The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 1
Jeroboam of Israel; Rehoboam, Abijah, and Asa of Judah
I Kings 12:1–15:24; II Chronicles 10–16

Sunday, April 6, 2014

1. What was the people’s complaint against Rehoboam?

2. From what two groups of advisors did Rehoboam seek counsel? How did their advice differ, and which group did Rehoboam heed?

3. Which tribes stayed loyal to Rehoboam? Which defected to Jeroboam?

4. What was Jeroboam’s fear? What sin did that fear prompt him to commit (a sin from which the northern kingdom would never recover)? What was the root of Jeroboam’s problem in light of Ahijah the Shilonite’s prophecy to him?

5. According to the young, unnamed prophet, who would sacrifice the priests of the high places on Jeroboam’s altar? About how many years would it be before this prophecy would come to pass? What signs did the young prophet announce and perform to prove the divine inspiration of his message?

6. What happened to the young prophet? Would you say the old prophet was a prophet of God? Why? Did he ever prophesy the words of God? If so what was the occasion? Is there a lesson in this story for us today? What is it?
7. What prophecy was made concerning the sons of Jeroboam? What prophet made this prediction?

8. As a consequence of Jeroboam’s sin, how was Judah strengthened?

9. Was Rehoboam faithful to God? During his reign, who plundered the treasures of king’s house and of the house of the Lord?

10. Was Abijah/Abijam faithful to God? In the battle between Jeroboam and Abijah in the mountains of Ephraim, who came out victorious and why?

11. Was Asa faithful to God?

12. Was Asa victorious in his battle with the Ethiopians? Why or why not?

13. What reforms did Asa make in Israel?

14. What mistake did Asa make regarding Syria?

15. How did Asa change in his later years?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 2
Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri, and Ahab of Israel; The Prophet Elijah

I Kings 15:25–22:40

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

1. How long did Nadab reign? How does the Bible characterize his reign? What did Baasha do to him and his house?

2. How long did Baasha reign in Israel? What did Jehu the son of Hanani prophesy against Baasha and why?

3. How long did Elah reign? What did Zimri do to him and his house?

4. How long did Zimri reign? How did Zimri meet his end?

5. How long did Omri reign? Who had also been in contention with Omri for the throne? What city of Israel did Omri establish?

6. How long did Ahab reign? Whom did Ahab marry, and what was her heritage? What did they (re)introduce to the religious landscape of Israel? In what way does the Bible report that Ahab excelled his predecessors?

7. What prophesy came to pass about this time?

8. How did the widow of Zarephath demonstrate faith? What was her reward? What was Elijah able to do for her son?
9. What did Obadiah, who had charge of Ahab’s house, do that demonstrated his courage and devotion to God?

10. Who gathered on Mount Carmel to take up Elijah’s challenge? How did God demonstrate His power?

11. How did Elijah feel when he reached Horeb? What three tasks did God give him to do?

12. Whom did Elijah take on as an apprentice/servant shortly afterward?

13. What did Ben-Hadad and the Syrians blame for their loss to Israel in their first battle? Why did God give two victories to Israel over Syria at a time when such a wicked man as Ahab reigned in Israel?

14. What judgment did an unnamed prophet pronounce on Ahab (and Israel) because Ahab made a treaty with Ben-Hadad?

15. When Naboth refused to sell Ahab his vineyard, how did Jezebel bring about Naboth’s death?

16. What did Elijah prophesy regarding Ahab and his house? How did Ahab react?
17. Who agreed to go with Ahab to war against Ramoth-Gilead? What was his concern regarding Ahab’s prophets?

18. What was Micaiah’s first response to Ahab’s question about going to war against Ramoth-Gilead? What was his revised answer? Why would he give two different answers like this?

19. How did Ahab die?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 3
Ahaziah and Jehoram of Israel; The Prophets Elijah and Elisha

2 Kings 1:1–8:15

Sunday, April 13, 2014

1. After sustaining his injury, to whom did Ahaziah send messengers to find out whether he would recover? Consequently, what was Elijah’s prophecy regarding Ahaziah?

2. What happened to the three captains and their companies whom Ahaziah sent to fetch Elijah? Did Elijah’s prophecy change once he was standing face to face with the king?

3. How did Elijah and Elisha cross the Jordan?

4. What request did Elisha make of Elijah as they were going to the place where Elijah would be taken from him? What condition did Elijah put on the granting of that request?

5. How was Elijah taken from Elisha?

6. How did Elijah get back across the Jordan? What did the prophets from Jericho recognize about Elisha?

7. How did Elisha purify the bad water? How did Elisha deal with the youths who mocked him?
8. In what way was Jehoram an improvement over his father Ahab?

9. What problem did the three kings have in attempting to attack Moab? How did Elisha regard Jehoram? How did he regard Jehoshaphat? What was Elisha’s solution to the kings’ problem?

10. How did Elisha’s solution otherwise aid in the three kings’ conflict with Moab? What did the king of Moab do in his desperation?

11. How did Elisha help the prophet’s widow and her sons?

12. What did the Shunammite couple do for Elisha? How did Elisha/God reward their kindness? How did Elisha go about raising the Shunammite woman’s son after he died?

13. How did Elisha purify the poisoned pot of stew? What did God promise (and bring to pass) regarding the small amount of bread and the one hundred men?

14. Who suggested that Naaman seek out Elisha to be healed of his leprosy? What did Israel’s king think of Naaman’s request to be healed?

15. What did Elisha tell Naaman to do to be healed? What did he initially think about those instructions?
16. After following Elisha’s instructions and being healed, what did Naaman conclude about God? What two requests did he make of Elisha?

