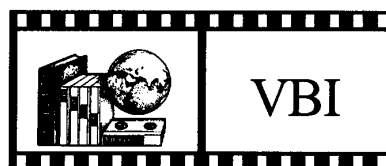
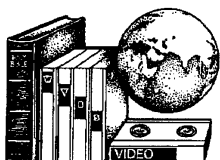


World Video Bible School®

Established 1986



OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY - THREE

This set of notes is designed to be used by non-credit students of World Video Bible School® and correspondent students enrolled in the Video Bible Institute (VBI). VBI students should pay particular attention to the syllabus. Students not taking the course for credit may bypass the syllabus and use the notes as they see fit for their spiritual enrichment.



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**OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY THREE
KINGS AND CHRONICLES
SYLLABUS**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION.

- A. Instructor: C. M. Horner.
- B. This course consists of 12 lessons on 4 DVDs or 4 videotapes.
- C. Each class is approximately 38 minutes long.

II. DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE.

- A. This course is an in-depth study of 1 Kings through 2 Chronicles, with emphasis on practical application, as well as on giving a working knowledge of the books, including background information.
- B. The lessons will help in understanding the relationship between the Old and New Testaments, as well as how God's providence was at work in Old Testament times.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.

- A. Required.
 - 1. Bible (ASV, KJV, or NKJV).
 - 2. 12 video lessons.
 - 3. Course Notes.
- B. Optional: any good (conservative) commentary on Kings and Chronicles.

IV. REQUIREMENTS.

- A. Read 1st and 2nd Kings, and 1st and 2nd Chronicles in their entirety.
- B. View each video lesson in its entirety.
- C. Read the course notes in their entirety (it is good to go through the notes at the same time you view the lessons, adding your own notes as needed).

- D. Complete all memory work (explained below).
- E. Submit a term paper (explained below).
- F. Take one written test.
- G. Have a combined grade average of at least 70.

V. MEMORY WORK.

- A. Memory verses must be written (or typed) from memory, then mailed to VBI for grading. Verses must come from the ASV, KJV or NKJV, according to what you indicated on your original VBI application.
- B. All verses must be written out or typed at one sitting. You may study more and start over if you make a mistake, but you must still start again from the beginning and write all the verses at one sitting.
- C. For Kings and Chronicles the following verses must be memorized:

1 Kings 11:4
2 Kings 2:11,12
- D. Memory work is due when you mail VBI your second written test.
- E. Hint: A good method of memorizing is to write the verses on flash cards that can be easily reviewed throughout the course.

VI. TESTS.

- A. There is one written test.
- B. When you near the end of the course contact us and request the test.
- C. When you receive the test, you have permission to look at and study it. However, when you take the test, you must do so completely from memory, with no help from notes, Bible, etc.

VII. TERM PAPER.

- A. Choose any person in Kings or Chronicles and write a paper detailing his/her life. Include at the end at least three lessons we can learn from his life.
- B. The paper should be a minimum of four pages, typed and double spaced.

If handwritten, the paper should be a minimum of six pages, single spaced.

- C. The paper is due when you mail VBI your test and memory work.

VII. GRADING.

- A. Memory work, term paper, and tests will be graded separately.
- B. Final grade is based on an average of all assigned work, with the written tests counting twice.
- C. You may request that a grade be explained or reconsidered, but in any case VBI will have the final say.

IX. CREDIT.

Credit will be issued, including a certificate, only after all work has been successfully completed, tapes have been returned (if rented), and all fees for this particular course have been paid in full.

PROPHETIC LITERATURE

The writings of the prophets have not been “done away with,” but are vital, timely, interesting, spiritual, and badly needed.

Value of prophetic literature:

1. Gives a more complete idea of the history of the ancient world, particularly the Hebrews.
2. Gives a better understanding of the social, cultural and economic conditions of the ancient oriental world, especially the Hebrews.
3. Gives a better understanding and appreciation of the laws and rituals of the Hebrews.
4. Gives some of the greatest moral and ethical teachings the world has ever known.
5. Gives some of the greatest religious and doctrinal conceptions known to man; e.g., the doctrine of man, God, sin, salvation.
6. Gives some of the finest specimens of literature the world has ever produced.
7. Gives expression to some of the loftiest conceptions, the deepest emotions, and most beautiful sentiments known to man.
8. Gives a background for a better understanding of parts of the New Testament.

Some purposes of prophetic literature:

1. To call back God's people to a religious, moral, and spiritual condition from which they had fallen.
2. To lead them on to a higher moral and spiritual level.
3. To warn them of approaching calamity or punishment.
4. To encourage and strengthen by giving promises of a better day to come; e.g. to help prepare them for the Messianic age.
5. To preserve records of the activity and ideals of the Hebrews.

6. To direct the nation of Israel (or other nations) through sermons, personal advice, and divine revelations.

The work of the prophets:

1. Religious and moral teachers.
2. Advisers of rulers.
3. Promoters of the doctrine of Israel.
4. Reformers of their age.

The Biblical meaning of “prophet” or “prophecy:”

1. Prophecy is not limited to, nor primarily concerned with, the foretelling of future events. The message might refer to the past, present or future.
2. Prophecy is not limited to the prophet's own time. The prophet spoke primarily to his own time and about the things of his own time, but could and did predict the future through divine revelation.
3. Prophecy consisted of any message of instruction given by God to man through a representative of God. The representative or agent in this message was a prophet or divine teacher. The true prophet was a speaker or spokesman for God, the agent through whom God spoke to his people.
4. Prophecy must be preceded by revelation, vision, or message from God. Before a prophet could speak the will of God, he had to “see, perceive or receive” a message from God.

FIRST AND SECOND KINGS BACKGROUND

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. The books of Samuel traced the origin of the monarchy in Israel and showed the establishment of the ruling family of David.
- B. The books of kings take up the history of the kingdom from David's last days and follow it to its collapse at the time of the Babylonian exile.
 - 1. The purpose of this record is not primarily to write down the history of the period.
 - 2. The books demonstrate that God blesses those who obey Him and punishes those who defy Him.
- C. The Hebrew title for this material is "Kings" for its subject is the kings of Judah and Israel.
 - 1. The nation divided into two kingdoms when Solomon died c. 930 B.C.
 - 2. The Northern Kingdom (Israel) had ten tribes and is sometimes called by its leading tribe, Ephraim; the Southern Kingdom (Judah) had two tribes.
 - 3. The Northern Kingdom had nine dynasties and twenty kings; the Southern Kingdom had one dynasty (David's) and twenty kings.
 - 4. Israel did not have one righteous king but eight kings of Judah were given some degree of praise.
- D. The books of Kings cover approximately 400 years of Hebrew history.

II. BACKGROUND.

- A. Like 1 and 2 Samuel these two books were originally one book in the Hebrew Bible.
 - 1. The present division originated in the Septuagint and was likely due to the amount of space required to write the material in Greek as opposed to Hebrew.

2. In the Septuagint Samuel and Kings were regarded as continuous history. Collectively they were named "Books of Kingdoms" and were identified as First, Second, Third, and Fourth Kings.
- B. The authorship of the material is in doubt.
1. The Talmud (Baba Bathra 15a) says, "Jeremiah wrote this book, and the book of Kings and Lamentations."
 2. There are resemblances between the book of Jeremiah and the book of Kings. Cf: 2 Kgs 24:18-25:30 with Jer 52:1-34.
 3. Jeremiah was a contemporary of Josiah and the remaining kings of Judah to the time of the exile.
 4. Yet the events at the end of Second Kings were evidently written by someone in Babylon. But Jeremiah was taken to Egypt after the fall of Judah - Jer 43:1-7.
 5. The book may have been written by a contemporary of Jeremiah.
- C. The book can be dated with reasonable accuracy.
1. The release of Jeremiah occurred c. 562 B.C. Cf: 2 Kgs 25:27.
 2. But the book does not refer to the Jews being permitted to return home by Cyrus in 536 B.C.
 3. Thus it was written sometime between 562 and 536 B.C.
- D. Some of the sources used in the writing of the books are named.
1. The Book of the Words of Solomon - 1 Kgs 11:41.
 2. The Books of the Chronicles of Kings of Judah - 1 Kgs 14:29; 15:7,23; etc.
 3. The Book of the Chronicles of Kings of Israel - 1 Kgs 14:19; 15:31; etc.

III. THE MESSAGE OF THE BOOKS OF KINGS.

- A. The books attempt to show that the fate of Israel depended on their observance of the Lord's Covenant with them.
 - 1. The tone of the books is not that of a dispassionate historian.
 - 2. It is clearly prophetic in character.
- B. The reign of each king is assessed not according to his political or historical significance, but according to his spiritual life.
 - 1. Azariah (Uzziah), for example, ruled Judah for fifty years and appears to have been powerful and prosperous but the record gives him only seven verses - 2 Kgs 15:1-7.
 - 2. The worth of a life is measured in one way only - its relationship to Jehovah and His will.

