

Lesson 9: The Kingdom is Devastated
I Kings 15 – II Kings 25

TEACHING NOTES

Introduction to Kings

❖ **For Further Study**

- **Kings**
 - Show the 3 commentaries
 - Show the study books
- **Elijah and Elisha**
 - Show Elijah book
- **Hoshea and Josiah**
 - Jim Smith did great study on them – get him for a week or two!
 - Also, They will be worth coming back to briefly in 2 weeks
- **Reference Books**
 - I will bring next week
- **See complete Bibliography**

The Northern Kingdom – Scattered

*** Review of material from the past 2 weeks on end of North and on Prophets ***

The Southern Kingdom – Rebellion and Renewal

❖ Dynasty Chart

<i>King / Dynasty</i>	<i>Years</i>	<i>Relation to Previous</i>	<i>Length Of Reign</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
Line of David/ Solomon				
Rehoboam	931-913	Son	17	Died
Abijam	913-911	Son	3	Died
Asa	911-870	Son	41	Died
Jehoshaphat	873-848	Son	25	Died
Jehoram	853-841	Son	8	Stricken by God
Ahaziah	841	Son	1	Murdered by Jehu
Athaliah	841-835	Mother	6	Murdered by Army
Joash	835-796	Grandson	40	Murdered by servants
Amaziah	796-767	Son	29	Murdered
Azariah(Uzziah)	792-740	Son	52	Stricken by God
Jotham	750-732	Son	16	Died
Ahaz	735-716	Son	16	Died
Hezekiah	716-687	Son	29	Died
Manasseh	697-643	Son	55	Died
Amon	643-641	Son	2	Murdered by servants
Josiah	641-609	Son	31	Wounded in battle
Jehoahaz	609	Son	3 mon.	Desposed in Egypt
Jehoiakim	609-598	Brother	11	Died in Siege?
Jehoiachin	598-597	Son	3 mon.	Deposed in Babylon
Zedekiah	597-586	Uncle	11	Deposed in Babylon

- 19 Kings, 1 Queen
 - 450 years (twice as long as the Northern Kingdom)
- 1 Dynasty – All of the house of David
- End Reign
 - 5 murdered
 - 2 stricken by God
 - 5 Killed in battle or Deposed in battle
 - 8 ‘natural’ death

❖ Chart of Good / Evil

- Chart of Evil Kings – 12 kings
- Chart of Good Kings - 8 Kings

<i>Kings who did Evil</i>
Rehoboam
Abijam
Jehoram
Ahaziah
Athaliah
Ahaz
Manasseh
Amon
Jehoaha
Jehoiakim
Jehoiachin
Zedekiah

<i>Kings who did Good</i>
Asa
Jehoshaphat
Joash
Amaziah
Azariah(Uzziah)
Jotham
Hezekiah
Josiah

❖ Chart of Why Good / Evil

<i>Evil Kings</i>	<i>Key Events:</i>	<i>Compared to / Reason for Good or Evil:</i>
Line of David/ Solomon		
Rehoboam	Kingdom split, high places, Egypt take temple gold	More evil than fathers, high places, sins of Nations
Abijam	Continued war with Jeroboam	Sins of fathers, not whole-hearted as David
Asa	Removed prostitutes, idols War with Israel, ally Syria	Did right as father David, whole-true to Lord But still high-places
Jehoshaphat	Built ships that wrecked	Did right as father Asa, but still high places
Jehoram	Edom rebelled	Evil, as Ahab – yet not destroy, lamp for David
Ahaziah	Attack Syria, lost	Evil, as Ahab
Athaliah	Kills royal family, Joash hidden	Wrongful queen
Joash	King at 7, destroy Baal, repair Temple, paid Syria, murdered	Did right, but still high places
Amaziah	War: Edom (won), Israel (lost)	Did right, not like David, but still high places
Azariah(Uzziah)	Leprosy	Did right, like father, but still high places
Jotham	Build gate of Temple, wars...	Did right, like father, but still high places
Ahaz	Ally with Assyria against Syria /	Did wrong, unlike David – sacrifice son!
Hezekiah	Israel, own altar in temple	Did right like David, destroyed high places!
Manasseh	Sennacherib’s fall, Hez.	Did most evil, rebuilt high place, sacrifice son
Amon	Healing	Did evil, as Manasseh
Josiah	Prophet declares God’s disaster	Did right, walk like David,, not turn
Jehoahaz	Abandoned the Lord, killed	Did evil, like father
Jehoiakim	Reform- temple, law, people	Did evil, like fathers
Jehoiachin	Taken by Egypt	Did evil, like fathers
Zedekiah	Egypt puppet, taken by Babylon 3 mo. reign, captive to Babylon Last king, captive to Babylon	Did evil, like Jehoiachin– sacrifice son!

