

An open Bible lies on a wooden surface, its pages filled with text. The background is a dramatic sunset sky with golden light breaking through dark, textured clouds. A few birds are seen flying in the distance. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Chronological Bible Study

Week 19:

The Divided Kingdom

1 Kings 11:9-19:21

2 Chronicles 1-16:14

Opening Prayer

God of grace,

We open our hearts, minds
and souls to worship to you.

Thank you that today we dwell in your kingdom
and live in your presence.

Thank you that as we gather together
we join with all Christians across the world
to glorify your holy name.

Come be with us, inspire us and lead us in our time together.
We ask all this in the beautiful name of Jesus. Amen.



Introductions

What is your favorite hymn or worship song? Pick one!

Questions?

Comments?

Summary of This Week's Readings

Solomon's Decline and Death

Solomon's Activities Reviewed from 2 Chronicles Perspective

The Kingdom Divides: Prophetic and Priestly Accounts

Elijah

The Call of Elisha

A Kingdom Divided

[Video Link](#)



Solomon's Death

- Solomon reigned for 40 years
- He died ~931 BC
- He was buried in Jerusalem with his father.
- Rehoboam, his son, succeeded him as king

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mort.

Jeroboam's Rebellion

[Video Link](#)



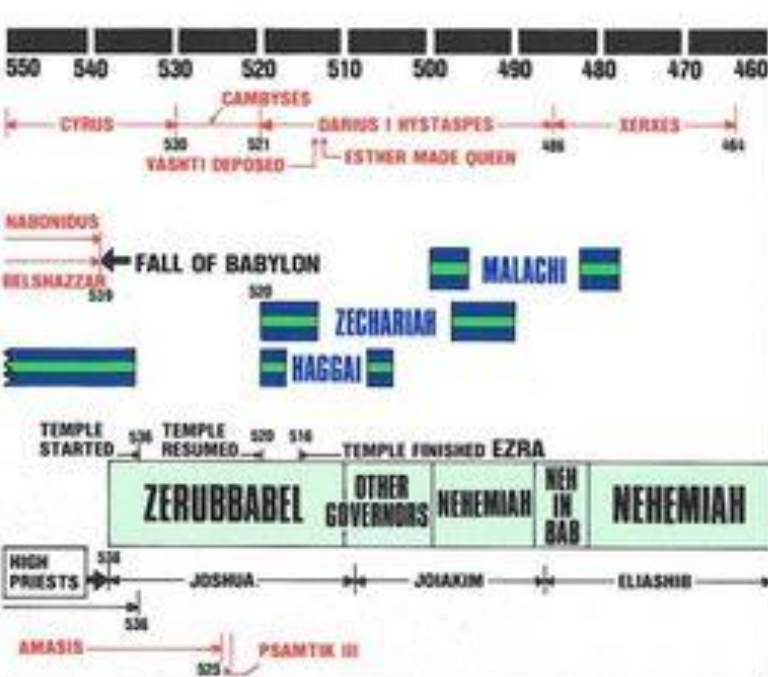
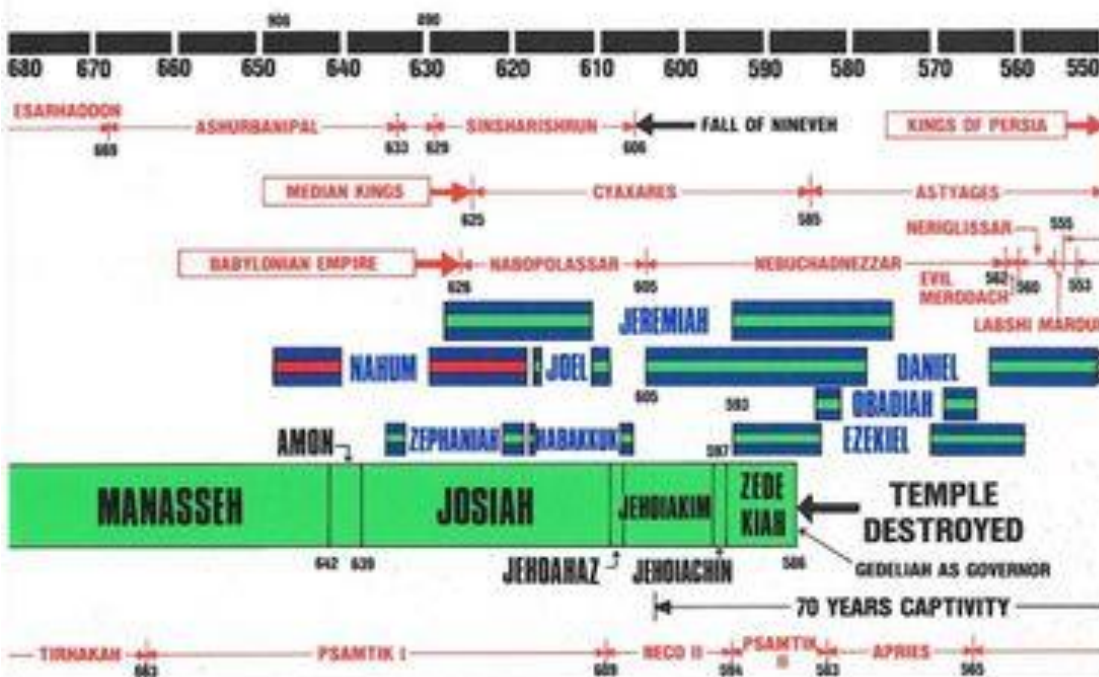
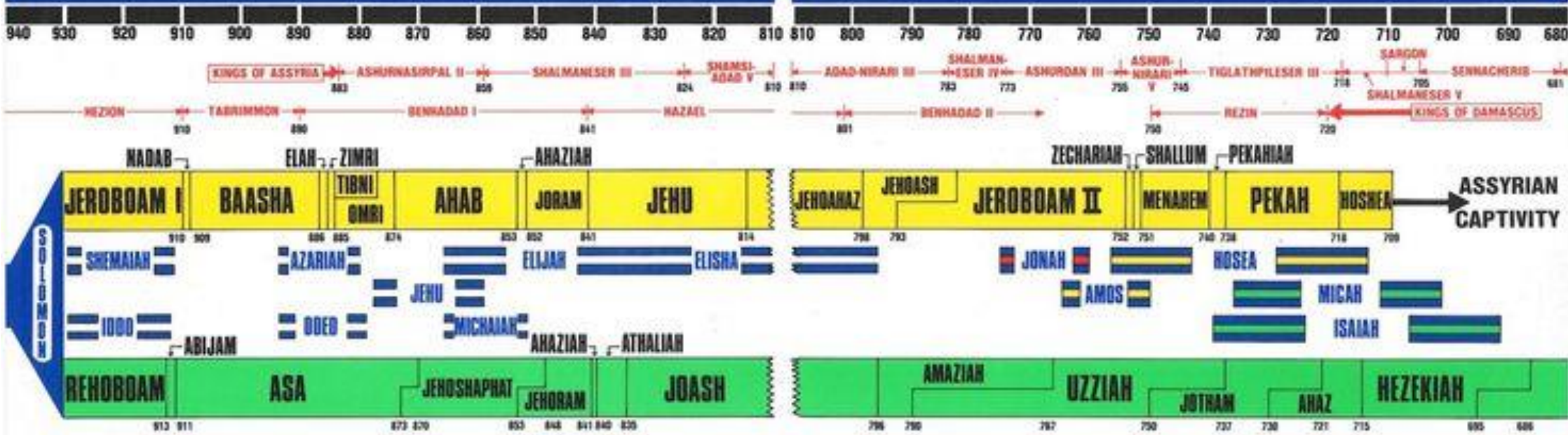
The Kingdom Divides

- Rehoboam follows Solomon as king.
- The Northern tribes object to the planned heavy taxation.
- 10 tribes break away from King Rehoboam and make Jeroboam their king.
- The Northern Kingdom has its capital in Samaria.
- The Southern Kingdom (Judah) has its capital in Jerusalem.
- Idol worship spreads in both kingdoms.