IV. THE KINGS OF JUDAH AND ISRAEL.

- A. The books are constructed so as to allow for the telling of the stories of two nations at the same time.
 - 1. The writer jumps back and forth between the kings of Judah and Israel.
 - 2. He stays in roughly the same historical period when making the transition.
- B. A pattern is followed in presenting the kings.
 - 1. An introduction (by set form) is given.
 - 2. Specified events of the ruler's life and reign are stated.
 - 3. A verdict is passed on his reign.
 - 4. A conclusion (by set form) is stated.

V. THE IMPORTANCE OF MARRIAGE AFTER JEHOVAH'S DESIGN.

- A. God has always willed that marriage be for one man and one woman for life (Gen 2:18-24; Mt 19:8).

- B. Yet polygamy was practiced throughout the Old Testament period.
1. It is never commanded or encouraged.
 2. The Bible goes to great lengths to show the difficulties which arise from it - Gen 21:1-14,29; 1 Sam 1:1-8; 2 Sam 11.
 3. A specific warning is given to the kings about imitating the oriental rulers in taking many wives - Deut 17:17.
- C. Solomon's polygamy was the beginning of the end for a united Israel.
- D. When God's original ideal for marriage is set aside the result is disaster.
- E. Under the curse of polygamy the joy of love and the peace of the family are blighted.

In that condition man gives up the sweetest sources of earthly blessings for the lowest gratifications of animal sensuousness.

Love, when it is pure and true, gilds the life of a man with a joy of heaven, and fills it with the breath of paradise.

It renders it more perfect and more noble by the union of two souls, and fulfills the original purpose of creation.

A home, blessed by life's most natural sanctities, becomes a saving ark in the days of storm.

The women of Eastern homes were idle, ignorant, uneducated, degraded and involved in devious intrigues with nothing to think about but gossip, scandal, spite and animal passion.

Each hated the other wives and each engaged in the fierce attempt to reign supreme in the affection of the husband she could not monopolize.

- G. Polygamy produces horrible results in its children. Murderous rivalry often reigns between them and fraternal affection is almost unknown.

The children grew up like their deteriorated mothers.

The sons of different mothers burned with the mutual animosities of the harem under whose influence they had been raised.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS.

- A. The greatness of this Biblical historian of the kings consists in his firm grasp of the principle that God is the controlling power and sin is the disturbing force in the entire history of men and nations.
- B. "God is the only final opinion" (Unknown).
- C. The remission of sins does not bring the remission of their consequences.

FIRST AND SECOND KINGS OUTLINE

- I. THE REIGN OF SOLOMON 1 KGS 1-11
- II. THE EARLY KINGS OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOM 1 KGS 12-16:28
- III. THE PERIOD OF ALLIANCE BETWEEN JUDAH AND
ISRAEL 1 KGS 16:29-2 KGS 9
- IV. THE DECLINE AND FALL OF ISRAEL 2 KGS 10-17
- V. THE JEWISH KINGDOM AFTER THE FALL OF SAMARIA 2 KGS 18-25

FIRST KINGS

I. THE REIGN OF SOLOMON Ch 1-11

A. DAVID'S FINAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE SUPPRESSION OF ADONIJAH. 1:1-2:11

1. DAVID'S FAILING HEALTH 1:1-4

1-4) Abishag the Shunammite is brought to David.

David's old age:

- a. It was generally felt, at this time, a young energetic body would give warmth and a measure of youth to the older person.
- b. She was considered David's concubine.
- c. He did not, however, have marital relations with her.
- d. In Eastern nations, it was felt that if a king could not have marital relations his ability to rule and his manhood had left him.

2. ADONIJAH ATTEMPTS TO SEIZE THE KINGDOM 1:5-10

Shades of Absalom!

5) Running heralds ahead of him just like Absalom.

6) Spoiled and beautiful to look at.

7) Influential friends:

- a. Joab - General of the army.
- b. Abiathar - High Priest (Jerusalem).

8) The faithful:

- a. Zadok - High Priest.
- b. Benaiah - mighty man of the 2nd class (Captain of the Bodyguard).
- c. Nathan - prophet.

- d. Shimei - cf: 4:18 (?).
- e. Rei - (?).
- f. Might men - 37 in all.

9,10) A coronation feast - with obvious omissions.

3. NATHAN'S AND BATHSHEBA'S PLAN 1:11-37

11-14) Nathan's plan with Bathsheba.

15-21) Bathsheba implements the plan.

22-27) Nathan carries out his part of the plan.

28-31) David reconfirms his pledge to Bathsheba - Solomon shall reign in David's stead.

NOTICE: David shows strength and mental alertness here.

28) Call Bathsheba to me = [call me Bathsheba].

It was the custom that when the king had an audience with his wife or a counselor a third party was not to be there. Therefore, she would have exited when Nathan was granted audience.

30) This is the first time we learn from David he has pledged the throne to anyone.

32-35) David's solution.

32) Trusted friends.

33) Mule = sign of authority.

David's mule would have been recognized by the people.

34) Anoint Solomon.

35) Set Solomon on my throne.

36,37) Benaiah's joy with a blessing.

4. SOLOMON'S SECOND ANOINTING 1:38-40 CF: 1 CHRON 29:22b

NOTE: The Runners and Executioners are also loyal to David.

5. NO REIGN FOR ADONIJAH! 1:41-49

42ff) Jonathan makes the report of Solomon's appointment.

44) He names the supporters.

47,48) David bows to the new king - authority is transferred.

49) All support of Adonijah leaves.

NOTE: A few select troops can quickly accomplish a change in kings, which could accomplish a different rule, before the whole army can be mustered.

6. ADONIJAH PLEAS FOR HIS LIFE 1:50-53

50) The horns of the altar = the symbol of the seat of power and strength.

In Ex 21:14 this was provided as a protection to the unintentional manslayer. But there were now cities of refuge for this.

Adonijah had no right to claim this refuge! Solomon could have:

- a. Left him there to starve, or
- b. Left him on his own and be subject to death.

51) His servant - Adonijah acknowledges Solomon as king.

52,53) Solomon's forgiveness is conditional!

CF: 2 Sam 23:1-7 David's last prophetic words.

7. DAVID'S LAST WORDS TO SOLOMON 2:1-9

2,3) How to be a man:

- a. Keep the charge of the Lord,
- b. Walk in God's ways,
- c. Keep God's statutes,
- d. Keep God's commandments,

- e. Keep God's judgments, and
- f. Keep God's testimonies.

Then God will prosper you!

- 4) This will also insure David's line on the throne.
- 5,6) Judgment on Joab for the murders of Abner and Amasa.

His gray hair = [his hoar head].

[Hoar] = white.

- 7) Show kindness to Barzillai for his help.
- 8,9) Judgment on Shimei for cursing God's anointed.

8. THE DEATH OF DAVID 2:10,11

CF: 2 Sam 5:4,5; 1 Chron 3:4b; 29:26-30.

B. THE BEGINNING OF SOLOMON'S REIGN 2:12-46

1. SOLOMON IS NOW KING 2:12

CF: 1 Chron 29:23-25; 2 Chron 1:1.

2. ADONIJAH'S SECOND PLOT AND DEATH 2:13-25

13-18) Adonijah approaches Bathsheba for help. He must have felt Solomon would not refuse a request from the Queen-mother.

18) Bathsheba agrees, seeing no harm in it.

19-25) Adonijah rejected and put to death.

19) Solomon shows great respect.

20,21) Bathsheba makes the request.

22) Solomon sees the plot!

Ask for him the kingdom also:

- a. The first thing a rival or usurper tried to do was to have the prestige of possessing the wives of the royal house.
- b. Adonijah knew he would further his cause and claim if Abiahag were his wife.
- c. But Abishag was Solomon's wife by royal right! Cf: 2 Sam 12:8.

NOTE: Solomon may not only have seen the plot but may also have been very jealous. Cf: Song of Solomon 6:10-13.

A plot required aid and Solomon is aware of Abiathar and Joab helping Adonijah.

23-25) Such a claim or plot against the throne is treason and punishable by death.

25) Adonijah killed - 3rd son of David to die by the sword.

Cf: 2 Sam 12:10.

3. REMOVAL OF ABIATHAR 2:26,27

26,27) Mercy on Abiathar - exile from the High Priesthood only.

27) Cf: 1 Sam 2:31-35.

Aaron

Eleazar
Phinehas
Abishua
Bukki
Uzzi
Zerahiah
Meraioth
Amariah
Ahitub
Zadok

Ithamar
(gap)
Eli
Phinehas
Ahitub
Ahiah (1 Sam 14:3)
Ahimelech
Abiathar (1 Sam 22:20)

4. JOAB'S FLIGHT AND DEATH 2:28-34

28,29) Joab also grabs the horns of the altar but Solomon's judgment is to slay him.

30) Benaiah, being the son of a priest, may not have wanted to mingle Joab's blood with the blood of the animal sacrifices.

Joab says he will die at the altar.

31,32) Solomon says: So be it!

Joab is guilty of two murders and has no right no claim for asylum.

33) David has cursed Joab - 2 Sam 3:28,29.

34) Death of Joab.

5. BENAIAH AND ZADOK PROMOTED 2:35

35) Benaiah is now Commander-in-chief.

Zadok is now High Priest.

6. DEATH OF SHIMEI 2:36-46

36) Move to town!