❖ Notes on Kings

- **Rehoboam** (I Kings 12-14)
 - 41 years old, reigned 17 years
 - More burdens on the people (splitting kingdom)
 - Judah did evil, more than fathers
 - **Provoked the Lord to Jealousy**
 - **Also built high places, pillars, Asherim on every hill (14:22-24)**
 - Male cult prostitutes and abominations of other nations
 - Shishak, king of Egypt, took treasures of House of the Lord
 - Rehoboams bronze shields
 - Continual war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam
- **Abijam** (I Kings 15)
 - Reigned 3 years
 - Sins of fathers
 - **Heart not whole-true to God as David**
 - **For David’s sake .. God gave lamp in Jerusalem (read 15:3-5)**
 - War with Jeroboam all the days of his life

- **Asa** (I Kings 15)
 - Reigned 41 years
 - **Did right**, as David his father
 - Put away cult prostitutes
 - **Removed father's idols**
 - **Removed mother Maacah** as Queen Mother for making abominable images – burned the images
 - But – **did not remove the high places**
 - **Heart wholly true to Lord**, including bring gifts to house of God
 - **War with Baasha, King of Israel**
 - Baasha build Ramah to keep people away from Jodah
 - Asa took all gold and silver in God and Kings treasury – use it to buy Syria's aid against Israel
 - Syria attacked Israel, they withdrew from Ramah
 - Asa had all Judah dismantle Ramah and build Geba and Mizpah
- *(interlude)*
 - Rest of I Kings on northern kingdom, especially Ahab and Elijah
- **Jehosaphat** (I Kings 22)
 - 35 years old, reigned for 35 years
 - **Did right in God's eyes**, walking in ways of father Asa
 - **But people still worshiped at the high places**
 - Built ships, but they all wrecked
- *(interlude2)*
 - The opening of II Kings on northern kingdom, especially Elisha
- **Jehoram** (II Kings 8)
 - 32 years old, reigned 8 years
 - **Evil – Walked as Kings of Israel and Ahab**
 - **Ahab's daughter his wife**
 - **God not destroy Judah – for sake of David – promised lamp for him and his sons forever**
 - **Edom revolted** against reign of Judah
 - Judah tried to take back, but retreated
 - Libnah also revolted
- **Ahaziah** (II Kings 8)
 - 22 year old, reigned 1 year
 - **Evil, as Ahab**
 - mother a granddaughter of Omri of Israel
 - son-in-law of house of Ahab
 - Joined Joram, son of Ahab, in **attacking Hazael king of Syria**
 - Lost battle and Joram wounded
 - Ahaziah went to see Joram
 - **Jehu assassinates both Joram and Ahaziah**, becomes king of Israel

- **Athaliah** (II Kings 11)
 - Mother of Ahaziah
 - When saw Ahaziah dead she **killed all royal family and became Queen**
 - Jehosheba, daughter of Joram and sister Ahaziah, **hid Joash**, Ahaziah's son – hid in house of the Lord 6 years
 - Athaliah reigned 6 years

