

DIVIDED KINGDOM

1) Introduction

- a) God punishes Solomon, removing 10 tribes from his line and giving them to Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:9-13, 26-40)
 - i) David's descendants are only left with 2 tribes, Judah and Benjamin (2 Chron 11:12)
- b) The origin of these 2 nations had everything in common: same history, law, family, and God
 - i) However both went radically different directions as result of their choices

2) Jeroboam & Nadab (Israel)

- a) God promises Jeroboam that He will establish his dynasty if he will obey His word (1 Kings 11:38)
 - i) But Jeroboam fears his people will rebel if they go up to Jerusalem to worship (1 Kings 12:26-27)
 - ii) He builds idols in Dan and Bethel, setting up feasts and priests not from Levi (1 Kings 12:28-33)
 - iii) God rebukes Jeroboam, and he does not return from his evil ways (1 Kings 13:33-34)
 - iv) Jeroboam dies and his son Nadab becomes king, practicing the same evil (1 King 15:25-26)
 - v) Baasha kills Nadab after a short 2 year reign, ending Jeroboam's dynasty (1 King 15:27)

3) Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa (Judah)

- a) Solomon's son Rehoboam began his reign faithfully, but then forsook the Lord (2 Chron 12:1)
 - i) God punishes Rehoboam, allowing Shishak of Egypt to enslave Judah for a time (2 Chron 12:2-12)
- b) When Rehoboam dies, his son Abijah became king. His heart was not wholly devoted to God (1 Kings 15:1-3)
 - i) However Abijah delivered Judah from Jeroboam w/an inspiring, faithful speech (2 Chron 13:4-12)
 - ii) Abijah's reign lasted only 3 years, then his son Asa became king (2 Chron 14:1)
- c) Asa was a godly king who set his heart to strengthen Judah and eradicate idolatry (2 Chron 14:1-8)
 - i) When Ethiopia attacked, outnumbering Judah, Asa prayed and God delivered him (2 Chron 14:9-15)
 - ii) God promises Asa that if he will seek Him alone, God will always deliver him (1 Kings 15:1-15)
 - iii) Baasha later tries to fortify the borders along Judah; Asa hires Syria to attack him (2 Kings 16:1-4)
 - iv) Asa then takes Baasha's materials and builds his own fortresses on Judah's border (2 Kings 16:5-6)
 - v) Asa is rebuked for relying on a pagan king instead of God; his feet become diseased (2 Kings 16:7-14)

4) Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri (Israel)

- a) God would have established Baasha's dynasty had he been obedient; he was not (1 Kings 16:1-5)
 - i) When Baasha died, Elah only reigned 2 years before he was killed by Zimri (1 Kings 16:6-14)
 - ii) Zimri had not counted his support, reigning only 7 days before being killed (1 Kings 16:15-20)
 - iii) Omri becomes kings – the 4th dynasty to reign so far in Israel. He was evil (1 Kings 16:21-28)

5) Ahab (Israel) & Jehoshaphat (Judah)

- a) When Ahab became king, he married Jezebel, causing Israel to plummet spiritually (1 Kings 16:29-33)
 - i) Baal worship becomes the national religion and many prophets are killed (1 Kings 18:4)
 - ii) Powerful prophets in Elijah and Elisha are introduced to turn Israel back to God (1 Kings 17-19)
- b) When Jehoshaphat became king over Judah, he did right in the sight of the Lord (2 Chron 17:1-6)
 - i) However he aligned himself in marriage with Ahab, Athaliah marrying Jehoram (2 Chron 18:1)
 - ii) Therefore when Jehoshaphat died, all the wickedness of Israel transferred to Judah (2 Chron 21:4-7)

6) Azariah and Jehoram (Israel), Jehoram and Azariah (Judah) & Jehu (Israel)

- a) When Ahab died, his son Azariah became king, but fell through a window and died (2 Kings 1)
 - i) Azariah's brother, Jehoram, then becomes king and practices the sin of Jeroboam (2 Kings 3:1-3)
 - ii) Jehoram of Judah is so evil, God afflicts his bowels. He died to no one's regret (2 Chron 21:12-20)
 - iii) Azariah of Judah is then made king, practicing the wickedness of Ahab's house (2 Chron 22:1-6)
- b) Jehu of Israel is commissioned by God to exterminate the house of Ahab from Israel and Judah (2 Kings 9:1-10)
 - i) Jehu kills Jehoram of Israel, Azariah of Judah, and Ahab's wife Jezebel (2 Kings 9:17-37)
 - ii) Jehu kills all of Ahab's household and the prophets of Baal, eradicating Baal worship (2 Kings 10:1-28)
 - iii) God rewards Jehu by allowing four of his descendants to rule over Israel (2 Kings 10:30)

iv) However, Jehu would not depart from the sins of Jeroboam. He was merely ambitious (2 Kings 10:29,31)