37) If you leave town you die!

38) "It is good!"

39,40) Shimei seeks his slaves - he should have gone to Solomon and asked for help. Instead he violates his own oath.

41-43) Solomon reminds Shimei of his oath and that he has broken it.

44) Your death (blood) is on your own hands!

45) This is righteous judgment.

46) Shimei killed.

But he has famous and righteous descendants. Cf: Esther 2:5-7.

Thus the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

All who could be a threat have been removed.

NOTE: Solomon believed and practiced what he wrote. Cf:

Prov 19:11 The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, and it is to his glory to overlook a transgression.

Prov 20:2 The wrath of a king is like the roaring of a lion; Whoever provokes him to anger sins against his own life.

Prov 20:8 A king who sits on the throne of judgment scatters all evil with his eyes.

Prov 20:26 A wise king sifts out the wicked, and brings the threshing wheel over them.

C. SOLOMON'S MARRIAGE TO PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER AND HIS PRAYER FOR WISDOM Ch 3

1. SOLOMON MARRIES PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER 3:1

- 1) This is a marriage to an Egyptian woman:
 - a. This is not a violation of the Law. Cf: Ex 34:11-17; Deut 7:1-5.
 - b. We have no record of her being one of those who turned Solomon from Jehovah. Cf: 1:1-8.
 - c. Solomon is very zealous to worship Jehovah correctly so it can be assumed she accepted Jehovah as her God.

2. SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF SOLOMON AND HIS KINGDOM 3:2,3

- 2,3) The Temple was not yet built, so the people and Solomon worshiped Jehovah in high places.

This was a compromise and was accepted by God at this time.

3. SOLOMON'S SACRIFICE AT GIBEON 3:4

- 4) This is a great sacrifice from a sincere heart. Cf: 2 Chron 1:2-6.

4. SOLOMON'S VISION AND PRAYER FOR WISDOM 3:5-15 CF: 2 CHRON 1:7-13

Jehovah will appear to Solomon two more times:

- a. The 2nd time to warn him - 9:2, and
 - b. The 3rd time to condemn him - 11:9ff.
- 5) If this sacrifice had not been acceptable, God would not have come to Solomon with this type of vision!

“Ask what I shall give thee!’ That blessed and most loving offer is made to every human soul. To the meanest of us all God flings open the treasures of heaven. The reason why we fatally lose them is because we are blinded by the glamour of temptation, and snatch instead at glittering bubbles or Dead Sea fruits. We fail to attain the best gifts, because so few of us earnestly desire them. Yet there is no living soul to which God has not given the choice of good and evil. ‘He hath set fire and water before thee: stretch forth thy hand unto whether you wilt. Before men is life and death; and whether him liketh shall be given him’” - Farrar - 1st Kgs.

- 6) Thanksgiving.

Solomon also asks Jehovah to establish his promise to David. Cf: 2 Chron 1:9.

- 7,8) Humbleness - no indication here of the true age of Solomon.

The idea is that he is a child in wisdom and this leads him into his request.

- 9) The request is for the greatest gift of all!

Cf: Prov 1:7; 2:1-6.

- 10-13) The gift is granted plus all he could have asked for but did not!

- 14) Conditional Gifts!

NOTE: All of this was given miraculously but none of it took away his free will OR his ability to fall from grace!

- 15) More sacrifices - this time before the ark.

5. WISDOM OF SOLOMON IN JUDGMENT 3:16-28

16) These are women of poor character - which one of them could be believed?

17-22) Solomon hears the case.

23) He reviews the case with himself.

24,25) Solomon's judgement.

26) A plea from a true mother's heart.

27) Solomon's final judgment after all the facts are in.

28) Fear (respect) for Solomon increased because Jehovah had given him such great wisdom.

NOTE: Many look back with 20/20 vision and say how easy it was for him to do what he did - but was it?

The swiftness, firmness and compassion shown by Solomon are not normal and were a part of his wisdom.

D. SOLOMON'S ADMINISTRATION OF THE KINGDOM Ch 4

1. THE PRINCES 4:1-6

1-4) The chief ministers (princes) of state.

2. THE DISTRICT OFFICERS AND THE EXTENT OF THE KINGDOM 4:7-28

7) 12 officers - one for each month.

Two were Solomon's sons-in-law. Cf: 4:11,15.

20) A great number of people

21) A great territory.

The River = Euphrates. Another blow to premillennialism! Cf: 2 Chron 9:26.

22,23) This feeds about 14,000 people at 2 lbs. of bread and 1 ½ lbs. of meat per day per person.

24,25) Peace was the rule in Solomon's kingdom.

26-28) A large standing cavalry to maintain peace.

3. THE EXCEEDING WISDOM OF SOLOMON 4:29-34

29) God gave Solomon:

- a. Wisdom,
- b. Exceedingly great understanding, and
- c. Largeness of heart,

Like the sand on the seashore.

31) These four are sons of Jerah (Mahol). Cf: 1 Chron 2:6.

32) Much of his writing is lost.

33,34) His wisdom of nature was superior.

E. SOLOMON'S ERECTION OF THE TEMPLE Ch 5-7

1. PREPARATIONS FOR THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE .. Ch 5

a. NEGOTIATIONS WITH HIRAM OF TYRE 5:1-12 CF: 7:13,14; 2 CHRON 2:1-16

1) Hiram wants to continue friendly relations with Israel.

2,3) This history is known to both but it is the basis for the following request.

NOTE: 2 Chron 2:6 - immensity of God is declared.

4,5) But peace now reigns.

6) Therefore the request for lumber.

Skill to cut [hew] timber = knowledge of the most suitable trees, the right time for felling and the proper treatment.

2 Chron 2:13,14) Hiram sends a very skillful worker of gold, silver, etc. to Solomon - he is one half Jew.

- 11) This was for Hiram's court, not for the workers. Cf: 2 Chron 2:10.

Pressed oil = [pure oil] = taken from olives that were not quite ripe. It was better quality, lighter in color and had a better flavor.

- 12) The continuation of Jehovah's blessings.

b. SOLOMON'S LEVY OF LABORERS 5:13-18
CF: 2 CHRON 2:2,17,18

- 13,14) The Israelites were not slaves but were under a levy. Cf: 9:22.

- 15) These were slaves who worked in the quarry in Israel. Cf: 9: 20,21.

- 16) The Israelites were officers and warriors.

- 17,18) Completion of the gathering of the materials.

2. THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE Ch 6
CF: 2 CHRON 3

a. THE OUTSIDE OF THE TEMPLE 6:1-10

- 1) 966 B.C. (approximately). Cf: 2 Chron 3:1,2.

- 2-4) Dimensions of the temple:

a. 90' x 30' x 45'

b. With the porch added: 105' x 30' x 45'

- 4) Windows with beveled frames = [windows of narrow lights] = [windows with fixed lattice-work - ASV] = not moveable as in a home but permanent for protection.

- 7) Tools not used:

a. Hammers,

b. Chisels, or

c. Any iron tool.

The stones were cut and fitted prior to bringing them to the construction site.

- 9) Paneled = [covered] = roof. Cf: 14,37,38.

b. IF - THEN 6:11-13

11-13) All of God's blessings are conditional!

c. THE INSIDE OF THE TEMPLE 6:14-36

14-22) Holy and Most Holy Places covered with gold, carvings and fine craftsmanship.

23-28) The large cherubim in the Most Holy Place.

 Their wings touched each others AND the second set of wings touched the walls
 - they literally filled the room.

29-35) Ornaments of the walls, floors, and doors.

36) The inner court. Cf: 2 Chron 4:9.

**d. THE DURATION OF THE TIME OF THE BUILDING OF
THE TEMPLE 6:37,38**

37,38) It took 7 years to build.

And it was completed:

- a. In all of its details, and
- b. According to all its plans!

3. SOLOMON'S PALACE AND THE FURNITURE OF THE TEMPLE . Ch 7

a. BUILDING OF THE PALACE 7:1-12

1) Thirteen years to build the palace.

2-5) The House of the Forest of Lebanon - this was the hall for arms among other things. Cf: 10:17.

4) Window was opposite window = [light against light] = across from each other.

6-8) Other buildings.

8) Notice the special treatment of Pharaoh's daughter.

9-12) Costly materials were used.

b. VESSELS OF THE TEMPLE 7:13-51

13,14) Hiram - not the king, this man was one half Jew.

He was very comparable to Bezaleel (Ex 31). Cf: 2 Chron 2:14.

15-22) The pillars. Cf: 2 Chron 3:15-4:1.

16) Capital = [chapiter].

21) Jachin = He shall establish.

Boaz = In him is strength.

23-26) Sea of cast bronze = [Brasen Sea = Molten sea].

It was a large basin for water. Cf: 2 Chron 4:2-6,10.

27-39) Bronze [brasen] stands and basins - for washing the sacrifices.

40-51) All other vessels of the Temple. Cf: 2 Chron 4:11-18.

48-50) Cf: 2 Chron 4:7,8,19-22.

51) Cf: 2 Chron 5:1.