- **Joash / Jehoash** (II Kings 11-12)
 - When **Joash age 7 - Jehoida, the priest, summoned the kings guards and in the temple proclaimed Joash king**
 - When Queen Athaliah heard she came and called it treason
 - Jehoida ordered her taken to the palace and killed, with all followers
 - **Jehoida then made covenant between Lord, king and people – Lord be God**
 - All the **people tore down the house of baal**, all altars and idols, and killed the priests of Baal
 - 7 years old, reigned 40 years
 - **Did right** in eyes of Lord all his days
 - Jehoida the priest instructed him
 - But did **not remove the high places**
 - **Repairs Temple**
 - Told priests to collect money from people and repair temple
 - By 23rd year of money collection no work begun on temple
 - King cut off money, instead put locked chest at entrance to Temple
 - High Priest empty chest directly to hands of workmen, temple repaired
 - **Hazael of Syria attacks**
 - Attacks north first
 - Then comes toward Jerusalem
 - Joash takes all gold and silver in king's house and Lord's house, pay Hazael, and Syria backs off
 - **Servants conspire and kill Joash**

- **Amaziah** (II Kings 14)
 - 25 years old, reigned 29 years
 - **Did Right, yet not like David**
 - Did all things like father
 - People still sacrificed at high places
 - Put to death those who murdered father, but not their children
 - Wars
 - **Killed 10,000 Edomites**, took Sela by storm and called it Joktheel
 - Challenged Israel, Jehoash refused to meet him lest destroy Judah
 - **Challenged Israel anyway, at Beth-shemesh** in Judah
 - **Judah was defeated**, everyone fled to their home
 - **Amaziah captured, part of wall of Jerusalem torn down, Temple and house of King plundered**

- 14 years after Jehoash died Amaziah was **killed by conspiracy**
- **Azariah / Uzziah** (II Kings 15)
 - 16 years old, reigned 42 years
 - Did right like father
 - but people still sacrifice at high places
 - Lord struck with leprosy – lived in separate house until death
 - Son governed the people during that time
- **Jotham** (II Kings 15)
 - 25 years old, reign for 16 years
 - Did right
 - According to the deed of King Uzziah, his father
 - High places not removed
 - He built the upper gate of the House of the Lord
 - Lord begins to send Syria and Israel against Judah
- **Ahaz** (II Kings 16)
 - 20 years old, reigned 16 years
 - **Did not do right as David**, instead did as Kings of Israel
 - **Even burned son as an offering**
 - Dispicable things as nations
 - Sacrifice on high places and hills and under every green tree!
 - **War with Syria and Israel**
 - Rezin of Syria and Pekah of Israel besiege Jerusalem
 - Take back Elath and give to Edom
 - Ahaz send **gold from temple and palace to Tiglath-Pileser of Assyria**, asks for help against Syria and Israel
 - **Assyria march on Damascus, take people captive, kill Rezin**
 - **Altar**
 - **Ahaz copy altar of Assyrians at Damascus**, replace God's altar in the temple with new one
 - Previous altar now on side as kings altar
 - Removes bronze sea from bulls and puts on stone pedestal
 - Reroutes Sabbath covering from palace to temple
 - All to gain favor of Assyrians
- **(Interlude3}**
 - II Kings 17 - Israel destroyed, captives spread throughout Assyria
- **Hezekiah** (II Kings 18-20)
 - 25 years old, reigned 29 years
 - **Did right, according to all David had done**
 - **He removed the High Places**
 - **He trusted God**
 - **** More on him in 2 weeks ****

- **Manasseh** (II Kings 21)
 - 12 years old, reigned 55 years
 - Did evil, according to nations Lord drove out (**Read 21:2-9**)
 - **Rebuilt the High Places!**
 - Erected altars to Baal, aherah .. as Ahab did
 - **Worshipped all the host of heaven and served them – on altars in the House of the Lord!**
 - **Offered his son on one of them!**
 - Consulted mediums and wizards
 - Carved images to Ashera in house of Lord
 - More evil than all nations God drove out!
 - Provoke Lord to Anger
 - Also shed blood til Jerusalem filled from end to end
 - Prophet declare disaster (**Read 21:10-15**)
 - Lord bring such disaster as make nations ears tingle
 - Wipe Jerusalem out as a dish turned upside down
 - Forsake remnant of heritage
 - Give into hands of enemy as prey and spoil
 - Provoked me to anger since days fathers came from Egypt!
 - Note: end of life says “are the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all the sins he committed, not recorded...” - “sins” part unique!