THE KINGS AND PROPHETS

OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH



KEY

- 940 Years B.C.
- Nations around Israel
- Kings of Judah
- Kings of Israel
- Prophets (no book)
- Prophets to Nations
- Prophets to Israel
- Prophets to Judah
- Judah after Captivity

Rulers and Prophets of Israel and Judah

KINGDOM OF ISRAEL	PROPHETS	KINGDOM OF JUDAH
Jeroboam I 931-910	925 B.C.	Rehoboam 931-913
Nadab 910-909		Abijah 913-911
Baasha 909-886	900 B.C.	
Elah 886-885		Asa 911-870
Zimri 885 (7 days)		
Omri 885-874	875 B.C.	
Ahab 874-853		Jehoshaphat 870-848 (coregent with Asa 873-870)
Ahaziah 853-852	Elijah 850 B.C.	Jehoram 848-841 (coregent with Jehoshaphat 853-848)
Joram 852-841	Elisha Obadiah	Ahaziah 841 (1 year)
	Joel 825 B.C.	Athaliah 841-835
Jehu 841-814		Joash 835-796
Jehoahaz 814-798	800 B.C.	
Jehoash 798-782		Amaziah 796-767
Jeroboam II 782-753 (coregent with Jehoash 793-782)	Jonah 775 B.C.	Uzziah 767-740 (overlap/coregent with Amaziah 792-767; isolated 751-740)
Zechariah 753/752 (6 months)	Amos 750 B.C.	Jotham 740-736 (coregent with Uzziah 751-740; abdicates 736)
Shallum 752 (1 month)		Ahaz 736-729 (coregent with Jotham 744-736)
Menahem 752-742		
Pekahiah 742-740	Hosea 725 B.C.	Hezekiah 729-686 (regent for Ahaz 729-715)
Pekah 740-732		
Hosea 732-722	Micah Isaiah 700 B.C.	
FALL OF SAMARIA, 722		
	675 B.C.	Manasseh 686-642 (coregent with Hezekiah 696-686)
	650 B.C.	Amon 642-640
	Zephaniah 625 B.C.	Josiah 640-609
	Nahum Jeremiah	Jehoahaz 609 (3 months)
	Habakkuk 600 B.C.	Jehoiakim 608-598
		Jeconiah 598/597 (3 months; coregent with Jehoiakim 608-598)
	Ezekiel 575 B.C. Daniel	Zedekiah 597-586
		FALL OF JERUSALEM, 586

NOTE ABOUT DATES
While scholars' opinions about the dates of kings' reigns and the timing so some prophets' ministries may vary, the dates on this chart are based on the best knowledge and evidence available to us at this time. Most reputable scholars' dates will be close, though not necessarily identical, to these. There simply isn't enough specific information available in the biblical record to identify the timing of each king's reign with certainty.

The Kingdom Divides

1 Kings 11-15



Solomon forsakes the covenant by worshipping other gods 11:1-13

A prophet tells Jeroboam of God's plan to give him rule over ten tribes of Israel 11:29-39

Solomon attempts to kill Jeroboam, who flees to Egypt until Solomon dies 11:40



Rehoboam succeeds Solomon as king 11:41-43

Rehoboam refuses to show kindness to the Israelites, who rebel against him 12:1-19

Jeroboam becomes king over Israel; the tribe of Judah remains loyal to Rehoboam 12:20



Jeroboam sets up golden calves for the people to worship, provoking God's wrath 12:25-33; 14:7-16

The people of Judah, under Rehoboam's rule, turn away from worshipping God and provoke his wrath 14:21-28

Continual warfare takes place between Israel and Judah 14:30; 15:6, 16

Comparison of Kings and Chronicles

Kings

- Written after beginning of the captivity
- Compiled by the prophet Jeremiah
- Emphasis: Earthly
- Both Israel and Judah are considered
- Political and kingly
- Closes with the beginning of bondage

Chronicles

- Written after restoration from the captivity
- Compiled by the priest Ezra
- Emphasis Heavenly
- Judah is the main theme, Israel incidental
- Ecclesiastical and priestly
- Closes with beginning of restoration