17. To what punishment did Elisha sentence Gehazi for his deception of Naaman?

18. How did Elisha recover the sunken ax head?

19. When the Syrian army surrounded the city that Elisha was in, what was Elisha’s servant able to see after the LORD opened his eyes? How did Elisha get the Syrian army to Samaria? What did Elisha tell Israel’s king to do with the Syrian captives?

20. During Ben-Hadad’s siege of Samaria, what had the people (at least, some of them) resorted to? Given that the king was wearing sackcloth, what had he apparently been trying to do? Whom did the king blame for the city’s predicament?

21. How did four lepers bring about a radical change in Samaria’s economy and fulfill Elisha’s prophecy?

22. What did Elisha instruct the Shunammite woman to do in light of the fact that a long famine was coming? What did the king do for her after the famine when Gehazi testified on her behalf?

23. What did Elisha prophesy regarding Hazael when he came to inquire whether Ben-Hadad would recover from his illness? What did Hazael do in light of Elisha’s prophecy?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 4
Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, and Ahaziah of Judah


Wednesday, April 16, 2014

1. How old was Jehoshaphat when he began to reign, and how long did he reign? How does the record characterize his reign? (1Ki 22:42, 43) What was the relationship between Judah and Israel at the time Jehoshaphat came to power? (2Ch 17:1, 2)

2. What was Jehoshaphat’s attitude toward God and His law? How did he demonstrate his attitude? What did the surrounding nations do as a result? (1Ki 22:46; 2Chr 17:3–11)

3. Who was king in Israel when Jehoshaphat made peace with the northern kingdom? How did Jehoshaphat seal his alliance with Israel? (1Ki 22:44; 2Ch 18:1)

4. When Ahab sends to fetch Micaiah, at Jehoshaphat’s request, how does Micaiah say that he must speak? What does Micaiah reveal about God’s intention for Ahab and how He brought it about? (2Chr 18:12, 13, 18–22)
5. What did Ahab do to Micaiah? What did Ahab convince Jehoshaphat to do in the battle with Syria? After all this, why would Jehoshaphat continue to accompany Ahab to war? (2Chr 18:25–29)

6. How did the prophet Jehu, son of Hanani the seer, characterize Jehoshaphat’s behavior in going to war with Ahab? Was God pleased with Jehoshaphat in this matter? (2Ch 19:1–3)

7. What was Jehoshaphat’s instruction to his judges? (2Ch 19:4–7)

8. What did Jehoshaphat do when Moab, Ammon, and Edom made war against Judah? How did God respond? How long did it take to gather the spoil? How did Judah demonstrate their gratitude? (2Ch 20:1–30)


10. How long did Jehoram reign? What kind of king was he? Whom did he marry, and what influence did she have on him and on Judah? What particular evil thing did he do? (2Ki 8:16–19; 2Ch 21:1–7)

11. Was Jehoram able to put down Edom’s revolt completely? Why did Libnah revolt? What evils did Jehoram reintroduce to Judah? (2Ch 8:8–11)
12. Who prophesied by letter against Jehoram, and what was the prophecy? Who attacked Judah at this time? What was the people’s opinion of Jehoram? (2Ch 21:12–20)

13. Why did Ahaziah take the throne instead of one of his brothers? How long did he reign? Who were his advisors, and consequently what kind of king was he? (2Ch 22:1–4)

14. How did Ahaziah meet his end? (2Ch 22:7–9)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 5
Jehu of Israel
II Kings 9, 10
Sunday, April 20, 2014

1. What position did Jehu serve under King Joram/Jehoram?

2. The man Elisha sent—one of the sons of the prophets—to anoint Jehu king: what did he tell Jehu? What did Elisha instruct this man to do after he had anointed Jehu, and did he do it?

3. Who had come to see Jehoram of Israel as he was recovering in Jezreel? How were they related?

4. Where did Jehoram meet Jehu? After Jehu killed Jehoram, what did he make sure to do with his body? Who prophesied that this would happen?

5. Who fled the meeting between Jehu and Jehoram and was also pursued and killed by Jehu?

6. Who killed Jezebel? Where did she die? What was left of her body? Who prophesied that this would happen?
7. Who killed the seventy sons of Ahab who were in Samaria?

8. Whom else did Jehu kill in Jezreel? Whom did he kill on his way to Samaria, at Beth Eked?

9. Who joined Jehu to complete the extermination of Ahab’s house in Samaria?

10. How did Jehu go about killing the worshipers of Baal? What did he do to the temple of Baal?

11. What was the reward for Jehu’s execution of God’s will regarding Ahab’s house? Why did Jehu not fully serve God and turn away from the sins of Jeroboam?