**F. DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE AND BESTOWAL OF
GOD'S PROMISE Ch 8**

**1. PLACING THE ARK OF THE COVENANT IN THE HOLY OF
HOLIES 8:1-12
CF: 2 CHRON 5:2-14**

1-11) Actual placing of the ark.

1,2) Elders and Princes of the tribes assemble before Solomon and the Temple.

3,4) All is brought to the Temple, including the tent.

5) This indicates the procession stopped in front of the Temple for the sacrifices.
Cf: v. 6.

6-8) The ark is set in the Holy of Holies but the poles were so long they protruded into the Holy Place.

This was to be so by law. Cf: Ex 25:15.

9) The Tables of Stone are all that is in the ark.

10,11) The Lord entered by His glory!

This was only after the priests had left the Holy Place. Cf: Ex 40:34,35.

2. SOLOMON'S SPEECH 8:12-21 **CF: 2 CHRON 6:1-11**

12,13) Solomon sees the cloud as Jehovah's acceptance of the Temple and knows He will dwell in it. Cf: Lev 16:2.

14) Solomon calls for God's blessings on the nation.

15,16) Jerusalem was God's choice but it was not made known in 2 Sam 7:7,8. Cf: 2 Chron 6:5,6.

17-21) Solomon declares he has completed all according to the will of God!

3. PRAYER OF SOLOMON 8:22-53 **CF: 2 CHRON 6:12-39**

22) Solomon was:

- a. On a raised scaffold,
- b. On his knees, and
- c. Holding his hands up - v. 54.

Cf: 2 Chron 6:13; 2 Tim 2:8.

23,24) No other god can keep promises.

25,26) <Request> for God to continue to keep His promises.

33) Omnipresence of God. Cf: Isa 66:1.

28-30) <Request> for God to continue to hear their prayers.

NOTE: Recommend a special study on the word "Name" - "a dwelling place for Jehovah's name," etc.

- 31,32) <Request> for righteous judgement.
- 33,34) <Request> for repentance to be accepted and victory over their enemies.
- 35,36) <Request> for repentance to be accepted and drought removed.
- 37,38) <Request> for repentance to be accepted and punishment be removed.
- 40) The Reason - fear of Jehovah!
- 41-43) <Request> to hear the Gentile who worships Him.
- 44-50) <Request> for repentance to be accepted if captivity comes (v. 48) and restore them.
- 51-53) Why?
- a. Because they are Jehovah's inheritance! ...and
 - b. It is ultimately to God's glory to accept true repentance in His people!
- 2 Chron 6:40-42)** Close of the prayer.

4. BLESSING THE CONGREGATION 8:54-66

- 56) There has not failed one word of all His good promises which He promised through His servant Moses.

Another blow to Premillennialism!

2 Chron 7:1-3) Fire from Jehovah consumed the burnt offering.

- 63) Sacrifice:
- a. 22,000 oxen, and
 - b. 120,000 sheep.
- 65) All Israel is involved in the dedication, not just the princes.
- 66) The celebration is over on the 8th day of (next day after) the 2nd seven day feast period. Cf: 2 Chron 7:4-10.

G. SOLOMON'S WEALTH AND GLORY, THE QUEEN OF SHEBA Ch 9,10

1. GOD ANSWERS SOLOMON'S PRAYER 9:1-9 CF: 2 CHRON 8:11-22

NOTE: This is the second of three appearances of Jehovah to Solomon:

- a. To approve - 3:5-15,
 - b. To warn - 9:2-9, and
 - c. To condemn - 11:9-13.
- 3) God accepts the temple.
- 4,5) If good then good!
- 6,7) If evil then evil!
- 8,9) Why? Because they will have forgotten Jehovah.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE, ETC. 9:10-28

- 10-14) Hiram is unhappy with the gift of twenty cities and returns them to Solomon. Cf: 2 Chron 8:1-3.
- 13) Cabul - worthless, pawned.
- 14) This appears to be a loan as the cities were not acceptable.
- 15-19) The cities were rebuilt, or fortified, for stores, military, etc. Cf: 2 Chron 8:4-6.
- 20,21) Canaanites enslaved. Cf: 5:15ff; 2 Chron 8:7-10.
- 22,23) Israelites were not enslaved.
- 24) Pharaoh's daughter moved "up" from Jerusalem to the palace which Solomon had built for her. Cf: 2 Chron 8:12-16.
- 26-28) Solomon builds a navy and it is very profitable. Cf: 2 Chron 8:17,18; 9:21.

3. THE QUEEN OF SHEBA 10:1-13
CF: 2 CHRON 9:1-12

- 1) Arab country of Sabaeans.

The capital city was Saba.

Her name was Balkis. Cf: Koran - Sur. 27, etc.

Hard questions = riddles.

The Arabs are lovers of riddles.

- 2) The Sabaeans were noted for their wealth in precious stones.

Their wealth came from extensive trade.

- 3) Solomon answered every riddle!

- 4,5) Royalty judging royalty.

- 6,7) She judges him as twice as good as the reports she had heard.

- 8) Servants = ministers of state, not menial servants.

- 9) She acknowledges Jehovah as a great god.

- 10) Her gifts match her appraisal of Solomon.

- 11,12) The mentioning of Ophir here indicates this is how she had learned of Solomon.

- 13) Solomon also gives her great gifts.

4. SOLOMON'S WEALTH AND SPLENDOR 10:14-29
CF: 2 CHRON 1:15; 9:13-27

- 16,17) Shield = [target].

There were two sizes of shields:

a. Bucklers, and

b. Regular.

- 18-20) Solomon's ivory and gold throne.

21-23) Wealth to excess:

- a. More than any other nation - v. 23,
- b. Gold so plentiful silver was valueless - v. 23,
- c. Exotic livestock:
 - (1) Apes, and
 - (2) Peacocks.

26) A great cavalry spread out over the kingdom. Cf: 4:26; 2 Chron 1:14-17; 9:25-28.

27) Hyperbole for great opulence.

28,29) The trade (business) was through these vassal kings.

H. SOLOMON'S APOSTASY AND DECLINE Ch 11

1. POLYGAMY 11:1-3

1-3) Polygamy - from forbidden peoples!

Clung to these in love = married love (also used of the love for Jehovah).

Princesses - they were elevated to wives of the first class and therefore were called princesses (not necessarily because of royal birth).

2. IDOLATRY 11:4-8

4) Solomon was old - older age (50+) and their importunity wore on him.

5) Went after = actual worship. The writer uses another phrase for actual worship, i.e.: Served. Cf: 16:31; 22:52; 2 Kgs 16: 3; etc.

NOTE: His acceptance of his wives' pleading and then building the places of worship IS counted as idolatry!

To not condemn is to approve!

Cf: Jas 1:14,15 - hate - dislike - tolerate - embrace.

3. SOLOMON'S REJECTION 11:9-13

11) The reason: He had not kept Jehovah's commandments.

12,13) Two exceptions to the rejection:

- a. Not during Solomon's lifetime, and
- b. One tribe left for Judah to rule.

The reason for the exceptions:

- a. For David's sake, and
- b. For Jerusalem's sake.

4. SOLOMON'S OPPONENTS 11:14-40

a. HADAD THE EDOMITE 11:14-22

14-16) Edom defeated by David and Joab.

14) The Lord raised up...Hadad.

17-20) Hadad grew up, married, had a son and was a favorite of Pharaoh.

21,22) Hadad wants his own rule even though Pharaoh wants him to stay.

b. REZON 11:23-25

23) God raised up...Rezon also.

24) Rezon had deserted Hadadezer with his troops while David was winning the war.

Rezon accepted Damascus and ruled Syria from there.

c. JEROBOAM'S REBELLION 11:26-40

26) [Lifted up his hand] = rebelled.

27-39) Details of the rebellion.

27,28) Jeroboam was a worker and an officer for Solomon.

29-39) Jeroboam meets Ahijah the prophet.

- 30) Ahijah's garment.
- 31) The tearing of cloth - it was already in Jehovah's mind that the kingdom is to be torn from Solomon.
- 38) The same promise is made to Jeroboam as was made to David and Solomon.
- 39) The affliction of David's line will not last forever.
- 40) Egypt is the refuge again.

d. DEATH OF SOLOMON 11:41-43
CF: 2 CHRON 9:29-31

- 42) He reigned 40 years.
 - 43) He was buried in Jerusalem.
- Rehoboam (Solomon's son) reigns.

II. THE EARLY KINGS OF THE DIVIDED MONARCHY Ch 12-16:28

A. REHOBOAM'S FOLLY, THE REVOLT UNDER JEROBOAM .. Ch 12-14

1. SECESSION OF ISRAEL 12:1-24
CF: 2 CHRON 10:1-19

- 1) Why Shechem?
 This is in Ephraim - why not come to Jerusalem where they should have come?
- 2,3) Jeroboam was called from Egypt and is already leading the ten tribes.
 They did not want to make Rehoboam king so they were looking for an occasion to make Jeroboam king and secede.
- 4) Taxes are the answer for leverage.
 Can we believe they would have accepted lower taxes?
 Rehoboam has by now made many aware of the promise he received through Ahijah the prophet.
- 5) Rehoboam shows wisdom by taking council.

6,7) Good advise!