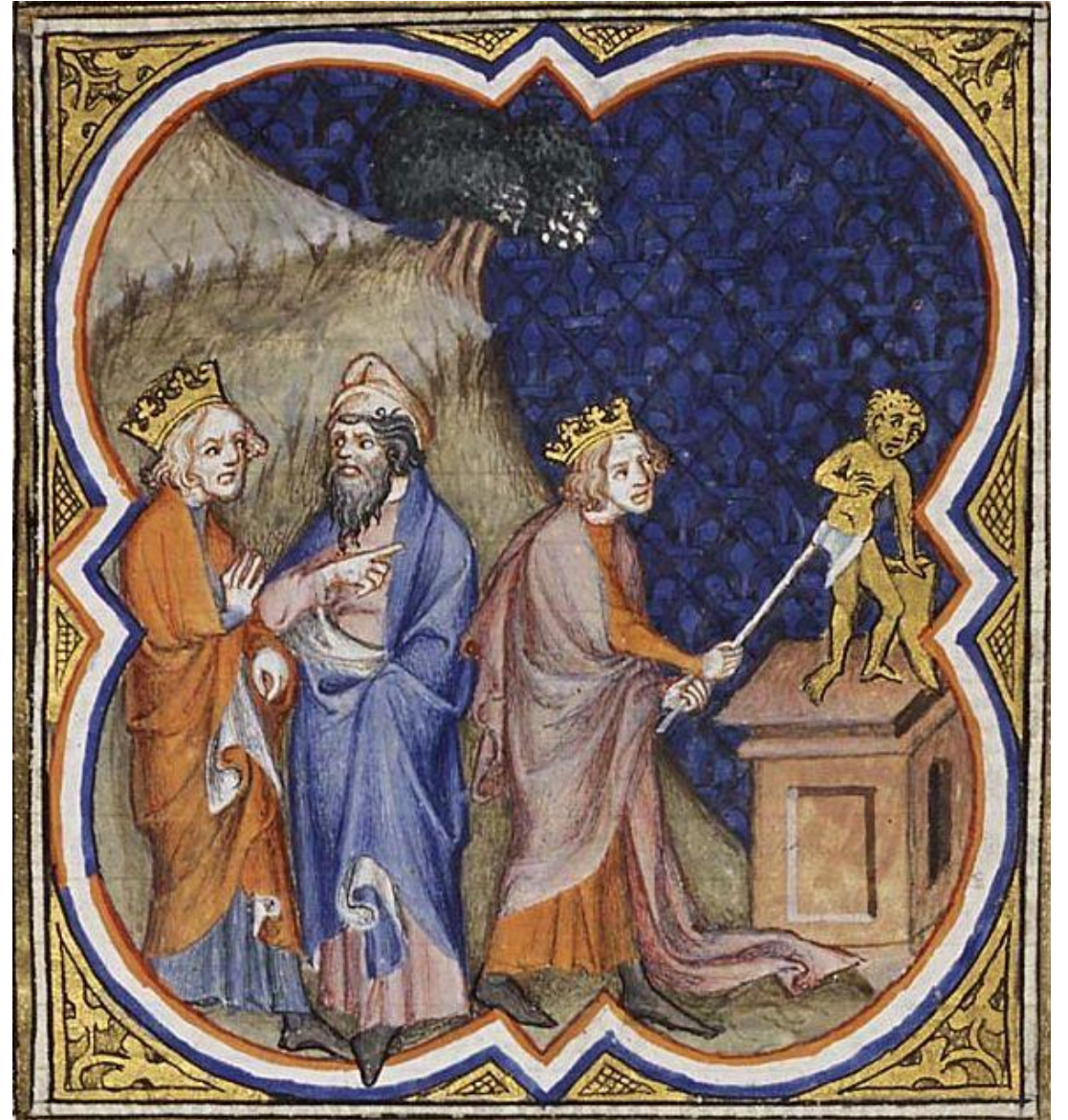


Shishak

- Egyptian pharaoh (also known as Shoshenq I)
- Provided refuge to Jeroboam in late years of Solomon's reign
- Sacked Jerusalem in 10th century BC
- Supported Jeroboam against Judah king Rehoboam
- Took the treasure of Solomon's temple and palace

Asa

- Third king of the Kingdom of Judah (5th king of the House of David. Reigned from late 10th to early 9th century BC.
- Much peace during his reign, but he did enter into battles with adversaries.
- Noted for his reforms against idolatry and return to traditional worship of God. The Covenant with God was renewed.
- Many northerners migrate to Judah during his reign
- Succeeded by his son Jehoshaphat.



Who Was King Ahab?