12. What punishment did God begin to wreak on Israel because of their continuing unfaithfulness? How long did Jehu reign?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 6
Athaliah and Joash of Judah
II Kings 11, 12; II Chronicles 22:10–24:27

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

1. When Ahaziah’s mother Athaliah arose to kill all of Ahaziah’s heirs, who saved Ahaziah’s son Joash? Where did they hide him? How long did Athaliah reign? (2Ki 11:1–3; 2Chr 2:10–12)

2. Why did Jehoiada insist that Joash would be king? (2Ch 23:3)

3. After executing Athaliah, what covenant did Jehoiada make with the people? What did they do therefore afterward? (2Ki 11:17, 18; 2Ch 23:16, 17)

4. How old was Joash when he became king, and how long did he reign? (2Ki 11:21; 12:1; 2Ch 24:1)

5. How did Joash finance the repairs to the temple? What authority did he cite? (2Ki 12:6–10; 2Chr 24:4–11)

6. What brought about Joash’s apostasy? Who therefore had been the real spiritual leader of Judah until that point? (2Ch 15–19)
7. How did Joash repay Jehoiada’s kindness when Jehoiada’s son prophesied against him? (2Ch 24:20–22)

8. Why did the conflict between Syria and Judah go so poorly for Judah? Who was leading Syria at this time? Why did the Syrians withdraw from Jerusalem? (2Ki 12:17, 18; 2Ch 24:23–25)

1. What was Edom’s problem? In comparison to how robbers or grape-gatherers behave, how would Edom be treated? (Oba 1–7)

2. Who would be Edom’s undoing in the day that God brought about their punishment? (Oba 7)

3. What had Edom done to incur God’s wrath? (Oba 10–14)

4. How long did Jehoahaz reign in Israel? How does the Bible sum up his reign? (2Ki 13:1, 2)

5. Because of Israel’s continuing infidelity, whom did God allow to oppress Israel? When Jehoahaz pleaded for God’s mercy, how did God react? What shape was Israel’s army in after all this? (2Ki 13:3–7)
6. How long did Jehoash/Joash reign in Israel? How does the Bible sum up his reign? (2Ki 13:10, 11)

7. What did Jehoash mean when he said to Elisha, “... the chariots of Israel and their horsemen”? Does this say anything about the relationship between Elisha and Jehu’s dynasty in comparison to relationship between Elijah or Elisha and Ahab’s dynasty? (2Ki 13:14)

8. What did it signify when Jehoash struck the ground with the arrows? Was Elisha pleased with this action? (2Ki:15–19)

9. What miracle occurred after the death of Elisha? (2Ki 13:20, 21)

10. Why did God have compassion on Israel in spite of their wickedness? How many times did Jehoash defeat Ben-Hadad? (2Ki:22–25)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 8
The Prophet Joel

Joel

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

1. What has brought on severe devastation in the land? What is the state of the land and the crops? (1:1–12)

2. What does God intend for the people to do in light of this cataclysm? (1:13–20)

3. What does the expression “day of the LORD” mean?

4. Given its description, who is the army of Joel 2? How could Judah prevent the impending devastation? (2:1–17)

5. What did God intend to accomplish with the blessings he promised in 2:18–27?
6. Compare the blessings God promised 2:18–27 and what He promised in 2:28–32. Who benefits from each? (Where are vv. 28–32 quoted?)

7. On whom was God going to execute judgment, and why? (3:1–3)

8. What does the name “Jehoshaphat” mean?

9. What point did God intend to make in executing this judgment on the nations while sheltering His people? (3:16, 17)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 9

Amaziah, Uzziah, and Jotham of Judah; Jeroboam II, Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah of Israel

II Kings 14, 15; II Chronicles 25–27

Sunday, May 4, 2014

1. How old was Amaziah when he became king, and how long did he reign? What action did Amaziah take regarding his father’s assassins and their children? (2Ki 14:1–6; 2Ch 25:1–4)

2. Why did Amaziah hire and then fire 100,000 soldiers from Israel? What significant victory did Amaziah win in spite of the fact that he had just dismissed a quarter of his fighting force? How did the dismissed soldiers of Israel behave after being dismissed? (2Ki 14:7; 2Ch 25:5–13)

3. What did Amaziah bring back from his victory? What did God have to say about Amaziah’s actions? (2Ch 24:14–16)

4. How did Jehoash of Israel respond to Amaziah’s challenge? How did the battle between Jehoash and Amaziah go? (2Ki 14:8–14; 2Ch 25:17–24)

6. How long did Jeroboam II reign in Israel? How does the Bible sum up his reign? How many generations had Jehu’s dynasty now been on the throne by this time? (2Ki 14:23)

7. What territory did Jeroboam II recapture for Israel? Who had prophesied that this would happen? Why did Israel enjoy this resurgence? (2Ki 14:25–27)

8. How long did Uzziah/Azariah reign in Judah? How does the Bible sum up his reign? (2Ki 15:1–6; 2Ch 26:1–5)

9. What nation brought tribute to Uzziah? What were some things he did to strengthen Judah? (2Ch 26:6–15)


11. How did God punish Uzziah for his error? When Uzziah’s opponents saw it, what did they do? What was Uzziah’s own response? (2Ch 26:19–23)
12. How long did Zechariah reign in Israel? How does the Bible sum up his behavior? (2Ki 15:8–12)


14. How long did Menahem reign in Israel? How does the Bible sum up his reign? What did Menahem do in Tiphsah that demonstrated his cruelty? (2Ki 15:16–18)

15. How did Menahem go about turning Assyria’s sights away from Israel? (2Ki 15:19–22)

16. How long did Pekahiah reign in Israel? How does the Bible sum up his reign? How did he die? (2Ki 15:23–26)

17. How long did Pekah reign in Israel? How does the Bible summarize his reign? What nation began to invade, occupy, and take captive portions of Israel during Pekah’s reign? How did Pekah meet his end? (2Ki 15:27–31)

18. How long did Jotham reign in Judah? How does the Bible summarize his behavior and contrast it with his father’s? How does the Bible characterize the people’s behavior? (2Ki 15:32–36; 2 Ch 27:1, 2)
19. Who began attacking Judah in Jotham’s days? Whom did Jotham conquer and exact tribute from? What reason does the Bible give for the might that Jotham enjoyed? (2Ki 15:37, 38; 2Ch 27:3–6)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 10

The Prophet Jonah

Jonah; II Kings 14:25

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

1. What job did God assign Jonah?

2. Where did Jonah hope to escape the presence of the LORD?

3. What did the sailors do when the ship was caught in a great storm from the LORD?

4. What was Jonah doing while the storm raged? How did the sailors decide that the storm was sent on account of Jonah?

5. How did Jonah describe the God he served? Who came up with the idea of tossing Jonah into the sea? What request did the sailors make of the LORD before they threw him into the sea?