8) Rehoboam knows what the advice of his boyhood chums will be.

9-11) The thinking of youth hasn't changed much.

We have a good thing going, so lets make it better any way we can. Arrogance!

12-15) His chums provided him with courage and he provides Israel with the excuse they were looking for.

TWO "WRONGS" NEVER DID MAKE A "RIGHT."

But, even between two strong wills and two sections of the country God can and still will work His will among the nations and among men.

16) Arrogance!

17) All Jews, regardless of tribe, who lived in Judah were ruled by Rehoboam.

18,19) It appears Rehoboam saw his mistake and sends his tribute man to arbitrate.

But this man, of all men, was the wrong man to send. Do not send the tax collector to arbitrate taxes!

Rehoboam must flee or die.

20) None...but the tribe of Judah only - includes all Israelites in Judah and Benjamin.

Israel = Ephraim = 10 tribes.

Judah = David = 2 tribes.

21) 180,000 warriors to subdue Israel.

22-24) Shemaiah sent to stop Judah by telling all - by telling that this renting (but not the rebellion) was from Jehovah. Cf: 2 Chron 11:1-4.

God and wisdom prevail.

This is the only mention of Shemaiah.

23) 180,000 to 1 (+ Jehovah) and he prevails.

2. FOUNDING OF THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL 12:25-33

25) Jeroboam selects Shechem as his capital.

Built = fortify.

26,27) These verses are the key to all the illegal changes Jeroboam made in worship.

28) It is too much!

a. Making religion easy!

b. Not false religion but false worship! Cf: Ex 32:1-4.

29) Bethel - actually in Benjamin's territory. Cf: Josh 18:13,22.

Dan - northern edge of the kingdom. Previously Laish. Cf: Jud 18:26ff.

But not at his own place of residence in Shechem.

30) This was sin. Cf: Ex 20:4.

Before the one "or the other" is understood.

31) A new priesthood. Cf: 2 Chron 11:13-15.

From every class = [of the lowest] = from all the people.

32,33) He changed the Feast of Ingatherings from the 7th month and 15th day to the 8th month and the 15th day.

Their grains were harvested 30 days later in the north but this was no reason to violate the law.

But not all the people were happy with Jeroboam's changes! Cf: 2 Chron 11:16,17.

3. GOD REJECTS JEROBOAM AND HIS FALSE RELIGION Ch 13

a. PROPHECY AGAINST IDOLATROUS WORSHIP . 13:1-10

1,2) Notice the man of God comes out of Judah!

Josiah - 330 years later. Cf: 2 Kgs 23:15,16.

- 3) The sign named and given as proof of the prophecy.
- 4) Jeroboam would now truly put his kingdom above Jehovah's authority.
Jehovah acted immediately.
- 5) The sign is fulfilled.
- 6) Jeroboam recognizes and respects Jehovah's power.
- 7) Jeroboam used another means of distraction - bribery and compromise.
- 8-10) Refusal based on God's specific commands.

b. TREACHERY OF AN OLD PROPHET 13:11-32

11-13) The old prophet hears of the events and direction of the returning younger prophet.

14,15) Why did the older prophet want him to come to his house?

- a. Guilty conscience for not rebuking Jeroboam himself?
- b. Wanting fellowship with one of like mind?
- c. Learn more of what Jehovah had to say?
- d. We are not told!

16,17) The same refusal on the same grounds - God said so!

18,19) The older prophet lied to him.

Why did the younger prophet not go to Jehovah for confirmation?

20-22) The old prophet receives a revelation:

- a. It condemns the younger prophet for disobedience.
- b. It forces the truth out of the older prophet's own mouth.

23,24) The prophecy fulfilled quickly.

Neither animal acted according to nature.

25,26) News travels fast, especially of a miracle.

27-30) Recovery and burial of the body in the old prophet's own grave.

31,32) The old prophet wants to be honored by being buried with a true prophet of God.

NOTE: This incident with the prophets clearly shows God does not interfere with man's free choices BUT God will still use him to further His cause.

And He will do it even if the person is not a willing partner of God's.

c. ANYBODY CAN BE A PRIEST - EVEN A KING! . 13:33,34

33,34) The consequences of Jeroboam's sins are to be visited upon him and his children.

4. REIGN AND DEATH OF JEROBOAM 14:1-20

1-3) Abijah is ill and Jeroboam feels maybe Ahijah, the old prophet who gave him good news of receiving the kingdom of Israel, might give him good news now also.

Only go disguised. Who can hide from Jehovah?

Loaves, crumbs and honey - a gift any poor woman might bring to a prophet.

4) She obeys - Ahijah is blinded with old age.

5,6) Jehovah reveals the plot to Ahijah and gives him an ominous message for her.

7-9) This news is the result of Jeroboam disobeying Jehovah's warnings. Cf: 11:28.

10) All males will die in Jeroboam's house.

Takes away refuse = [taketh dung] = sweeps dung.

11) Not one will die an honorable death.

12) Here is how you will know all will come to pass!

13) There was some good in Abijah, therefore he will be the only son to die honorably.

14) The cutting off of Jeroboam's house will be complete. Cf: 15: 27-29.

15,16) Israel will go into captivity because of the sins which Jeroboam led them into.

17,18) Again, the sign is fulfilled soon.

19,20) Jeroboam dies after reigning 22 years. Cf: 2 Chron 13:20.

Nadab his son is made king.

5. REIGN AND DEATH OF REHOBOAM 14:21-31

21) Rehoboam's mother was Naamah an Amorite.

He reigned 17 years.

NOTE: The queen mother of each king of Judah is named. This indicates the power a wife has over her husband and more directly over her sons.

AS SHE TRAINS HIM SO GOES THE NATION!

2 Chron 11:5-12) Rehoboam's fortifications.

2 Chron 11:18-23) Rehoboam's family.

2 Chron 11:22) Rehoboam wanted to make his son Abijah king.

22-24) Judah sinned greatly and angered Jehovah. Cf: 2 Chron 12: 1,14.

High places = places of idol worship.

Sacred pillars = [images] - erected where "revelations" came.

Originally from Jehovah but others were placed beside them and nobody could tell the difference between the true and the false.

Perverted persons = [sodomites] = homosexuals.

All the evils practiced by the heathens.

25,26) Shishak was a plunderer not a destroyer.

Shishak plundered Jerusalem because Judah had sinned against Jehovah. Cf: 2 Chron 12:2-12.

27,28) Brass shields for gold. And now kept in the guard house not in the Forest of Lebanon.

29-31) Death of Rehoboam. Cf: 2 Chron 12:13-16.

War between = animosity not actual physical war. Cf: 2 Chron 12:15b.

Abijam his son reigns. Cf: 2 Chron 12:16-13:2.

B. ABIJAM AND ASA OF JUDAH 15:1-24

1. REIGN OF ABIJAM IN JUDAH 15:1-8

1-3) He was an evil king.

4,5) But for David's sake Jehovah let him reign.

6,7) Enmity continued between Judah and Israel.

2 Chron 13:2-30) The war between Abijam and Jeroboam.

Jeroboam and Israel defeated - lose 500,000 men.

8) Abijam dies. Cf: 2 Chron 13:22-14:1.

Asa reigns.

2. REIGN OF ASA KING OF JUDAH 15:9-24

9,10) The same mother's name is used for Abijam:

- a. Still living, she probably still held the office of Queen Mother.
- b. With no mention of Asa's mother, she may have died as a young woman.
- c. Maachah's example of evil is important in the narrative.

11-14) Asa was a good king. Cf: 2 Chron 14:2-5; 15:8-19.

- a. He eliminated homosexuality.
- b. Removed the idols of the false gods.
- c. Removed the Queen Mother for Idolatry.
- d. High places were not removed - could possibly refer to places where offerings were made to Jehovah or they would have been removed.

2 Chron 14:6-8) Asa builds fortified cities.

15) He made many gifts to Jehovah.

2 Chron 14:9-15) Asa defeats Zerah and the Ethiopians.

2 Chron 15:1-7) The prophet Azariah's advice to Asa:

- a. Seek Jehovah - v. 2,
- b. Judah has turned from Jehovah - v. 3,
- c. Seek Jehovah and you will find Him - v. 4,
- d. Therefore be strong - v. 7.

16-22) Asa's trouble with Baasha king of Israel. Cf: 2 Chron 15:19-16:6.

16) Baasha wants to seal Judah up - an act of war.

17-19) Asa sends gifts to Benhadad, king of Syria, and he helps by going to war against Israel.

20-22) Baasha quits his project and Asa removed all of Baasha's building materials and fortified Geba and Mizpah.

2 Chron 16:7-10) The warnings of the prophet Hanani - Asa had relied on human strength instead of Jehovah's.

Asa imprisons Hanani and oppresses some of the people.

23) Diseased in the feet - not told what - gout? Cf: 2 Chron 16: 11-14.

23) Asa dies. Cf: 22:41,42; 2 Chron 17:1; 20:31.

Jehoshaphat his son reigns.

C. NADAB, BAASHA AND ELAH OF ISRAEL 15:25-16:14

1. REIGN OF NADAB OF ISRAEL 15:25-32
CF: 14:20

25,26) He was an evil king.