- **Amon** (II Kings 21)
 - 22 years old, reigned 2 years
 - **Did evil, as Manasseh**
 - Abandoned the Lord
 - Servants conspired to **kill him**
 - **People conspired to kill servants, make Josiah king**

- **Josiah** (II Kings 22-23)
 - 8 years old, reigned 31 years
 - **Did right** in eyes of the Lord
 - **Walk in ways of father David**
 - **Not turn to right or left**
 - **Great reforms in Temple, finding law, Worship...**
 - **** More in 2 weeks ****
 - **Killed in battle by Pharaoh Neco of Egypt**

- **Jehoahaz** (II Kings 23)
 - 33 year old, reigned 3 months
 - **Did evil, like fathers**
 - **Pharaoh Neco**
 - Put in bonds at Ribleh, so not reign in Jerusalem
 - **Raised up Eliakim, another son of Josiah, as king**
 - **Changed his name to Jehoiakim**
 - Jehoahaz dies in Egypt

- **Jehoiakim (II Kings 23-24)**
 - 25 years old, reigned 11 years
 - **Did evil**, according to father
 - **Pharaoh Neco**
 - Jehoikim taxed people heavily to pay silver and gold to Pharaoh
 - Jehoikim basically a puppet of Pharaoh
 - **Nebuchadzezzar**
 - Jehoiakim became his servant for 3 years
 - Rebelled
 - **Lord sent Chaldeans, Syrians, Moabites and Ammonites to destroy Judah, according to His word**
 - **Surely all this came on Judah by the command of the Lord (24:3)**
- **Jehoiachin (II Kings 24-25)**
 - 18 years old, reigned 3 months
 - **Did Evil in sight of the Lord as fathers**
- **Zedekiah (II Kings 24-25)**
 - 21 years old, reigned 11 years
 - **Did evil, according to all Jehoiachin did**
 - **Lords anger reached place of cast Judah out of presence**

❖ **Babylon Destroys Jerusalem, Takes Judah Captive**

- **II Kings 25**
 - **Nebuchadzezzar in reign of Jehoiachin**
 - **Besieged Jerusalem**
 - **Jehoiachin gave himself up**
 - **All treasure in Kings house and house of Lord carried off**
 - All vessels in house of Lord cut in two
 - **Carried away all officials and men of valor – 10,000 captives – as well as all smiths and craftsmen – only poorest remain**
 - Set up Jehoichins uncle, Mattaniah, king – renaming him Zedekiah

- **Nebuchadnezzar in reign of Zedekiah**
 - Zedekiah rebelled against Babylon
 - **From 9th to 11th year of Zedekiah, Neb. Lays siege to Jerusalem**
 - Famine great within
 - One night king's army burst out and fled, but Chaldeans followed – killing and scattering, capturing king
 - **Sons of King killed in front of him, then eyes put out and bound in chains and taken to Babylon**
 - **Read 25:8-12 – house of Lord and all other great houses burned down, wall of Jerusalem destroyed, all but poorest exiled**
 - Pillars, Bronze Sea, and else from house of God cut to pieces
- **Ending of the Book**
 - **Gedaliah made governor** – said do not fear, serve king of Babylon and live at peace in the land
 - Instead, **killed Gedaliah – and fled to Egypt**
 - In the 37th year of the exile a new king of Babylon **freed Jehoiachin** and left him dine at the king's own table as long as he lived

❖ **Summary of End**

- People of Israel scattered throughout old Assyrian empire
- Land of Israel resettled with foreigners
- People of Judah in captivity in Babylon
 - A few flee to Egypt
 - A few poor left in land
- Land of Judah, including Temple, utterly destroyed
- All this at the direct hand of God!
- Book ends with all hope, all promises of eternal kingship, of land of blessing, or people for God's own possession seemingly in utter ruin!
- Much worse than Nazi or Soviet Union or China conquer US and exile us! We would still have God and Christianity. They had lost their God and their entire religious structure and promises of God were utterly gone

❖ **Application**

- Need to serve God whole-heartedly ... same as Northern Kingdom applications
- Patience of God
- Lamp of David