6. How long was Jonah in the belly of the fish? How does Jonah describe his desperate situation? (2:3–6)
7. How many days was God giving Nineveh before it would be destroyed? What did the people of Nineveh do when they believed God? How did the king show his own repentance?

8. What did the king order all the inhabitants of Nineveh to do?

9. Why did Jonah become angry with God?

10. Why was Jonah upset about the death of a plant, while wishing for the death of thousands of people?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 11
The Prophet Amos

Amos

Sunday, May 11, 2014

1. When did Amos prophesy, during the reigns of which kings? Where was Amos from?

2. List and locate on a map the nations/cities Amos condemned in 1:3–2:3.

3. What was the principal charge against these nations? What different charge did he make against Judah? What were the charges against Israel? (1:3–2:8)

4. What had Israel done to the Nazirites and the prophets? Why was the LORD especially angry with Israel? (2:11–3:2)
5. What is the point of the list of rhetorical questions? Would God bring disaster on Israel without warning? What was Amos’s conclusion about his duty to prophesy? (3:3–8)

6. How is the prosperity of Israel seen in 3:15? How did they retain much of this prosperity? (2:6,7; 4:1)
   Who are the cows of Bashan? What had the LORD done in an attempt to restore Israel to Him? (4:6–11)

7. In order to live, Israel would have to do what? What would God have preferred instead of the worship Israel was offering to Him? (5:4–24)


9. What is the focus of chapter 6?

10. Look at the first two visions of Amos in chapter 7: How did Amos react to them? What is the idea behind the plumb line in the third vision in chapter 7?
11. Did Amaziah quote Amos correctly about Jeroboam? What did he tell Amos to do?

12. Why had Amos come to Israel? What would happen to Amaziah and his family according to the Lord?

13. From chapter 8, what did the basket of summer fruit represent? Why were some so anxious for the new moon and Sabbath to pass? What unique famine was God going to send on Israel?

14. According to chapter 9, where could one go to escape the judgment of the Lord? Where in the New Testament do we find the last of Amos 9 quoted, and what does it convey?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 12

The Prophet Hosea

Hosea

Sunday, May 14, 2014

1. When did Hosea prophesy, during the days of what kings?

2. What kind of person did God tell Hosea to choose as a wife? List the three children of Hosea and Gomer and explain the significance of each.

3. Where in the New Testament is 1:10 quoted?

4. Who had given Israel the things they offered in worship to Baal? Whom did Israel see as the source of their prosperity? (2:2–13)

5. Where in the New Testament is 2:23 alluded to?

6. What was Hosea commanded to do in chapter 3? What did God charge Israel with doing in 4:1–3?
7. Why were God’s people being destroyed, and which group did God hold especially responsible, according to chapter 4?

8. According to chapter 5, what had Ephraim committed? Who else was apparently beginning to follow in Ephraim’s footsteps? To whom did Ephraim turn when in trouble?


10. Why would God compare Ephraim to a cake unturned? What did Hosea mean when he said that Israel did not know that they had gray hairs? In what ways were they compared to a silly dove? (7:8–12)

11. Why do 8:13 and 9:3 say that Israel would return to Egypt, while 11:5 says the opposite?

12. What was God’s attitude toward Israel in 9:15?
13. What did Hosea tell Israel in chapter 10 that they ought to sow and reap? What had they been sowing and reaping? (10:12, 13)

14. Where in the New Testament is 11:1 quoted? How did God feel about the punishment that He had to inflict in Israel? (11:8,9)

15. What did God say that Ephraim would be like because of their unfaithfulness? What had caused Ephraim to forget God? (13:1–6)

16. What did the LORD promise to do for those who would make the confession of 14:1–3?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 13
Ahaz of Judah; Hoshea of Israel; Assyria Conquers and Resettles Israel
II Kings 16, 17; II Chronicles 28; Isaiah 7

Sunday, May 18, 2014

1. How old was Ahaz when he became king, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible summarize his reign? (2Ki 16:1–4; 2Ch 28:1–4)

2. When Syria and Israel besieged Jerusalem, were they able to take it at first? What damage were they able to do? (2Ki 16:5, 6)

3. How did Isaiah tell Ahaz to regard Rezin and Pekah? Why were Rezin and Pekah attacking Judah in the first place? What did Isaiah tell Ahaz was critical for him to do to be established? (Isa 7:1–9)

5. What kind of damage did Syria and Israel do to Judah? Why would God allow them to do Judah so much harm when Isaiah had said that Ahaz should not worry about Rezin and Pekah? What did the prophet Oded command Israel to do, and how did they respond? (2Ch 28:5–15)

6. What prompted Ahaz to appeal to Assyria for help? Where did Ahaz get the treasure to offer to Tiglath-Pileser? What did the king of Assyria do to Syria? Why does the record in II Chronicles read that Tiglath-Pileser did not help Ahaz? (2Ki 16:7–9; 2Ch 28:16–21)