27-30) Baasha kills Nadab and every member of Jeroboam's family.

This was predicted by Jehovah in 14:10,14.

31,32) Enmity continues between Judah and Israel.

2. REIGN OF BAASHA OF ISRAEL 15:33-16:6

33,34) He was no better than Jeroboam.

16:1-4) Because of his sinning just like Jeroboam, his family will be cut off just like Jeroboam's.

5,6) Baasha dies.

Elah his son reigns.

3. REIGN OF ELAH OF ISRAEL 16:6,7

7) Baasha's house to be eliminated:

- a. He did evil like Jeroboam, and
- b. He killed the house of Jeroboam.

Baasha's wickedness proves his extermination of Jeroboam's family had selfish interests and were NOT righteous acts under Jehovah's direction.

Jehovah had condemned him for these actions but would not have done so if he had been obeying the Lord in doing them.

8) Elah reigns for two years.

4. REIGN OF ZIMRI OF ISRAEL 16:9-14

9,10) A plot of treason carried out by Zimri.

11-14) All the house of Baasha is killed because of Baasha's leading Israel further into sin and idolatry.

D. ZIMRI AND OMRI OF ISRAEL 16:15-28

15,16) The people of Israel do not accept Zimri so they make Omri king.

17-20) Omri captures Tirzah and Zimri burns the palace down over himself.

21,22) Divided kingdom in Israel - two kings!

Tibni co-regent with Omri.

23-28) Reign of Omri.

23,24) Samaria is purchased and becomes the capital of Israel until its destruction and dispersion.

25-28) Omri was the worse yet - beware his son!

III. THE PERIOD OF ALLIANCE BETWEEN JUDAH AND ISRAEL 16:29-2 KGS 9

A. AHAB AND ELIJAH IN THE TEST ON MT CARMEL 16:29-Ch 18

1. BEGINNING OF THE REIGN OF AHAB OF ISRAEL . . . 16:29-33

29,30) Ahab is worse than all including his father Omri!

31) He marries a foreigner named Jezebel.

32,33) Baal and Asherah are their gods and they then become the national gods also.

2. THE REBUILDING OF JERICHO 16:34

34) Jericho is rebuilt by Heil and the prophecy of Josh 6:26 is fulfilled!

a. Laying of the foundation - loss of first born - Abiram.

b. Setting of the gates - loss of youngest - Segub.

3. CONFRONTATION AND FAMINE FORETOLD 17:1

1) Elijah leaves no questions on:

a. Who sent him,

b. Where he stands religiously, and

c. What authority he has.

4. ELIJAH HIDES BY THE BROOK CHERITH 17:2-7

2,3) By Jehovah's command.

Three obvious reasons:

- a. To keep anyone from coming to him to beg him to cause the drought to cease,
 - b. To protect him from Ahab and Jezebel, and
 - c. To increase his confidence in and reliance on Jehovah.
- 4-6) The feeding by ravens would have removed any possibility of any man revealing where Elijah was hidden.
- 7) Drought dries up the brook confirming Jehovah is with him.

5. PROVIDING FOR ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH 17:8-16

8,9) Jehovah's command to go find the chosen widow.

Zarephath is between Tyre and Sidon and is a Gentile town.

NOTICE: Jehovah turns to Gentiles when his people are weak. Cf: Lk 4:25,26.

10-12) Elijah's first test to see if this is the right woman.

She answers: "The Lord your God."

15,16) She has genuine faith in Jehovah and passes the second test.

6. ELIJAH RAISES THE WIDOW'S SON 17:17-24

17,18) The son is ill and dies.

She sees this as punishment for sin. This is further proof she believes in Jehovah.

19,20) This is a deep sincere prayer!

The idea of this statement is, "Can you truly not let this widow's son live?"

21) The prayer is then made into a very pointed and short request.

22) Jehovah responds with grace.

23,24) She receives her son alive and her faith is deepened:

- a. Not just from knowing Elijah is a man of God, but
- b. From knowing Jehovah's words are truth.

7. ELIJAH GOES TO MEET AHAB 18:1-16

1,2) Jehovah tells Elijah to go to Ahab.

3-6) Ahab and his officer, Obadiah, search for food for their livestock.

7-16) Obadiah's objection.

7,8) Obadiah recognized Elijah.

9-12) Obadiah fears to tell Ahab.

10) Ahab had searched diligently for Elijah but the Lord had hidden him well.

11,12) His true fear is the Holy Spirit will remove Elijah and he will not be found again.

This would have been treason in Ahab's eyes and he would have Obadiah killed.

Obadiah is a worshiper of Jehovah not Baal and had never worshiped the idol.

13) Proof of this is in his hiding and feeding so many men of God and at his own peril.

14-16) Elijah confirms to Obadiah he will be there when Ahab returns.

NOTICE: Ahab comes to meet Elijah and on Elijah's terms!

8. ELIJAH'S CHALLENGE 18:17-24

17-20) Gather your people!

17) Notice Ahab blames Elijah for the famine.

18) The real trouble is the worshiping of false gods and Ahab is to blame.

19,20) 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah.

Just like so many today who preach for profit in the “winning” religions.

- 21) Elijah’s challenge - the people are silent.
- 22) Elijah increases the challenge with hyperbole but still draws out the odds clearly.
- 23,24) Notice Elijah gives the false prophets first choice and the first opportunity to prove whose god is God.

9. JEHOVAH VERSUS BAAL 18:25-40

- 25,26) They try for half a day but there is no fire - even after all of their frenzy.
- 27) Elijah’s mocking - no true god could:
 - a. Be talking and not also hear at the same time.
 - b. Be preoccupied or pursuing and not hear.
 - c. Be on a journey and not also be present.
 - d. Be asleep - true god is a spirit and a spirit never sleeps.
- 28) Their frenzy now turns into blood-letting.
- 29) They prophesied - this is what they (Baal worshipers, etc.) called the groans and cries that came from the blood-letting.
- 30-38) Elijah’s sacrifice.
- 30-32) Elijah repairs the altar.

The origin of this altar is unknown.

The twelve stones show all Israel was to share the same worship under the same rules.

- 33-35) Elijah prepared the sacrifices the same way but also added water three times.
- 36,37) The prayer of a righteous man!
- 38) The sacrifice is accepted.

The fire from Jehovah consumed:

- a. Burnt sacrifices,
- b. Wood,
- c. Stones,
- d. Dust around the altar, and
- e. Water in the trench.

- 39) Confession that Jehovah is God!
- 40) The prophets are killed. Cf: Rev 14:15-20.

10. THE DROUGHT ENDS 18:41-46

- 41) There is the sound of an abundance of rain.
- 42) Ahab is to wait while Elijah prays.
- 43,44) Faith in Jehovah sees rain in a little cloud.

Such confidence - he even tells Ahab to hurry home or his chariot will get stuck in the mud.

- 45,46) Elijah is miraculously helped by Jehovah and he outruns Ahab to Jezebel (approximately 16 miles).

B. AHAB AND ELIJAH UNTIL AHAB'S DEATH Ch 19-22

1. ELIJAH'S FLIGHT TO HOREB 19:1-8

- 1-3) Ahab reports to Jezebel.

Jezebel is angered by the loss of her followers so threatens Elijah's life. She uses an oath!

QUESTION: Was this fear for his physical life or for his spiritual life?

- 4) Elijah goes farther than Judah where he would have been safe anyway.

How bitter it must have been to have accomplished so great a victory for Jehovah and immediately be attacked by his greatest rival, Jezebel.

This type of conflict gives weariness to the body as well as to the soul!

5-8) Jehovah prepares Elijah for a long journey to Horeb.

Rest and food for a dying man?

No! For a man who will wander 40 days in the wilderness and learn again to let Jehovah perform His will in his life.

2. A STRONG LESSON FOR THE PROPHET 19:9-18

9) A cave should be "The cave." Cf: Ex 33:17-23.

What are you doing here? Jehovah wants to hear what is in this soul after 40 days of fasting and wandering.

10) Elijah is convinced the cause, as it stands now, is lost - "I, even I only, am left!"

11,12) In this solitude he sees:

- a. Strong wind - [tempest],
- b. Earthquake,
- c. Fire, then
- d. Hears a still small voice.

13) Awesome circumstances and Elijah responds with great respect.

A still small voice - Jehovah came to him in mercy not vengeance.

14) Elijah answers the same as before.

15-17) When feeling low, get to work!

15) Anoint Hazael king of Syria.

16) Anoint Jehu king of Israel.

Anoint Elisha as prophet to take your place.

Jehovah's work will go forward!

17) Jehovah will avenge Jehovah!

18) And now, a lesson for Elijah. Jehovah is not without a faithful remnant!

3. ELISHA RECEIVES HIS CALL 19:19-21

- 19) Elisha was wealthy - 12 yoke of oxen.

To cast the mantle was to give him the call to be a prophet.

- 20) Elisha wishes to say goodbye to his parents.

And Elijah says he does not want to burden him but wants him to come of own free will.

- 21) He gave a feast and left tending 12 yoke of oxen for tending 12 tribes of Israel.