[Video Link](#)



Queen Jezebel

[Video Link](#)



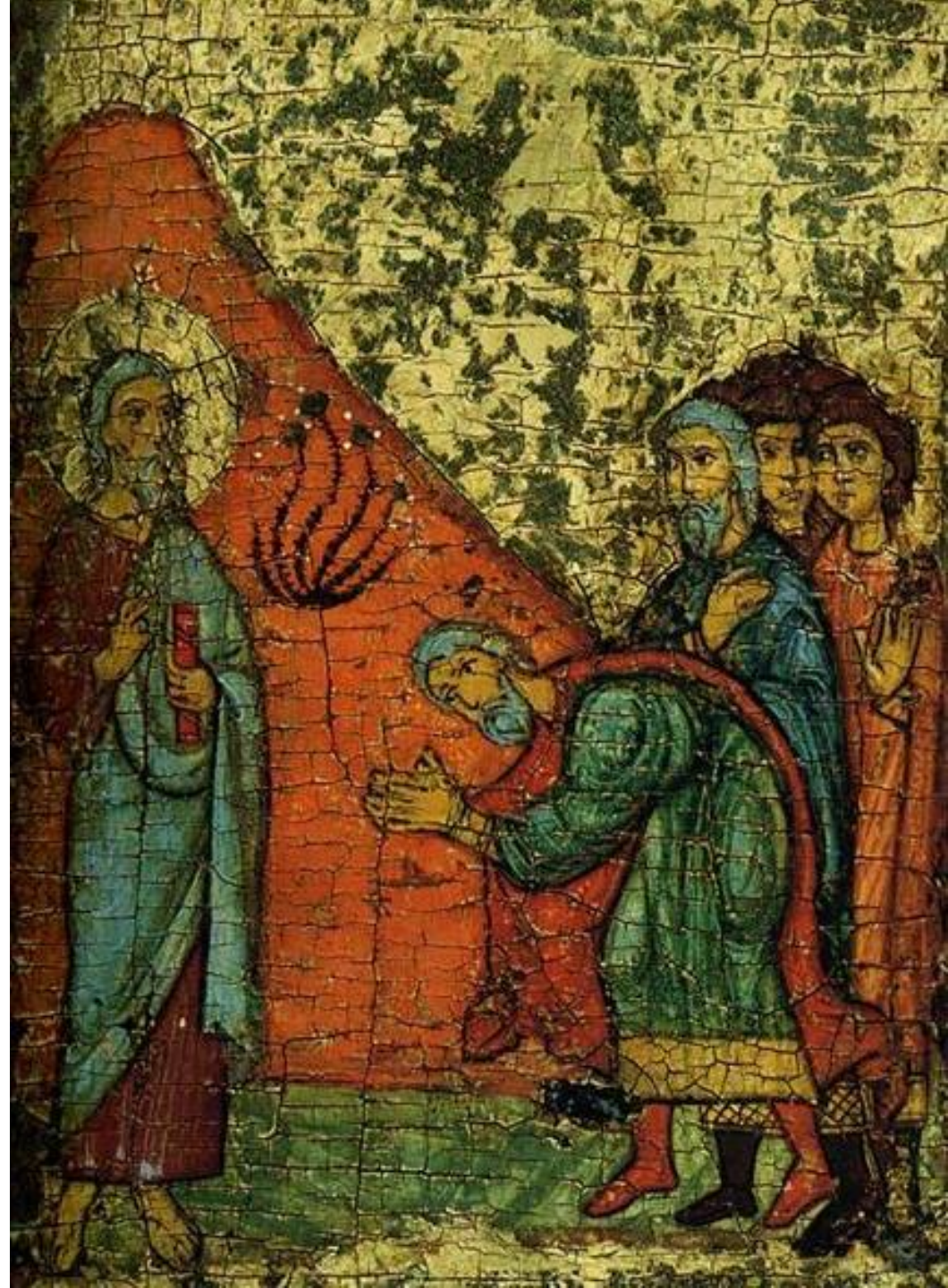


Elijah

- Name means “My God is Yahweh”
- A prophet and miracle worker from Northern Kingdom during reign of King Ahab (9th century BC)
- Defended the worship of Yahweh over Baal
- God performed many miracles through Elijah
- Elijah will appear with Moses at Jesus’ transfiguration

Obadiah and Elijah

- Obadiah hid 100 prophets in 2 caves to protect them from Jezebel.
- Elijah asks to meet with Ahab who is out to kill him.
- Obadiah worries he will be killed if Elijah disappears.
- Both are faithful servants.