8. How long did Hoshea reign in Israel? How does the Bible summarize his reign? What was Israel’s relationship to Assyria during Hoshea’s reign (2Ki 17:1–3)
9. Why did Shalmaneser lay siege to Samaria and take Hoshea prisoner? What did he do with the people of Israel? (2Ki 17:4–6)

10. What had Israel done to deserve this punishment from the LORD by the hand of Assyria? What had God done to try to bring them back? How does the Bible characterize Jeroboam’s sin here at the last? (2Ki 17:7–23)

11. From what area did Assyria import peoples to inhabit Samaria? How did the Lord show His displeasure at the behavior of these peoples? How did Assyria’s king attempt to fix the problem, and did it really fix the problem? (2Ki 18:24–41)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 14

The Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

1. When did Isaiah prophesy, during the days of what kings? What year did Isaiah begin to prophesy? To whom primarily did Isaiah prophesy? (1:1; 6:1)

2. In what way was Israel worse than an ox and a donkey? (1:3)

3. To what infamous cities did Isaiah compare Judah’s behavior? Why did the LORD reject the worship His people offered? What did they need to do to be made “white as snow” and “as wool”? (1:10–20)

4. When was the mountain of the LORD’s house going to be exalted? What would happen there? What would be the nature of the people whom the LORD would judge? (2:1–4)

5. What sin does Isaiah emphasize later in the chapter? Who would be exalted in the Day of the LORD? (2:5–22)
6. What were the elders and princes of Judah guilty of doing? What would God give in place of the extravagance displayed by the daughters of Zion? (3:13–26)

7. How had the LORD cared for His vineyard? What was He going to do to this disappointing vineyard? Look at the woes then pronounced by God. (5:1–30)

8. Where was the LORD sitting when Isaiah saw Him? What was the cry of the seraphim? (6:1–4)

9. What was Isaiah’s initial reaction to this vision? How was he cleansed? (6:5, 6)

10. How did Isaiah respond to the question of the LORD? What message was he to take to the people? How long was he to keep proclaiming the message? Would the “tree of Judah” be completely destroyed? (6:8–13)

11. By what names would the promised Son be known? Whose throne would He sit on, and for how long? (9:1–7)
12. The king of Assyria is compared to what things in the hand of God? What would be the outcome for Assyria once Judah had been chastised? (10:12–15)


14. What was the good news from 40:1, 2? Where in the New Testament is 40:4, 5 quoted, and whome is it talking about? Where in the New Testament is 40:6–8 quoted?

15. God challenged the idols to prove their validity by doing what? What other folly of idolatry is noted in chapter 44? (41:21–24; 44:9–20)

16. What do we learn about God in 43:10 and 44:6?

17. Whom does Isaiah prophesy, some 140 years or so before it came to pass, would decree that Jerusalem and the temple be rebuilt? (44:28)


19. List several things from chapter 53 that GOD's servant would endure.
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 15
The Prophet Isaiah (continued)

Israel

Sunday, May 25, 2014

Each student should take one of the sections below from the book of Isaiah, and write down one or two important or interesting points/passages that you find in that section.

1. Discourses and Prophecies Concerning Jerusalem and Judah (1–12)

2. Oracles of Judgment Against Individual Nations (13–23)

3. World Judgment and Deliverance of God’s People (24–27)

5. Hezekiah and Assyria (36–39)

6. The Contest Between Jehovah and Idols (40–48)

7. The Servant and the Glory of Zion (49–57)

The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 16
The Prophet Micah

Micah

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

1. When did Micah prophesy, during the days of what kings? To whom did he prophesy? (1:1)

2. What would happen to the earth when the LORD came out of His place? Why was Micah going to wail and howl? (1:3–9)

3. What kinds of evil were men plotting as they lay in bed at night? What was the people’s attitude toward the prophets? (2:1–6)

4. What charges were brought against the leaders and false prophets? How did Micah contrast himself with those prophets? (3:1–8)

5. Why was Zion going to be plowed like a field? Where in the Old Testament is Micah 3:12 quoted? (3:9–12)
6. Although most of Micah’s prophecy about the mountain of the Lord is nearly word for word as Isaiah’s, what does he add that Isaiah does not? What does Micah’s additional content represent? (4:1–5)

7. Who was going to come forth out of Bethlehem? Where in the New Testament is Micah 5:2 quoted? (5:2–4)

8. What does the LORD ask at the beginning of chapter 6? How does Micah respond? (6:1–8)

9. How would God punish His people for their corruption? Whose statutes had they been keeping? (6:13–16)

10. Just how bad was the spiritual state of Judah? Where in the New Testament is Micah 7:6 quoted? (7:1–6)

11. List the attributes of God at the end of chapter 7.
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 17
Hezekiah of Judah
II Kings 18–20; II Chronicles 29–32; Isaiah 36–39

Sunday, June 8, 2014

1. How old was Hezekiah when he became king of Judah, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible summarize his reign and faithfulness to God?

2. What 700-year-old “idol” did he break? What name had been given to it? Where in the Old Testament is the account of its fashioning?