4. AHAB'S FIRST VICTORY 20:1-21

- 1) 32 kings = 32 satraps = vassal rulers.

- 2,3) Conditions of peace.

- 4) Ahab accepts.

- 5,6) The conditions are literally unconditional surrender.

- 7,8) This was not acceptable to Ahab or his counselors.

- 9,10) Benhadad's challenge to destroy Samaria.

- 11) Compare with an old Latin Proverb: "Ne triumphum canas ante victoriam?" (This requires a "no" answer). Lit: "Does triumph a dog before victory?"

- 12) Benhadad accepts the counter challenge.

- 13,14) God is not through with Israel yet. He sends a prophet with news of victory.

Ahab asks

God answers

Who will fight?

The young men.

Who will lead?

You!

- 15) 7,000 to give victory - not the 7,000 of 19:18.

- 16-21) Israel is victorious over a nation whose leaders are drunk.

5. AHAB'S SECOND VICTORY 20:22-34

22) The prophet comes to warn Ahab that they will return next spring.

23-25) Benhadad receives advice:

- a. Jehovah is a god of the hills only,
- b. Replace the kings with generals, and
- c. Muster an identical army in numbers.

Jehovah is a god of the hills:

- a. Jerusalem is a hill fortress,
- b. The temple is in Jerusalem, and
- c. Altars were numerous in high places.

26,27) Benhadad comes to fight and Ahab's small force looks like two little flocks of goats beside a giant herd of cattle.

28) Jehovah gives the victory to Ahab for two reasons:

- a. They say I am a god of the hills only, and
- b. You (plural) shall know that I am the Lord.

29) 10,000 slain.

30) Jehovah slays 27,000 more.

Into an inner chamber - Lit: room to room - a fleeing from room to room in battle.

31) Unconditional surrender - ropes around their necks.

32) Benhadad - his brother?

How Ahab vacillates! A very weak personality.

Benhadad should be killed:

- a. He opposed Jehovah,

- b. To give God's people rest from his wars, and
- c. A lesson to all peoples.

33,34) A treaty made (a forced one however):

- a. Return cities taken from Israel, and
- b. Make streets (open markets) in Damascus.

6. JEHOVAH'S DISAPPROVAL AND CONDEMNATION . . 20:35-43

35-40) A visual aid.

35,36) It is still a fearful thing not to obey Jehovah and not to use His sword to combat all error!

37) Obedience - smote and cut him - not a fake wound but one which would convince anyone his tale was true.

38) A bandage = [with ashes] = headband.

39,40) The object lesson cannot be misunderstood when applied to Benhadad.

LOST OPPORTUNITIES BRING PUNISHMENT!

41) The prophet reveals his true identity.

42) A man whom I appointed to utter destruction - Lit: "man of My ban."

The penalty:

- a. Your life for Benhadad's, and
- b. Your people for Benhadad's.

43) Sullen and displeased (morose) = [heavy and displeased].

7. THE MURDER AND ROBBERY OF NABOTH Ch 21

a. NABOTH'S VINEYARD COVETED BY AHAB 21:1-3

1-3) Ahab's request - request denied.

Jezreel - the summer palace of Ahab.

This was a good business offer.

Naboth refused:

- a. It was his inheritance, he wanted it and
- b. It was illegal. Cf: Lev 25:23-28; Num 36:7-9.

b. JEZEBEL CAUSES NABOTH'S DEATH 21:4-16

- 4) Ahab was a pouter. Cf: 20:43.
- 5-7) Enter Jezebel. "Are you not king? I'll get it for you!"
- 8-10) Jezebel's orders for the elders and sons of Belial.
- 11-14) Their answer. "Yes ma'am. Anything else?"
- 15,16) Go take your vineyard, King Ahab!

Naboth's sons were killed with him. Cf: 2 Kgs 9:26.

It was also understood that the property of one guilty of treason was transferred to the king.

c. AHAB'S DOOM PRONOUNCED BY ELIJAH . . . 21:17-26

- 17-19) Elijah told to meet Ahab and give him Jehovah's condemnation.
Dogs shall lick your blood where they licked Naboth's.
- 20) My enemy - when we belong to God many will consider us their enemies.
NOTE: Sold himself to do evil!
- 21-24) Your house shall also be cut off just like Jeroboam's and Baasha's.
- 23) Jezebel's death will be more humiliating than Ahab's.
- 25,26) The wickedness of Ahab.

**d. AHAB'S REPENTANCE GAINS HIM A
LITTLE RELIEF 21:27-29**

- 27-29) True repentance - but not long lasting.

27) Went about mourning = [went softly] = walked very slowly.

29) Because of true repentance God's judgments will wait until his death.

8. DEATH OF AHAB 22:1-40

1) If Ahab had killed Benhadad there would have been peace for a much longer time.

2-4) Judah and Israel agree to fight Ahab's brother Benhadad. Cf: 2 Chron 18:2,3.

Ahab and Jehoshaphat had given their children to each other in marriage.

5-7) Inquire of Jehovah - but do it right! Cf: 2 Chron 18:4,5.

8,9) This is a prophet of Jehovah!

I hate him - why? Because he only tells the truth. Cf: 2 Chron 18:6-8.

10-13) False prophets versus true prophets again! Cf: 2 Chron 18:9-11.

14-28) Michaiah's prophecy. Cf: 2 Chron 18:12-27.

14) Michaiah will tell them only what he has been instructed to say.

15,16) When Michaiah spoke good for Ahab, Ahab knew it was not true.

It is a horrible thing when one can know that any good prophecy from God concerning him could not be true.

It means he knows his life is not in any way being lived in the way Jehovah would have him live.

17,18) Truth is spoken and Ahab knows it is evil for him.

19-25) Good spirits versus evil spirits.

19) Because of what you believe I now tell you what actually happened.

20-23) Who was the lying spirit?

Was God lying?

Was this Satan's way? - Cf: Job 1:6,7; 2:1,2; 1 Pet 5:8.

24,25) Zedekiah knew he had had a revelation!

This made him all the more bold.

26-28) Micaiah to be imprisoned until Ahab returns but Michaiah affirms the message anyway.

29-36) Judah and Israel are defeated. Cf: 2 Chron 18:28-34.

Ahab wounded as predicted.

34) At random = [at a venture] - what missile will you send out in your life and then let God direct it?

Will that missile be you or your children?

36) The Jews were not chased after their defeat.

37-39) Death of Ahab. The dogs lap his blood. Cf: 21:19.

40) Ahaziah, Ahab's son, reigns.

9. REIGN OF JEHOSEPHAT OF JUDAH 22:41-50

2 Chron 17:1-6) Jehoshaphat strengthens his kingdom and is loyal to Jehovah.

2 Chron 17:7-9) Jehoshaphat send out priests. Levites to teach the law.

2 Chron 17:10-18:1) Jehoshaphat increases in power. The nations feared the Lord.

46) Jehoshaphat continued to fight sodomy. Cf: 2 Chron 20:32,33.

48,49) Jehoshaphat's navy was defeated before it sailed. Cf: 2 Chron 20:35-37.

A result of an evil alliance.

50) Jehoshaphat dies.

Jehoram his son reigns.

10. REIGN OF AHAZIAH IN ISRAEL 22:51-53

51-53) Ahaziah begins his reign. He is evil and worships Baal. Cf: 2 Chron 19:1-3.

2 KINGS

C. AHAZIAH OF ISRAEL Ch 1

1. THE REBELLION OF MOAB 1:1

- 1) Moab had been in subjection to Israel after the kingdom had divided. Cf: 3:4,5; 2 Chron 19:4-11.

2 Chron 20:1-30) Judah's deliverance from Moab, Ammon and Edom.

2 Chron 20:1,2) The invasion.

2 Chron 20:3-12) Jehoshaphat's prayer - complete dependence upon Jehovah.

2 Chron 20:13-19) Jehovah's answer - the battle is Jehovah's!

2 Chron 20:20-24) Complete victory:

- a. Ammon and Moab fight against Edom and win.
- b. Then Ammon and Moab fight each other - no winner.
- c. The result is defeat for Jehovah's enemies!

2 Chron 20:25) Great spoils - more than they could carry.

2 Chron 20:26-30) Triumphant return to Jerusalem.

The fear of Jehovah came upon all:

- a. Israel, and
- b. Her enemies.

2. AHAZIAH'S FALL AND ELIJAH'S PREDICTION 1:2-4

- 2) Lattice - what kind is unknown; windows, air vents, etc.

Baal-Zebub = god of flies - supposedly had prophetic powers.

- 3) God against false gods again.

- 4) Because you are faithless you shall die.

3. THE MESSAGE DELIVERED TO AHAZIAH 1:5-16

- 5,6) The messengers deliver the message promptly.
- 7,8) Through their description he knows it is Elijah.
- 9,12) Who summons who?
- 9,10) Fire from heaven consumes the 50 soldiers.
- 11,12) Fire from heaven consumes another 50 soldiers.
- 13,14) The humility of the third captain saves him and his soldiers.
- 15,16) Elijah personally delivers the message to Ahaziah.

