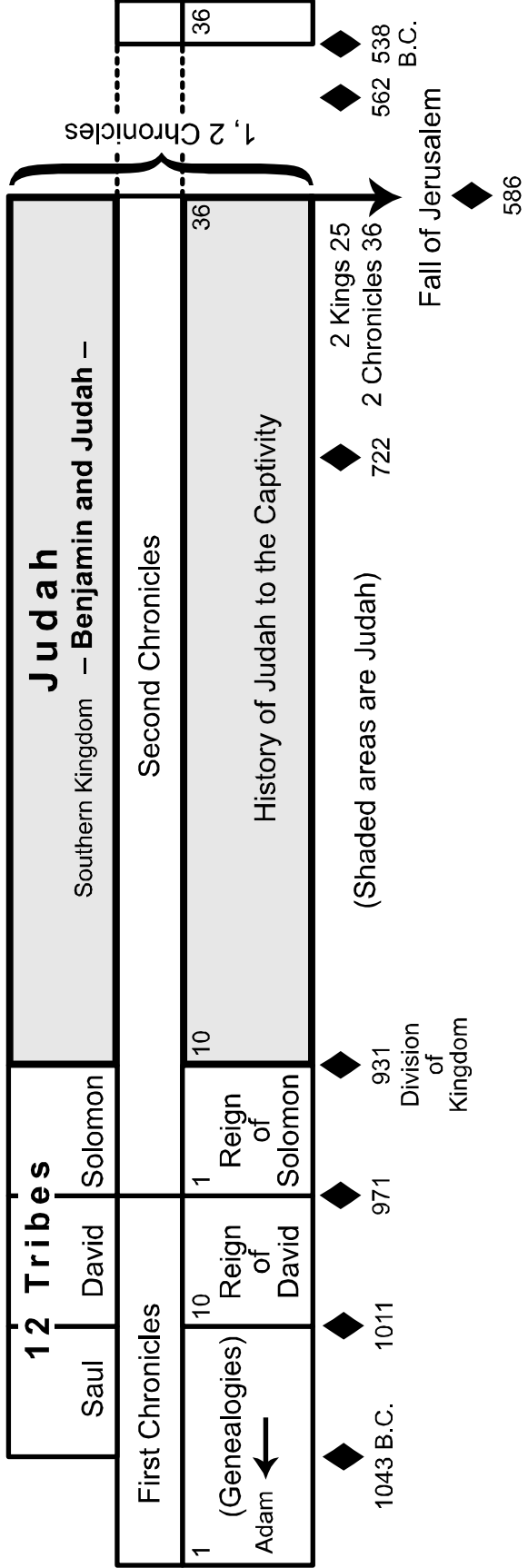
→ Captivity to Babylon

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# The Setting of Kings and Chronicles



## United Kingdom      Divided Kingdom      Surviving Kingdom



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# Kings of Israel

Kings of Israel	Years of Reign	Character	Relations with Judah	Dethroned By	History
1 Jeroboam	22	Bad	War		I Kings 11:26 — 14:20 II Chronicles 9:29 — 13:22
2 Nadab	2	Bad	War	Baasha	I Kings 15:25-28
3 Baasha	24	Bad	War		I Kings 15:27 — 16:7 II Chronicles 6:1-6
4 Elah	2	Drunkard	War	Zimri	I Kings 16:8-10
5 Zimri	7 days	Murderer	War	Omri	I Kings 16:10-20
6 Omri **	12	Very Bad	War		I Kings 16:16-27
7 Ahab	22	Exceedingly Wicked	Alliance		I Kings 16:28 — 22:40 II Chronicles 18:1-34
8 Ahaziah	2	Bad	Peace		I Kings 22:40, 51-53 II Kings 1:1-17 II Chronicles 20:35-37
9 Joram	12	Bad	Alliance	Jehu	I Kings 3:1-3; 9:14-25 II Chronicles 22:5-7
10 Jehu	28	Bad	War		II Kings 9:1 — 10:36 II Chronicles 22:7-12
11 Jehoahaz	17	Bad	Peace		II Kings 13:1-9
12 Jehoash	16 *	Bad	War		II Kings 13:10-25; 14:8-16 II Chronicles 25:17-24
13 Jeroboam II	41 *	Bad	Peace		II Kings 14:23-29
14 Zechariah	6 months	Bad	Peace	Shallum	II Kings 15:8-12
15 Shallum	1 month	Bad	Peace	Menahem	II Kings 15:13-15
16 Menahem	10	Bad	Peace		II Kings 15:16-22
17 Pekahiah	2	Bad	Peace	Pekah	II Kings 15:23-26
18 Pekah ***	20	Bad	War	Hoshea	II Kings 15:27-31 II Chronicles 28:5-8
19 Hoshea	9	Bad	Peace		II Kings 17:1-41

● These figures, as recorded in the biblical text, do not always reflect co-reigncies of kings.