3. What did Hezekiah do for the temple in the first month of his reign? What did he ask the priests and Levites to do? How often was the priest supposed to light the lamps and burn incense, and how long was this practice supposed to continue? (2Ch 29:3–5; Ex 27:20, 21; 30:7, 8)

4. How many burnt offerings did the assembly bring? (2Ch 29:32)
5. Whom did Hezekiah invite to celebrate the Passover? How did most in Israel treat this invitation? Why did they need to observe this Passover in the second month instead of the first? (2Ch 30:1–12)

6. How long did this first Passover of Hezekiah’s reign last? How long had it been since such a Passover had been held in Jerusalem? (2Ch 30:21–27)

7. Why did he want the priests and Levites to receive their proper support? How did the people respond to Hezekiah’s call for tithes and offerings? (2Ch 31:1–15)

8. How much tribute did Sennacherib demand from Hezekiah? (2Ki 18:14)

9. To what did Sennacherib compare the king of Egypt? What two reasons did the Assyrians give as they warned against trusting in the Lord? (2Ki 18:17–25)

10. Why did Hezekiah’s representatives ask the Assyrians not to speak in Hebrew? Why did the Assyrians insist on speaking Hebrew? What did the Assyrians claim about the Lord’s ability to save Judah from Assyria? (2Ki 18:26–37)
11. What did Hezekiah do when the report of this was brought to him? What answer did Isaiah give when Hezekiah asked him to pray for the remnant of Judah? Where did Hezekiah take the letter sent to him by Sennacherib? (2Ki 19:1–19)

12. What was God's answer to Hezekiah's plea? What happened? (2Ki 19:20–37)

13. What was Isaiah's instruction to Hezekiah when the king became sick? What did God do in answer to Hezekiah's prayer? What sign was given? (2Ki 20:1–11)

14. Why did Berodach-Baladan send a present to Hezekiah? What did Hezekiah show the representatives from Babylon? What did Isaiah say would happen to all that Hezekiah had shown these men? (2Ki 20:12–21)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 18

The Prophet Nahum; Manasseh and Amon of Judah; The Prophet Zephaniah

Nahum; II Kings 21; II Chronicles 33; Zephaniah

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

1. Whom did Nahum prophesy against? (Nah 1:1)

2. What did God promise would happen to the Assyrians? To Judah? (Nah 1:12–14)

3. What did God decree would happen to Assyria? (Nah 2:7)

4. What are some of the things that Assyria was guilty of, for which God was promising to punish them? How would everyone react when they heard of how God had punished Assyria? (Nah 3:1–4, 19)

5. How old was Manasseh when he became king, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible summarize his reign? (2Ki 21:1, 2; 2Ch 33:1, 2)

6. List the wicked things Manasseh did. (2Ki 21:3–9, 16; 2Ch 33:2–9).
7. What did God say would happen to Judah as a result of following Manasseh? (2Ki 21:10–15)


9. How old was Amon when he became king, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible sum up his reign and contrast it with his father’s? (2Ki 21:19–22; 2Ch 33:21–23)


11. When did Zephaniah prophesy? What other gods had the people of Judah been worshipping? Upon what men did the LORD pronounce woe? (Zeph 1:1, 4, 5, 12)

12. What could the people of Judah do to be “hidden in the day of the LORD’s anger”? (Zeph 2:1–3)

13. What other nations did Zephaniah promise that God would bring to judgment? (Zeph 2:4–15)
14. What evils did Zephaniah charge Jerusalem with? (Zeph 3:1–4, 7)

15. Whom would God cast out from His holy mountain, and what would be the character of the remnant that He would preserve? (Zeph 3:11–13)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 19
Josiah of Judah; The Prophet Habakkuk

II Kings 22:1–23:30; II Chronicles 34–35; Habakkuk

Sunday, June 15, 2014

1. How old was Josiah when he became king, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible summarize his reign? (2Ki 22:1, 2; 2Ch 34:1, 2)

2. What did Josiah begin to do in the eighth year of his reign “while he was still young”? What reforms did he make in the twelfth year? (2Ch 34:3–7)

3. What project did Josiah undertake in the eighteenth year of his reign? What did Hilkiah the priest discover as they were carrying out that undertaking? (2Ki 22:3–10; 2Ch 34:8–18)

4. What was Josiah’s reaction to the reading of the book? What did he send Hilkiah and others to do? (2Ki 22:11–13; 2Ch 34:19–21)
5. What was God’s answer through the prophetess Huldah? What news did God have for Josiah in light of his reaction to hearing the law? (2Ki 22:14–20; 2Ch 34:22–28)


7. List several things that Josiah did to purge the land of idolatry and wickedness. (2Ki 23:4–25)

8. What prophecy did Josiah fulfill in II Kings 23:15, 16? What do the various locations mentioned where Josiah’s implemented his reforms say about Josiah’s range of influence and the state of the Assyrian Empire at that time?
9. How long had it been since Israel had celebrated Passover as they did in Josiah’s eighteenth year? (2Ki 23:21–23; 2Ch 35:1–19)

10. Was Josiah, with all his reforms, able to turn away God’s wrath completely from Judah? Why or why not? (2Ki 23:26, 27)


12. What were the conditions in Judah that caused Habakkuk to cry to the LORD? (Hab 1:2–4)

13. What nation did God promise Habakkuk that He would raise up to punish Judah for the things Habakkuk was witnessing? What was Habakkuk’s opinion of God’s plan? (Hab 1:5–17)

14. How would the just live according to Habakkuk 2:4? What three New Testament verses quote this verse?
15. List five things for which God pronounced woe on Babylon. What should man’s attitude be before the Lord, in contrast to standing before idols? (Hab 2:4–20)

16. Habakkuk pleaded that God would “in __________ remember __________.” What attitude was Habakkuk determined to hold, regardless of the want he might personally have suffered? (Hab 3:1, 17–19)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 20
Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, and Jehoiachin of Judah


Wednesday, June 18, 2014

1. How old was Jehoahaz when he took the throne, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible sum up his reign? (2Ki 23:31, 32; 2Ch 36:1, 2)