Elijah and the Contest on Mt. Carmel

- The story of the confrontation between the God of Israel and Baal told in 1 Kings 18:16-45
- Baal was the god of rain, thunder, lightening, and dew – this challenge was directly related to Baal
- God wins!



Elisha

- Name means My God is Salvation
- Prophet in Northern kingdom and disciple and protégé of Elijah.
- Active during the reigns of Joram, Jehu, Jehoahaz and Joash.

Divine Justice

[Video Link](#)

COMPASSIONATE and GRACIOUS SLOW TO ANGER
overflowing with LOYAL LOVE and FAITHFULNESS

EXODUS 34:6



Discussion

- Why is it important that God confronts evil and sin and holds people accountable?
- Do you see God's justice as revengeful or restorative?
- How can we align our reaction to injustice to reflect the character of God?



Readings:

Reading: History and Prophecy

1 Kings 20:1-22:53

2 Chronicles 17:1-22:9

2 Kings 1:1-12:21

Closing Song

[Video Link](#)



The Divided Kingdom

February 6-12 2024

1 KI 11-19; 2 CH 1-16

The glory of the united kingdom began to fade with the death of Solomon. First Kings provides a prophetically oriented evaluation of the spiritual and moral causes that led to the political and economic demise of the two kingdoms (Israel and Judah). Rehoboam’s rejection of the Israelites request to lighten their yoke was a great turning point in the history of Israel. From this point on, the southern kingdom will be known as Judah, with Jerusalem as its capital and the Northern Kingdom will be known as Israel. Samaria will eventually become its capital. The two kingdoms will be at war with each other. The lives of the kings that ruled the divided kingdoms contrasts the lives of those who live for God and those who refuse to do so. We also learn of the prophetic ministries of Elijah and Elisha, who wanted to awaken Israel to the conviction that Yahweh alone is God. Even today we can choose to follow other gods by not choosing to follow God.

Weekly Reading Plan: (pp. 512-547)

Day 1: 1 KI 11:9-43; 2 CH 1:1-4:22
 Day 2: 2 CH 5:1 – 9:31
 Day 3: 1 KI 12:1- 14:20
 Day 4: 1 KI 14:21– 16:20;
 2 CH 10:1 – 11:23
 Day 5: 2 CH 12:1-16:14
 Day 6: 1 KI 16:21 –34
 Day 7: 1 KI 17:1 – 19:21

Outline

Solomon’s Decline [Day 1]
 Priestly Account: The Reign of Solomon [Day 1 and 2]
 The Division of the Kingdom [Day 3]
 First Dynasty of Israel [Day 3]
 The Davidic Dynasty in Judah [Day 4]
 Unrest in Israel [Day 4]
 Priestly Account: The Kingdom Divides [Day 4]
 Rehoboam’s Apostasy [Day 5]
 Asa’s Revival [Day 5]
 Prophetic Account: Ahab and Jehoshaphat [Day 6]
 The Ministry of Elijah [Day 7]

Key Characters

Solomon	Hadad
Jeroboam	Rehoboam
Queen of Sheba	Alijah
Abijah	Asa
Nadab	Baasha
Elah	Zimri
Shishak	Jehosophat
Omri	Ahab
Elijah	Elisha
Obadiah	

Key Locations

Jerusalem
 Gibeon
 Israel
 Judah
 Mount Moriah
 Mount Carmel
 Horeb
 Samaria

Key Terms

Division
 Kingship
 Community
 Covenant
 Rebellion
 Temple
 Peace
 Reform
 Prayer
 Prophecy

EPOCH 4
 (1200 – 930 BC)

EPOCH 5
 (930 - 586 BC)

The Divided Kingdom

February 6-12 2024

1 KI 11-19; 2 CH 1-16

Key Verses

I will take ten tribes of the kingdom from his son and give them to you. I will give one tribe to his son, so that my servant David will always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the city I chose for myself to put my name there. [1 KI 11:35-36]

Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.” But the people said nothing. [1 KI 18:21]

When Solomon finished praying, fire descended from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple [2 CH 7:1]

EPOCH 4
(1200 – 930 BC)

EPOCH 5
(930 - 586 BC)

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

1Ki11: Solomon had many wives and turned to other gods. Ahijah told Jeroboam that the LORD would give him ten of the tribes. Solomon died.