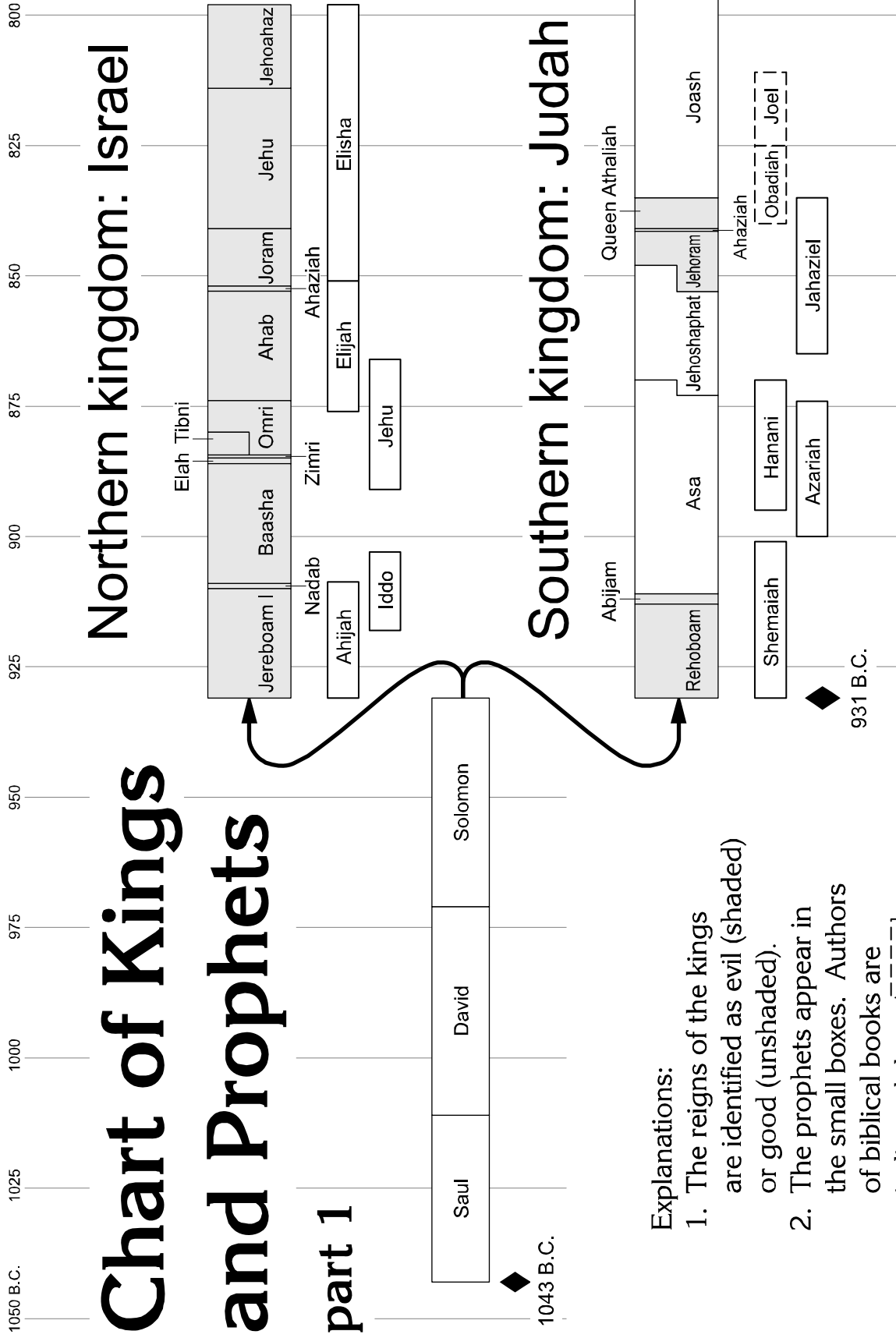
\* These kings shared the throne with either their father or their son.

\*\* Tibni ruled a portion of Israel for Omri's first five years.

\*\*\* Pekah ruled part of Israel at the same time as Menahem and Pekahiah before he overthrew the latter.