2. How did Jehoahaz’s reign come to an end, and where did he die? By what other name is Jehoahaz known? (2Ki 23:33, 34; 2Ch 36:3, 4; Jer 22:10–12)

3. How old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible characterize his reign? What was his given name before Necho changed it? (2Ki 23:34–37; 2Ch 36:4, 5)

4. What tribute did Pharaoh Necho demand of Judah? How did Jehoiakim meet the Pharaoh’s demands?

6. Why did God want Jeremiah to stand in the court of the temple and preach? What did the priests and the prophets do after hearing Jeremiah’s words? (Jer 26:1–9)

7. What verdict did the princes reach when they heard the case against Jeremiah? What precedent did some of the elders cite in defense of Jeremiah? (Jer 26:10–19)

8. When fellow prophet Urijah preached the same message as Jeremiah, what became of Urijah? (Jer 26:20–24)

9. Why did God want Jeremiah to write His words on a scroll for the people? What did the princes advise Baruch to do after he read the scroll to them? (Jer 36:1–19)
10. What did King Jehoiakim do when he heard the words on the scroll, and what order did he give concerning Baruch and Jeremiah? What two consequences did God promise Jehoiakim for his wickedness? (Jer 36:20–32)

11. After Necho had originally set Jehoiakim up as king, to what nation did Judah become a vassal state in the fourth year of Jehoiakim? Who began to trouble Judah “at the commandment of the LORD”? What did Nebuchadnezzar take from the temple of God, and where did he put them? (2Ki 24:1–7; 2Ch 36:5–8)

12. How old was Jehoiachin when he succeeded his father, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible summarize his reign? (2Ki 24:8, 9; 2Ch 36:9)

13. What did God prophesy would happen to Coniah (Jehoiachin)? Would he have a son to rule in Judah on the throne of David? (Jer 22:24–30)
14. What prophecy did Nebuchadnezzar fulfill in taking so many of Judah captive and in taking treasures from the house of God and the king’s house? (2Ki 24:10–16; 2Ch 36:10)

The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 21
The Prophet Ezekiel
Ezekiel 1–32
Sunday, June 22, 2014

About Ezekiel: A prophet to the captives in Babylon. Taken captive with Jehoiachin (597 BC). The phrase, “[they] shall know that I am the LORD”, or some variant thereof, occurs over 60 times in the book.

Outline
Theme: “That they may know that I am the LORD.”

1. Judgment of Judah (1–24)
   a. The call of Ezekiel (1–3)
   b. Prophecies against Jerusalem/Judah (4–7)
   c. The Glory of the LORD departs the temple (8–11)
   d. The reason doom comes (12–19)
   e. More prophecies against Israel (20–24)

2. Judgment of the Nations (25–32)
   a. Ammon, Moab, Edom, & Philistia (25)
   b. Tyre & Sidon (26–28)
   c. Egypt (29–32)

3. A New Hope (33–39)
   a. Ezekiel’s message (33)
   b. The Davidic Shepherd (34)
   c. Rebirth of the nation (35, 36)
   d. The resurrection of a united Israel (37)
   e. Judgment of Gog & Magog (38, 39)

4. The Glorified Temple (40–48)
   a. Architectural features (40–43)
   b. Priestly features (44–46)
   c. Tribal lands (47, 48)

Questions
1. How old was Ezekiel when he saw the vision by the River Chebar? How many years had King Jehoiachin been in captivity in Babylon by this time? In what office did Ezekiel serve? (1:1–3)
2. Describe the creatures that Ezekiel saw. (1:5–14)

3. Who sat above the firmament on the throne? (1:26–28)

4. Would Israel listen to the words that God gave Ezekiel to preach to them? (2:1–3:9)

5. On whose hands would the sinner’s blood be if Ezekiel were to refuse to warn the sinner of God’s displeasure with him? On whose hands would the sinner’s blood be if Ezekiel did warn the sinner? (3:16–21)

6. What was Ezekiel supposed to do with a model of Jerusalem? How long was Ezekiel to lie on his left side and then again on his right, and what did these days represent? (4:1–8)

7. How much bread and water was he to consume per day? What was he to bake his bread over? (4:9–17)
8. What was Ezekiel to do with each of the three groups of hair that he cut from his head, and what does each group represent? (5:1–17)

9. List wicked things that were taking place in the temple back Jerusalem? (8:1–18)

10. What was the job of the man with the inkhorn? What was the job of the armed men? Where did the armed men start their work? (9:1–11)

11. Where did the glory of the LORD start out, and where did He finally alight? (10, 11)

12. What wrong idea had Israel developed concerning all of the misfortune they were suffering? What does God assure them is actually the way He deals with men? (18:1–32)
13. Who is Ez 28:1–5 talking about? Who is Ez 28:11–16 talking about?
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 22
Zedekiah of Judah; The Fall of Jerusalem

II Kings 24:17–25:21; II Chronicles 36:11–23;
Jeremiah 20; 21; 27–29; 32; 34; 37–39

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

1. How old was Zedekiah when he became king, and how long did he reign? How does the Bible summarize his reign and the behavior of the people under his reign? (2Ki 24:17–20; 2Ch 36:11–14)

2. What would God do with Zedekiah’s weapons of war when he fought against the Chaldeans? How could a person in Jerusalem save himself from the sword, famine, and pestilence in the city? (Jer 21:1–10)

3. How could the house of David deliver itself from God’s wrath? Had they apparently been afraid that invaders could threaten them? (Jer 21:11–14)

