

Lesson 1 : Prelude to God's Kingdom

TEACHING NOTES

Introduction

**** Sit at tables with complete Notebook ****

The Kings and I – a study of the Kings of Israel and 21st Century Life

Intro self

❖ Housekeeping Items

- **Handouts**
 - Notebooks – all Class noted
 - Also: Resource Appendix
- **GraceBFC.org**
 - Sunday School Archives – all Teaching Notes
 - Also: Keynote Slides as PDF
- **Resources / Copyright**
 - Most maps, charts copyrighted...
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- **Notes and References**
 - Index page / Schedule
 - Notes for each lesson
 - Reference section – Charts, Maps, Timeline
 - Reference Bibliography - listed at the end
 - Note: all books available to borrow
- **Slides**
 - Lesson # and Page # in notes on Left
 - Fill-in's always Bold / underlined in red

❖ Purpose of the Class

- **To Know the Kings**
 - Focus: I and II Kings, also Chronicles
 - Intro: Kingship in Genesis - Judges
 - Conclusion: Kingship in rest of OT and NT
- **To Know the King**
 - How does all of this point to Christ
- **To Be Changed by the King**
 - Each week look at 21st Century application

❖ Approach to Kings

- **Point is not names & date**
 - Very little details on most kings
 - But always a verdict and commentary by God!
- **There are lots of names & dates**
 - For me, Repent of not wanting to know details
 - We will look at timelines, etc - but briefly
- **Study reference Kings**
 - Many kings compared to a few key ones

❖ Today's Class

- **Overview the Course – 10-15 min.**
 - Done.
- **Genesis – Judges - 40 min.**
 - Leadership before the King
 - Laws and expectations for the King
- **I Samuel 1-6 – 10-15 min.**
 - Samuel

Genesis 1-11 : God Calls Individuals

- ❖ **Creation Order: Man as Vice-Regent**
 - Creation Mandate – Gen. 1:26-30
 - Fill the Earth
 - Subdue it
 - All creation given to man to rule
 - Man is not subservient or equal to creation
 - Man is not independent Lord over creation
 - Man is Vice-regent under God

- ❖ **Fall: Man as ”god”**
 - Temptation – be like God! – Gen. 3:4-6
 - Know good and evil
 - Act for own good
 - Corruption of Vice-Regent role
 - Still see today – self-autonomous man
 - Rule on own - as if God
 - Or decide not to rule – disobey God

- ❖ **Redemption: Promise of Reversal**
 - Curses – Gen. 14-19
 - on man,
 - on woman
 - on the serpent
 - Promise – Gen. 3:15
 - Seed of woman will crush serpent!

- ❖ **Struggle: Two Lines**
 - Cain and Abel – Gen. 4
 - Cain’s Line
 - City dweller, makers of many things
 - Lamech – revenge is 77-fold! – Gen. 4:24
 - ‘every intention evil all the time’ – Gen. 6:5
 - Seth’s line
 - Image of God / Adam passed on – Gen. 5
 - Long life
 - All the way to Noah 6:8

- ❖ **Recreation: Life after Garden/ Flood / Babel**
 - God grants life, not instant death
 - Even in judgment God provides way of escape!

❖ **Lessons on Kingship**

- God
 - Creator
 - King
 - Righteous Judge
 - Patient
 - Merciful savior
 - Man
 - Real Authority
 - Under God
 - Prone to Abuse – usurp God
 - God will hold accountable
- ** Timelines ****

Genesis 12-50 : God Calls Families (condensed: just cover main points!)

❖ **God Speaks**

- **Abraham**
 - Calls Abraham to leave Ur
 - Promises to bless / make a great nation
 - Makes Covenant
 - Promises son
 - Discusses Sodom
 - Calls to sacrifice Isaac
 - Provides a lamb
- **Isaac**
 - Do not go to Egypt
 - Confirms covenant with Abraham
- **Jacob**
 - Chooses over Esau before birth
 - Appears in Dream
 - Wrestles and renames Israel
- **Joseph**
 - Dreams
 - Interpret Dreams

❖ **God Multiplies and Saves**

- Son to Abraham
- Lamb to save Isaac
- 2 Sons for Isaac
- Wives and 12 sons for Jacob
- Save family from famine through Joseph
- Land and blessing through Joseph

❖ **Expectations of Great Kingdom**

- Gen 3 – seed will defeat Satan (Adam)
- Gen 9 – never destroy all man with flood (Noah)
- Gen 12 – make great nation, bless all families on earth (Abraham)
- Gen 15 – offspring as stars (Abraham)
- Gen 17 – father of many nations – nations and kings come from you! (Abraham)
- Gen 17 – land of Canaan – eternal covenant (Abraham)
- Gen 22 – offspring as stars and sand (Abraham)
- Gen 25 – two peoples in you, they will be divided (Isaac)
- Gen 26 – people and land confirmed, nations blessed (Isaac)
- Gen 32 – blesses Jacob (wrestle Jacob)
- Gen 35 – A nation and company of nations, kings from you! (Jacob)
- Gen 35 – You will get lands promised to Abraham (Jacob)
- Gen 50 – Joseph believes promises – has brothers swear to take body from Egypt to promised land! (Joseph)

Exodus - Deuteronomy : God Calls Nation (condensed: just cover main points!)