2Chr1: Solomon made offerings. God said, "What shall I give you?" Solomon said, "Wisdom to rule this people." So Solomon ruled over Israel.

2Chr2: Solomon sent to King Hiram: "Send me cedars and a craftsman for the temple." Hiram replied, "The LORD has given David a wise son."

2Chr3: Solomon started work on the temple. He built the portico, the main hall, the Most Holy Place, two cherubim, the veil and two pillars.

2Chr4: Solomon made an altar, the Sea, ten lavers, ten lampstands, ten tables and the courts for the temple. Hiram made the furnishings.

2Ch5: The priests brought the ark into the Most Holy Place. The singers praised the LORD and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

2Ch6: Solomon said, "The LORD has kept his promise." He prayed, "O LORD, if anyone prays toward this place then hear from heaven and act."

2Ch7: Fire came from heaven and the Israelites worshipped. The LORD said to Solomon, "If you walk in my ways I will establish your throne."

2Ch8: Solomon built cities. He did not make slaves of the Israelites. He appointed the divisions of priests and Levites to their duties.

2Ch9: The queen of Sheba came to test Solomon and gave him gold and spices. Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth. Then he died.

1Ki12: Rehoboam refused to reduce the labour demands on Israel. So all Israel except Judah made Jeroboam king. Jeroboam made golden calves.

1Ki13: A man of God cried out against Jeroboam's altar. He disobeyed the LORD by eating at an old prophet's house and was killed by a lion.

1Ki14: Ahijah told Jeroboam's wife: "The LORD says, 'I will sweep away the house of Jeroboam.'" Rehoboam ruled Judah and Judah did evil.

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

1Ki15: Abijam ruled Judah and was not devoted to the LORD. Asa ruled and did right. Nadab ruled Israel and did evil. Baasha killed Nadab.

1Ki16: Elah ruled Israel and did evil. Zimri killed Elah but Israel made Omri king. Omri did evil. Ahab ruled and began to worship Baal.

2Cr10: Jeroboam and all Israel asked Rehoboam to reduce the labour demands. He refused. Rehoboam still ruled Judah but Israel rebelled.

2Ch11: The LORD told Rehoboam not to attack Jeroboam. All the Levites came to Judah because Jeroboam set up idols. Rehoboam had sons.

2Ch12: Rehoboam was unfaithful to the LORD so Shishak attacked Jerusalem. Rehoboam humbled himself and the anger of the LORD turned away.

2Ch13: Abijah became king of Judah. He drew up battle lines against Jeroboam and said, "The LORD is our God". The LORD routed Jeroboam.

2Ch14: Asa became king. He did right in the sight of the LORD. Zerah the Ethiopian brought an army against Judah but the LORD routed them.

2Ch15: Azariah said to Asa, "The LORD is with you when you are with Him. Do not give up." The people made a covenant to seek the LORD.

2Ch16: Baasha fortified Ramah so Asa made a treaty with Ben-hadad. Hanani said, "You relied on Aram not the LORD." Asa became ill and died.

1Ki16: Elah ruled Israel and did evil. Zimri killed Elah but Israel made Omri king. Omri did evil. Ahab ruled and began to worship Baal.

1Ki17: Elijah told Ahab, "There will be no rain." Elijah stayed with a widow in Zarephath. The widow's son died but the LORD revived him.

1Ki18: Elijah went to Ahab and challenged the prophets of Baal. Baal gave no answer but the LORD answered Elijah with fire. Then rain fell.

1Ki19: Elijah fled from Jezebel. At Horeb there was a wind, an earthquake and a fire; then the LORD spoke. Elijah put his mantle on Elisha.

1 KI 11-19; 2 CH 1-16

Teachings About God

- God will not tolerate the worship of rival deities or being worshiped in rival sites.
- God blesses faithfulness to him and punishes his people when they turn away from him. He values allegiance to him above all else.
- God's long-term kingdom plans were never in jeopardy, even when kings failed.