4. What was the meaning of sign of the bonds and yokes? Had other prophets’ been preaching this same message? (Jer 27)
5. What prediction did Hananiah make? After Hananiah broke Jeremiah’s wooden yoke, what kind of yoke did God promise to put in its place? What was Jeremiah’s prophecy about Hananiah, and finally happened to Hananiah? (Jer 28)

6. Why had Zedekiah put Jeremiah in prison? What message did God intend to convey by having Jeremiah buy a field? Did Jeremiah himself entirely understand? (Jer 32)

7. What would be Zedekiah’s fate, despite the destruction of the city? What covenant had the people of Jerusalem entered into and subsequently reneged on? What penalty would God inflict on them for their treachery? (Jer 34)

8. What army came to help Judah during the Chaldean siege of Jerusalem? Would their help ultimately make any difference, according to God? (Jer 37:1–10)
9. How did Jeremiah end up in a dungeon? Did Jeremiah’s message to Zedekiah ever change, even in the face of persecution? What arrangements did Zedekiah make for Jeremiah? (Jer 37:11–21)

10. Who helped Jeremiah out of the mire of the dungeon the princes had thrown him into? What was Zedekiah’s worry about surrendering to Babylon? Zedekiah seemed to be on the brink of doing the right thing, but who apparently intimidated him into standing his ground? (Jer 38)


13. What did God do to warn Judah? Why? (2Ch 36:15, 16)
The Divided Kingdom, Lesson 23

The Prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah; Lamentations

Sunday, June 29, 2014

Outline of Jeremiah

1. Prophecies regarding Judah and the kingdom of God (1–45)
   a. The prophet’s call (1)
   b. Condemnation of Judah and Jerusalem (2–29)
      i. Discourses and visions regarding Judah and Jerusalem (2–20)
      ii. Charges against the rulers (21–24)
      iii. Sentence described (25–29)
   c. Promise of restoration (30–33)
   d. Penalty inflicted (34–45)
      i. Last years of the kingdom (34–38)
      ii. Destruction of Jerusalem (39)
      iii. Wretched remnant (40–45)
2. Judgment against the nations (46–51)
   a. Egypt (46)
   b. Philistia (47)
   c. Moab (48)
   d. Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar & Hazor, and Elam (49)
   e. Babylon (50, 51)
3. Captivity of Judah (52)

Outline of Lamentations

1. The affliction of Jerusalem
2. God’s anger with Jerusalem
3. Anguish and hope of the prophet
4. The degradation of Jerusalem
5. Prayer for remembrance and restoration

Questions

1. When did Jeremiah prophesy, during the reigns of what kings? What office did Jeremiah hold? Who was Jeremiah’s father? (Jer 1:1–3)
2. What was Jeremiah’s concern when God called him? What authority did God give Jeremiah (i.e., “set you over”)? What did the sign of boiling pot represent, and why did God prophesy such a fate for Jerusalem and Judah? What assurance did God give Jeremiah concerning his task? (Jer 1:4-19)

3. What did Israel do that was unique among the nations? With what two evils did the LORD charge His people? (Jer 2:1–13)

4. What metaphors did God use for His people’s idolatry? What lesson did Judah fail to learn from watching Israel? What metaphor did God use to represent His relationship with His people? What did God bid His people to do in light of their behavior? (Jer 3:1–25)
5. What was Judah’s attitude toward the word of the LORD? What had other prophets and priests been preaching to the people? What had the people forgotten how to do? (Jer 6:10–15)

6. What did the LORD forbid Jeremiah to do? Why? (Jer 16:1–4)

7. What did Jeremiah feel when he tried to refrain from speaking God’s word? What did Jeremiah thing worthy of the day of his birth and the man who brought news of his birth? (Jer 20:7–18)

8. What two groups of people did the two baskets of figs represent? Which group of people was better off? (Jer 24:1–10)

9. What two things did the Rechabites abstain from doing, and at whose command? What point did God make with their example? (Jer 35:1–19)
10. Where in the New Testament is Jeremiah 31:31–34 quoted? If God was to make a new covenant, what would become of the old? Where would the law of the LORD reside in this new covenant? Who would know the LORD in this new covenant? How would the LORD regard the sins of those in this new covenant?
1. How did Nebuzaradan treat Jeremiah? Whom did Nebuzaradan credit with the fall of Jerusalem? (Jer 40:1–6)

2. Where had some of the Jews fled during the waning days of Judah? What blessings did they enjoy when they came to live in Mizpah under Gedaliah? (Jer 40:7–12)

3. What warning did Johanan the son of Kareah bring to Gedaliah? Did Gedaliah believe him? (Jer 40:13–16)

4. What was significant about the family heritage of Ishmael the son of Nethaniah? List Ishmael’s treacherous acts. Who rescued the captives that Nethaniah had taken? (Jer 41)
5. What did Johanan and the others promise to do when Jeremiah delivered his message from the L ORD? (Jer 42:1–5)

6. What did Jeremiah report would happen to them if they stayed in Judah? What did Jeremiah report would happen to them if they went on to Egypt? What did the L ORD know about their hearts when they approached Jeremiah about petitioning the L ORD for them? (Jer 42:7–22)

7. Where did the men accuse Jeremiah of getting his message? What did Johanan and company do then? What did the sign of the large stones mean? (Jer 43:1–13)

8. How had the Jews who fled to Egypt been behaving themselves? In light of that, what did God promise would happen to them? (Jer 44:1–14)

9. Why did the people reject Jeremiah’s message? What then did Jeremiah promise would happen to the Jews in Egypt and to Pharaoh Hophra? (Jer 44:15–30)