# Kings of Judah

Kings of Judah	Age Began Reign	Years of Reign	Character	Relations with Israel	History
1 Rehoboam	41	17	Bad	War	I Kings 12:1 — 14:31 II Chronicles 10:1 — 12:16
2 Abijam		3	Bad	War	I Kings 15:1-8 II Chronicles 13:1-22
3 Asa		41 *	Good	War	I Kings 15:9-24 II Chronicles 14:1 — 16:14
4 Jehoshaphat	35	25 *	Good	Peace	I Kings 22:41-50 II Chronicles 17:1 — 20:37
5 Jehoram	32	8 *	Bad	Peace	II Kings 8:16-24 II Chronicles 21:1-20
6 Ahaziah	22	1	Bad	Alliance	II Kings 8:25-29; 9:27-29 II Chronicles 22:1-9
7 Athaliah (queen)		6	Bad	Peace	II Kings 8:18, 25-28; 11:1-20 II Chronicles 22:1 — 23:21; 24:7
8 Joash	7	40	Good	Peace	II Kings 11:1 — 12:21 II Chronicles 22:10 — 24:27
9 Amaziah	25	29 *	Good	War	II Kings 14:1-14 II Chronicles 25:1-28
10 Uzziah (Azariah)	16	52 *	Good	Peace	II Kings 15:1-7 II Chronicles 26:1-23
11 Jotham	25	16 *	Good	War	II Kings 15:32-38 II Chronicles 27:1-9
12 Ahaz	20	16 *	Bad	War	II Kings 16:1-20 II Chronicles 28:1-27
13 Hezekiah	25	29 *	Good		II Kings 18:1 — 20:21 II Chronicles 29:1 — 32:33
14 Manasseh	12	55 *	Bad		II Kings 21:1-18 II Chronicles 33:1-20
15 Amon	22	2	Bad		II Kings 21:19-23 II Chronicles 33:21-25
16 Josiah	8	31	Good		II Kings 22:1 — 23:30 II Chronicles 34:1 — 35:27
17 Jehoahaz	23	3 months	Bad		II Kings 23:31-33 II Chronicles 36:1-4
18 Jehoiakim	25	11	Bad		II Kings 23:34 — 24:5 II Chronicles 36:5-7
19 Jehoiachin	18	3 months	Bad		II Kings 24:6-16 II Chronicles 36:8-10
20 Zedekiah	21	11	Bad		II Kings 24:17 — 25:7 II Chronicles 36:11-21

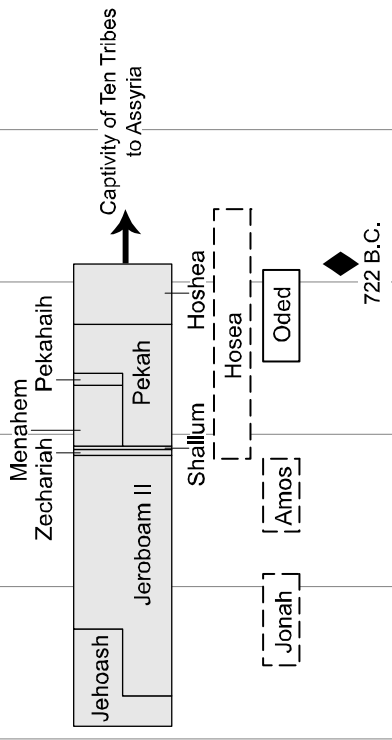


**Explanations:**

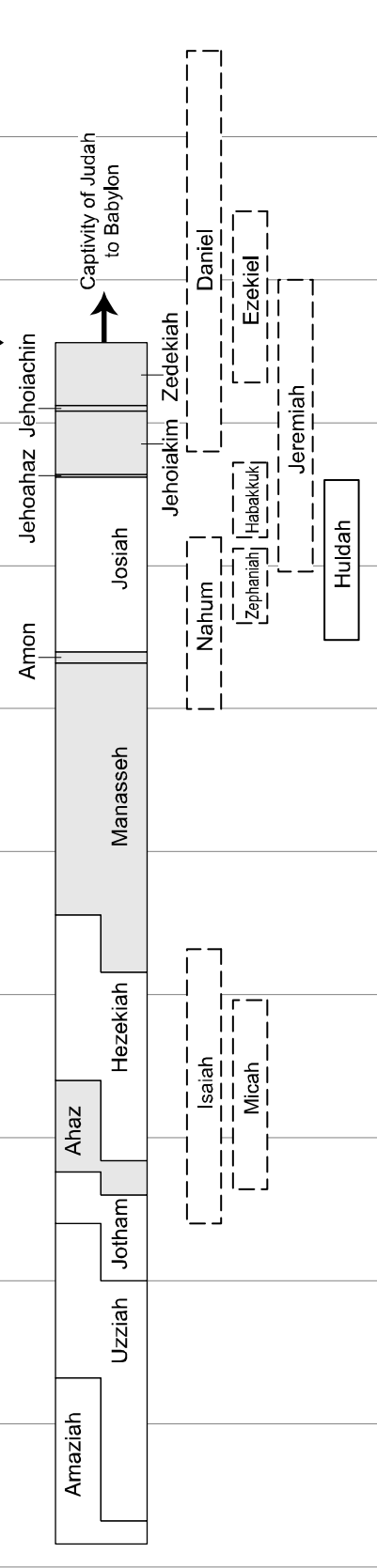
1. The reigns of the kings are identified as evil (shaded) or good (unshaded).
2. The prophets appear in the small boxes. Authors of biblical books are indicated thus: [Obadiah]

800 775 750 725 700 675 650 625 600 575 550 525 B.C.

## Northern kingdom: Israel



## Southern kingdom: Judah



# Chart of Kings and Prophets

part 2