

# **HISTORY OF THE HEBREWS AT THE TIME OF THE PROPHETS**

**854 - 430 B.C.**

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This brief outline will be given based on the kings of Judah as the dividing points.

- I. JEHOSHAPHAT, 873 - 850. As king he took away the high places and Asherim from Judah, (II Chron. 17:6). He sent out princes, priests, and Levites to teach the law (II Chron. 17:7-9). But he made the great and almost fatal mistake of making an alliance with the wicked king, Ahab of Israel.

Ahab was the king of Israel at this time, 869 - 851 B.C. He was the husband of Jezebel and the innovator and patron of foreign gods.

Frequently warred with Syria and was killed in war with Benhadad of Syria.

The Assyrian king at this time was Shalmaneser III, 858 - 824. He was the first Assyrian king who had political and military contacts with a king of Israel (10 Northern tribes).

The prophets of this time were: Elijah; Micaiah; Jehu; Jahaziel and Eliezer

- II JEHORAM, 850 - 843 B.C.

He married Ahab's daughter, Athaliah, (II Chron. 21:6). To ensure his reign he killed his 6 brothers (II Chron. 21:1-4). He received a letter from Elijah, (after Elijah had died) telling him of his death and end as king.

The kings of Israel were Ahaziah, 850 B.C. and Jehoram, 849-843 B.C. He was wounded at Ramoth Gilead, (II Kings 8:28-29) and killed by Jehu (II Kings 9:14-28).

The Prophets at this time were; Elijah and Elisha (II Kings 6:9-10).

- III AHAZIAH, 842 B.C. Reigned only one year as king of Judah. He was followed by his mother...

- IV ATHALIAH, 842 - 838. She was Ahaziah's mother and also the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. When she saw that her son, Ahaziah was killed, arose and destroyed all the seed royal and usurped the rule over the kingdom of Judah. However God's providence saved Joash (Jehoash), Ahaziah's son. He was hid from Athaliah and later became king. (II Kings 11:1-3; II Chron. 22:10ff).

The king of Israel at this time is Jehu, 842-816 B.C. He destroyed the house of Ahab (II Kings 10:1-17) He also destroyed Baal worship and Jezebel (II Kings 10:18-28).

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- V. JOASH 837 -801 B.C. After he was saved from Athaliah, he was hid by Jehoiada and his wife for six years. The nobles, people and generals rose up against Athaliah and slew her and made Joash king. Under the guidance of Jehoiada he ruled well, but after Jehoiada died he forsook the house of the Lord and served idols.

Jehu the king of Israel, was followed by Jehoahaz, 815:-801 B.C. Under his reign lost most of the kingdom to Syria.

The Assyrian kings were Shalmaneser III, who was followed by his son, Shamshi-adad V, 823 -811 B.C. Settled the revolt started during his father's reign, but lost all of Shalmaneser's western conquests. He was followed by the child king, Adad-mirari III, 810 - 783 B.C.

Joel and Elisha were the prophets of God at this time.

- VI AMAZIAH, 800 - 784 B.C.

Conquered Edom and took away their gods (II Chron. 25). Also warred against Jehoash of Israel, but was not successful.

Kings Of Israel: Jehoash, 801 - 787 B.C. Under his reign recovers cities of Israel from Syria. Jeroboam II 786-747 B.C. Restored all the territory that was lost to Israel. Prosperity was evident under his reign. .

Prophets of this time were: Elisha; Joel; Jonah; and Amos.

- VII UZZIAH, 783 - 742 B.C.

Did that which was right, put down the enemies of Judah and promoted husbandry. But he offered incense to Jehovah and was smitten with leprosy.

The kings of Israel were: Jeroboam II; Zechariah, 746-745 B.C. He was slain by Shallu after 6 months. Shallu then ruled for 1 month and was killed by Menahem, 745 - 739 B.C.

This period ends with the invasion by the Assyrian king, Tiglath - Pileser III.

The prophets of this time were: Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah.

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## VIII JOTHAM, 742 - 736 B.C.

May have begun his rule while his father (a leper) was still alive.  
Threatened by Rezin of Syria and Pekah of Israel.

The kings of Israel: Shallu, Menahem then Pekahiah, 738 B.C. He was slain by Pekah, who reigned 737 - 733 B.C.

The prophets at this time: Hosea, Isaiah, Micah.

## IX AHAZ, 735 - 716 B.C.

In order to retain his throne, Ahaz became tributary to Tiglath-Pileser, king of Assyria.

Kings of Israel: Pekah, Hoshea, 732 - 721 B.C. Israel, The Northern Kingdom was destroyed and carried away captive.

The Assyrian kings were Shalmaneser V, 726 - 722 B.C. and Sargon, 721 - 705 B.C.

The prophets were Hosea, Isaiah and Micah.

## X HEZEKIAH, 715 - 688 B.C.

Restored temple worship. Invoked the aid of God to overcome Sennacherib's invasion of Jerusalem. But made the mistake of showing the Temple treasures to the visitors from Babylon.

There are no more kings of Israel.

## XI MANASSEH, 687 - 643 B.C.

Known for his unlimited cruelty and idolatry. Was the beginning of the end for Judah.

Esarhaddon, 680 - 669 is the king of Assyria. Brought Assyria's "second empire" to the height of its power. He was followed by Assur-bani-pal, 668 - 627 B.C.

## XII AMON, 642 - 641 B.C. Was as wicked as his father.

## XIII JOSIAH, 640 - 610 B.C.

Repaired the temple, the Book of Law found and true worship restored. Destroyed altar at Beth-el, in general brought good reform to Judah. But at a young age he was killed by Pharaoh Necho.

Assur-uballit, 611 - 606 B.C. The last of the kings of Assyria, and a new

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Empire is on the horizon. Babylon.

The prophets of this time: Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, and Obadiah.

XIV JEHOAHAZ, 609 B.C. Had only a 3 month reign.

XV JEHOIAKIM, 609 - 599 B.C.

PLACED ON THRONE BY Pharoah Necho. But the Babylonians and Nebuchadnezzar are victorious and the first group of Israelites are carried away into captivity.

XVI By 586 B.C. the destruction of Jerusalem is complete and the Hebrews are carried away into Babylonian Captivity. .

The prophets of God are:

Daniel 605 - 530 B.C.

Ezekiel, 590 - 560 B.C.

XVII POST EXILE: 536 B.C. - 432 B.C.

Judah returned from Babylon under Zerubbabel in 536 B.C. Sixteen years later the temple had not been rebuilt.

Prophets of God: Haggai 520 B.C. Zechariah 520 B.C.

Second group of exiles in about 458 B.C. Under leadership of Ezra, then a few years later Nehemiah returns 444 - 443 B.C. and the wall of the city of Jerusalem are rebuilt.

Prophet of God: Malachi, 445 - 432 B.C.