Teachings About Humanity

- In 1 Kings, humanity is evaluated by evaluating the kings' lives.
- 2 Chronicles begins with the building of the temple in Jerusalem and ends with its destruction. The temple was sometimes neglected and sometimes refurbished, but it was not always the most important building in Israel.
- The worth of a king is determined only by whether they did right or evil in the sight of the Lord.

Teachings About Salvation

- God's people were expected to live in loyalty to the covenant and both kings and people are evaluated according to the terms of the covenant established at Mt. Sinai.

Reflections of Christ/Holy Spirit

- The spirit is present to inspire God's prophets.
- Solomon's glorious reign as third king of Israel is a picture of Christ's eternal reign in the New Jerusalem (REV 21-22).
- God was preparing the way for the birth of the eternal King who will rule as Son of David forever. The everlasting temple is the people of God, indwelt by his spirit.

Literary Genres/Techniques

- 1 Kings focuses on the reign of Solomon. Elijah is also detailed. It is a selective account written in Hebrew. The author was interested in chronology
- 2 Chronicles describes the same time period as 1 and 2 Kings, but concentrates only on the kings of Judah. It is an extremely selective account and is written in Hebrew.
- 2 Chronicles connects the temple and the kingship by noting kings who initiated repairs to the temple, thus initiating reform and renewal.

Author/Date of Writing

- 1 Kings author and date unknown. Perhaps written c 560 BC by Jeremiah. The perspective is that of the Babylonian exile.
- 2 Chronicles author and date unknown. Perhaps written c 450 BC by Ezra. The audience is thought to be the Israelites in Jerusalem after they returned from exile.

1 KI 11-19; 2 CH 1-16

What did I learn about God?

- What are the different ways God appears to people in 1 Kings?
- Was God wise to promise David's descendants that they could reign forever in Israel? Did this license to rule affect the downfall of the monarchy in Judah?
- What convinces you that God is more powerful than anything else? What inspires your faith? Miracles, his Word, the way people's lives are changes, the inadequacy of worldly pleasures? Other? What is your biggest struggle in submitting yourself fully to God?

What did I learn about human nature?

- Was Solomon a successful ruler? Would he have been a good king in real life? Did his success as a ruler change over time? What are things that caused Solomon to lose his focus on God as he got older? Did Solomon ever repent for his actions?
- If Solomon was so wise, how did his wives cause him to turn away from God?
- Who was greater in their prime: Solomon or Elijah? If Elijah had lived during King Solomon's reign, what would their relationship have been like?
- Why set up the Temple in Jerusalem? Could having an exclusive house of worship in the capital serve any political purposes for Solomon and the other kings of Judah?

What did I learn about my life/relationship with God?

- We are introduced to the prophet Elijah in our readings and there will be much more reading about the prophets. Elijah, like the other prophets, was an ordinary individual that the Lord used to do extraordinary things. Elijah put his faith to the test on several occasions by believing God. How do you think you would have responded to the Elijah? What would it mean for you to follow Elijah's example?
- Does God have your undivided attention? When do you notice yourself drifting away from God? When you get too busy? When you get successful or when you fail? When you stop going to church? When you are under stress? When you give in to bad habits? When you let others influence you? When you focus on material things? Other times? What helps you keep on the right path? Family, friends, prayer, church, God?
- 1 Kings 11:14-25 talks about Solomon's adversaries. Who are your adversaries (now or in past)? How should people respond to adversaries? What word might God be trying to get to you through them?
- President Lincoln was asked during the Civil War if God was on the side of the Northern states. He responded, "We should not ask if God is on our side, but rather we should ask if we are on God's side." How are you seeking to know Him, love Him and obey Him? How do your actions demonstrate your commitment?
- You obviously place a priority on reading the Bible or would not be in the class. What will you do when our class is finished? Has reading the Bible always been important to you and will it be after this year? What are you learning from this process? How is it impacting your faith walk?

Insights about the time and/or customs?

- What are some of the differences in the stories about Israel and Judah in Kings and Chronicles?
- Why was Jerusalem such a big deal to the Jewish people back in the Old Testament times? Why is it today?