❖ **God Forms a Nation**

- People of Israel fruitful & increase – Ex. 1:7
- God saves Moses, calls him as his deliver
 - Revels name – Ex 4:14-15
 - Gives miracles
- Powerfully delivers people
 - Brings plagues to confront gods and people
 - Confronts Pharaoh and humbles him
 - Ends up killing Egyptian army
- Leads them through the Wilderness
 - Leads by cloud and fire
 - Gives food and drink
 - Clothes not wear out

❖ **God Instructs His People**

- 10 Commandments
- Other Laws
- **Law for Kings**
 - **Deut 17:14-20 {READ!}**

When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me;

Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother.

But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way.

Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.

And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:

That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.

- You will ask for a king like the other nations
- God will appoint one for you

- **He MUST NOT:**
 - Be a foreigner
 - Acquire many horse for self (lest go to Egypt for horses)
 - Acquire many wives (least heart turn astray)
 - Acquire much gold and silver

- **He MUST:**
 - Write out a copy of the law for himself, approved by priest
 - Law be with him, him read all the days of his life
 - Fear the Lord by keeping words of the Law
 - Assure heart not lifted against brothers, not turn from law

- **If does this**
 - Live long
 - Entire nation prosper

▪ **Duet 33:5 (read?)**

And this is the blessing, wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death.

And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

Yea, he loved the people; all his saints are in thy hand: and they sat down at thy feet; every one shall receive of thy words.

Moses commanded us a law, even the inheritance of the congregation of Jacob.

And he was king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people and the tribes of Israel were gathered together.

- The Lord came from Sinai– loved the people
- Moses commanded a law
- Thus the **Lord became King** in Jeshurun...
 - With all heads of the people and all and the tribes of Israel

❖ **God Dwells Among Them**

- Fire / Cloud
- Mountain
- Tent of Meeting
- Tabernacle
 - Tent in midst of camp
 - Holy place only priest /high priest can enter
 - Grants sacrifice for sin

❖ **God Appoints a Leader – Moses**

- **Speaks on God's Behalf**
 - To people
 - To elders
 - To kings (Pharaoh)
- **Acts on God's Behalf**
 - Miracles for Pharaoh
 - Start, stop plagues, pray
 - Hits rock for water
 - Judges people
- **Meets with God**
 - Burning Bush
 - Tent of Meeting
 - Face to Face
 - Mt Sinai
 - God pass by
- **Appoints other leaders**
 - Leaders over 1,000s, 100s, 10s
 - Aaron and Priests
 - 12 spies
 - Joshua to succeed him

**** Timelines ****

Joshua / Judges – Begins to Establish His Nation

❖ Joshua – a Leader like Moses

- **Speaks on God’s Behalf**
 - Consecrates the people
 - Reinitiates the observances God set in place in Moses
 - Commands the people
- **Acts on God’s Behalf**
 - Goes to war
 - Judges sin
 - Divides Land
- **Meets with God**
 - Commander of Lord’s Army – for or against
 - God speaks and directs him
 - He also acts wisely when God not ‘speaking’
- **Appoints other leaders**
 - Tribal leaders
 - Instructions to leaders before death
 - He has done all God commanded
 - But there is still work to do!
 - Calls each household to follow God **** 12 tribes map, judges map ****

❖ Judges – a Cycle of Sin / Degenerating Local Leadership

- **Cycle of Judges**
 - Israel Disobeys
 - Israel is Oppressed
 - Israel Cries Out
 - God Raises up a Deliver (Judge)
 - Israel is Delivered
 - Israel is at Peace
 - Israel Disobeys
- **Degeneration**
 - Tribes do not follow Joshua and remove all enemies
 - Judges get worse, peace less secure
 - Book ends with horrible acts on Levites and Priests
- **Verdict of Judges**
 - Judges 3:11-15
 - People did evil in sight of God
 - Abandon God and worshiped Baal
 - Judges 21:25
 - In those days there was no king in Israel
 - Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.

❖ **Ruth – a Picture of Redemption**

- Leaves her people and her gods to follow Naomi and her God
- Faithful to Naomi
- God brings Kinsman-Redeemer
- Blesses Ruth and Naomi

❖ **I Samuel 1-7 – Hope Comes as the Nation Bottoms Out!**

- **The Priesthood reaches bottom**
 - End of Judges – Levites and Priest in sin
 - Opening of Samuel – Eli’s sons worthless
 - Eventually killed for disobeying God
 - Priesthood forever taken from Eli’s house
- **The Nation Reaches Bottom**
 - See Judges
- **God departs**
 - Philistines capture the Ark of the Covenant!
 - God’s throne on earth / the mercy seat leaves Israel
 - Topples the gods of the Philistines
- **God hears and raises a final Judge / Prophet**
 - Hannah prays to God for mercy, and is heard, granted a son
 - Samuel is dedicated to the Lord
 - The Lord speaks to Samuel, and he listens
 - Samuel pronounces judgment on the people
 - Samuel calls the people to put away their idols
 - In I Samuel 6 the Ark returns, and in chapter 7 the people repent

❖ **Next Week:**

- **I Samuel 8** – The People ask for a King
- **I Samuel 9 – II Samuel 24** – First Kings - Saul and David
 - Especially look at I Samuel 15-17 as turning point in God’s story