7) Athaliah, Joash, and Amaziah (Judah)

a) Spared by Jehu, Athaliah usurps the throne of Judah, killing all her grandchildren (2 Kings 11:1)

i) One grandchild, Joash, is hidden in the temple by the high priest Jehoiada (2 Kings 11:2-3)

ii) When Joash is 7, Jehoiada presents him as the rightful king. Athaliah is killed (2 Kings 11:4-16)

b) Joash rules well while Jehoiada is alive to mentor him (2 Kings 11:17-12-12:21)

i) When Jehoiada finally died, Joash was influenced to evil by wicked companions (2 Chron 24:15-22)

ii) God punished Joash by allowing his servants to conspire against him and kill him (2 Chron 24:23-27)

c) When Joash's son, Amaziah, became king, he killed the servants who killed his father (2 Chron 25:1-4)

i) After conquering Edom, he brought back Edomite idols and worshipped them (2 Chron 25:11-16)

ii) God humbled Amaziah by allowing Jehoash of Israel to defeat him in battle (2 Chron 25:17-28)

8) Jehoahaz, Jehoash, Jeroboam II, and Zechariah (Israel)

a) Jehoahaz did not serve God faithfully, so Israel is devastated by the hands of Syria (2 Kings 13:1-3)

i) Israel is no bigger than the size of a county: 50 horsemen, 10 chariots, and 10,000 footmen (2 Kings 13:7)

ii) Humbled, Jehoahaz prays to God and God begins to slowly grant Israel back their territory (2 Kings 13:4)

iii) Assyria becomes a world threat at this time. God is prepared to use them to judge Israel and Judah if needed

b) When Jehoahaz died, his son Jehoash becomes king (2 Kings 13:10)

i) Though he did evil, Israel begins to regain its territory back in his reign (2 Kings 13:11, 24-25)

c) When Jehoash dies, his son Jeroboam II becomes king (2 Kings 14:23)

i) During his reign, Israel had gained back almost all the territory it had lost since Jehu (2 Kings 14:25-28)

ii) During his reign, God brought Assyria very low, sending Jonah the prophet to preach to them (Jon 1 – 4)

iii) Though God prospered Israel, they continued to sin. God therefore sends Amos and Hosea

iv) Amos preaches condemnation against their idolatry and materialism. His was a stern message

v) Hosea preaches to show Israel how though hurt by their sins, he still longs for them despite their adultery

9) Uzziah, Jotham, and Ahaz (Judah)

a) When Amaziah died, his son Uzziah became king. He did what was right in God's sight (2 Chron 26:1-5)

i) While he obeyed God, God made him very strong and successful (2 Chron 26:6-15)

ii) But, he became prideful in his later years and insisted on offering incense in the temple (2 Chron 26:16-18)

iii) God punished Uzziah by striking him with leprosy until the day he died (2 Chron 26:19-23)

iv) Uzziah's son Jotham then became king, and did right before the Lord (2 Chron 27:1-9)

b) During Uzziah's days, the prophet Isaiah began his ministry. He was anxious to be used by the Lord (Isa 6)

i) The Jews constantly struggled w/sin. Isaiah reminds them God hasn't forgotten the seed promise (Gen 3:15)

ii) The future kingdom will be a peaceful one w/no more wars. Everyone will stream to it (Isa 2:1-4)

iii) When Jotham died, his son Ahaz became king. Ahaz was exceptionally wicked (2 Chron 28:1-4)

iv) Ahaz is frightened because Israel and Syria had formed a coalition against him (Isa 7:1-2)

v) Isaiah encourages Ahaz, reminding him Judah will survive because God has a promise to fulfill (Isa 7:3-17)

10) Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah, and Hoshea (Israel)

a) The 4th generation from Jehu, Zechariah, was assassinated by Shallum (2 Kings 15:8-12)

i) Shallum only reigned 1 month before he was assassinated by Menahem (2 Kings 15:13-15)

ii) When Menahem dies, his son Pekahiah reign for 2 years before assassinated by Pekah (2 Kings 15:23-26)

iii) During Pekah's reign, Assyria takes captive the northern tribes of Israel (2 Kings 15:27-29)

iv) Isaiah prophesies that one day this same northern Israel would be greatly blessed (Isa 9:1-2)

v) As bad as Israel's leaders had been, God would send a leader who was wonderful (Isa 9:6-7)

vi) Pekah is assassinated by Hoshea. He was wicked, but not as much as previous kings (2 Kings 17:1-2)

vii) The entire nation of Israel is taken captive by Assyria and resettled in foreign lands (2 Kings 17:3-6)

viii) God details the reason for Israel's fall (2 Kings 17:7-23)

ix) Foreigners are brought in and settled in Samaria, who did not know the Lord (2 Kings 17:24-41)