4. DEATH OF AHAZIAH 1:17,18

- 17,18) Ahaziah dies as Elijah said he would! Cf: 3:1-3.
Jehoram reigns in his stead (not Ahaziah's son). Cf: 1 Kgs 22:50.

D. THE ANOINTING OF ELISHA AND DEATH OF ELIJAH Ch 2

1. ELIJAH'S ASCENSION TO HEAVEN 2:1-11

- 1,2) Elijah asks Elisha to wait while he goes to Bethel.
Elisha refuses and they go together.
- 3) The sons of the prophets at Bethel ask a question.
Hold your peace!
- 4) Elijah asks Elisha to wait while he goes to Jericho.
Elisha refuses and they go together.
- 5) The sons of the prophets at Jericho ask the question.
Hold your peace!
- 6) Elijah asks Elisha to wait while he goes to Jordan.
Elisha refuses and they go together.

7) 50 sons of the prophets stand apart and watch.

8) Elijah's last miracle.

9,10) Elisha's great request - a double portion!

The qualification given.

11) Elijah taken.

2. THE OFFICE OF "PROPHET OF GOD" IS TRANSFERRED TO ELISHA 2:12-15

12) Taken as a king in power - Elisha is grieved at his loss.

13,14) Elisha takes up the mantle, which is his sign of office, and performs his first miracle.

Identical to Elijah's last miracle.

15) The sons of the prophets acknowledge Elisha as their new leader as appointed by Jehovah.

How? By bowing in homage and submission (not worship).

3. RETURN OF ELISHA TO JERICHO AND BETHEL 2:16-25

16-18) It appears they feared Elijah's body was left behind as in normal deaths.

Ashamed = ashamed to not let them go.

19-22) Elisha made the water at Jericho whole.

19) Good land with bad water is still bad.

20) Salt as a symbol - for preservation.

21,22) Elisha, with Jehovah's powers, cures the water.

This is a great blessing for these people.

23-25) God's judgment on mockers.

23) Like fathers - like sons. Imitating their elder's feelings.

Baldhead - a term of scorn and ridicule.

- 24) Jehovah showed His wrath on those who scorn His people, even if it is with words.
- 25) Elisha returns to Samaria.

E. JEHORAM AND JEHOSHAPHAT AGAINST THE MOABITES Ch 3

1. REIGN OF JEHORAM (JORAM) IN ISRAEL 3:1-3

- 1-3) False worship is just as bad as false gods!

Jehoram is an evil king.

2. THE JOINT CAMPAIGN AGAINST MOAB 3:4-27

a. PLANNING OF THE CAMPAIGN 3:4-8

- 4,5) Rebellion of Mesha king of Moab. Cf: 1:1.
- 6-8) Another alliance.

Edom is conscripted. Traveling through Edom's area would keep them in subjection and they would not rebel.

b. THE PLIGHT OF THE ALLIES 3:9-14

- 9,10) No water - no victory!
- 11,12) Jehoshaphat still wants Jehovah's word.
- 11) Poured water = trained at his side and served him.
- 12) Notice who goes to whom.
- 13,14) Elisha shows his indignation for Jehoram.

c. THE PROPHECY OF ELISHA 3:15-20

Here is what to do!

- 15) Why a musician? No answer given.
- Him = Elisha.

16-18) The river will flow with water.

17) This will happen without them seeing or hearing the rainstorms up river that will bring the water.

18) Trivial thing = [light thing] = not enough.

Jehovah will also deliver the Moabites.

19,20) Jehovah shows His acceptance of the morning offering by fulfilling His words.

What should this have said to Jehoram?

d. THE DEFEAT OF MOAB 3:21-27

21-23) The soil here is red (like Oklahoma's).

22) The early red look of the sun on the reddish water would look like blood.

24) Moab comes in disarray in order to spoil so they are easily defeated.

Jehovah's second victory.

25) When Israel took Canaan they were to spare the fields and fruit trees but this is Moab. Cf: Deut 20:19,20.

26) Moab attempts to escape but can not.

27) Human sacrifice.

Why indignation against Israel? We are not told.

Indignation among themselves for being the occasion for human sacrifice?

It would seem, however, that this kind of indignation would have caused them to fight harder and punish such an act.

Could it be that it was the indignation of the Moabites because of the sacrifice of the crown prince, and they fought all the harder until Israel and Edom ceased fighting?

F. MIRACLES OF ELISHA: CLEANSING OF NAAMAN Ch 4,5

1. THE CRUSE OF OIL 4:1-7

1) Her husband had been among the “sons of the prophets.”

2,3) Elisha uses what she has.

Not...just a few = all you can beg or borrow.

4,5) A private (not public) miracle.

5) Obedience is the key.

6) The miracle ceased when the provisions ceased.

7) Debts paid and a living secured.

2. THE SHUNAMMITE AND HER SON 4:8-37

8,9) Notice: Her kindness was extended before she knew he was a man of God.

10) More accommodations are prepared for him.

11-17) Elisha’s (and Jehovah’s) approval of this good woman.

13) He asked if she needed any help with those around her.

I dwell among my own people = I am at peace with those around me.

14) The answer is in the removal of shame - she has no sin!

15-17) Jehovah’s answer is to give her her greatest possible joy.

18-21) The death of the son appears to be from sun-stroke.

22-24) She goes to the only one who can help her.

23) It is well = [it shall be well] = Shalom.

a. Spiritual and physical well being, or

b. It was also used as a reply of non-committal.

25,26) She is met by Gehazi but she will not be deterred.

27-30) Gehazi's effort bore no visible results.

33-35) A slow working miracle.

36) The son restored.

37) The grateful heart.

3. PURIFYING FOOD 4:38-41

38-41) God takes care of His own. Then by miracles and providence but now by providence and guidance through His word the Bible.

False doctrine is also "death in the pot." Only the working of God's word can cure it.

4. MIRACLE OF THE LOAVES 4:42-44

Cf: Mt 14:16-21; 15:32-38.

5. CURING OF NAAMAN'S LEPROSY 5:1-19

1-4) Naaman hears of Jehovah's prophet through an unknown girl.

5) A gift befitting Naaman's status.

6) The king of Syria assumed the king of Israel had as much control over his prophets as he himself did.

7) Jehoram makes the mistake of not understanding the situation.

8) Elisha understands and calls for Naaman so that Jehovah might be magnified.

9,10) Elisha sends his servant with Jehovah's word. There will be no mistake about the source being Elisha himself.

11,12) Pride of office and person.

13) A wise servant!

Great results do not always take great deeds to accomplish them.

14) Seven - a perfect number.

Obedience required!

Dipped = ἐβαπτίσατο = immersed.

Little child = young man.

- 15-17) Naaman holds to the idea that you must be present where the god resides or take earth from his territory with you.
- 18) Naaman acknowledges his duties of office and asks that Jehovah pardon any sins he might incur in fulfilling that office.
- 19) Elisha can only send him in peace knowing Jehovah will provide for this heathen if his heart is set to do Jehovah's will.

6. PUNISHMENT FOR GEHAZI 5:20-27

- 20) Personal success was in sight. Success is a terrible temptation!
- 22-24) Personal gain is attained.
- 25-27) Sin has its punishments:

- a. Many times in this life, but
- b. Always in the next!

G. WARS WITH BEN-HADAD AND THE DELIVERANCE OF SAMARIA Ch 6,7

1. THE FLOATING AX HEAD 6:1-7

- 1,2) More room needed.
- 3) Elisha agrees to go also.
- 4,5) Borrowed = begged. Cf: Ex 3:22; 11:2; 12:35,36.

It is terrible to lose anything when you are poor!

- 6,7) Elisha makes the ax head float and it is recovered.

2. ELISHA AND THE SYRIANS 6:8-23

- 8) My camp will be = where I will raid and plunder.
- 9) Jehovah's help.

- 10) Warned = defended - Jehoram was winning the battles.
- 11) There must be a traitor.
- 12) Jehovah is greater in power than any traitor.
- 13,14) Locating and surrounding of Elisha by the Syrians.
- 15,16) One plus Jehovah is always a majority and victorious.
- 17) Let's open our spiritual eyes!
- 18) Blindness:
 - a. Some say mental,
 - b. Some say physical, but
 - c. Jehovah could do it any way He pleased!
- 19,20) Elisha takes them to the heart of Israel.
- 21) Eagerness for physical victory.
- 22,23) To kill them would not have helped:
 - a. Syria would have had a defeat only and would have continued to attack and plunder with vengeance.
 - b. Jehovah wanted Syria to know they could do nothing unless He, Jehovah, allowed it.

3. ELISHA AND THE FAMINE IN SAMARIA 6:24-Ch 7

- 24-29) Intensity of the siege and famine. Cf: Deut 28:45-58.
- 25) An ass is unclean and its head is the least edible.
Dove's dung - a lot of gathering for just a little bit.
- 27) "I cannot give you either food or drink."
- 28-29) Cannibalism at its worst.
- 30) Sackcloth as underwear!

- 31) A rash oath made in despair.
- 32) Messenger = executioner.

Hold him outside for the king has changed his mind and is right behind him a short way.
- 33) The situation is so bad the king asks Elisha why he should wait any longer for the end to come.

Why not give up now and die?
- 7:1) Elisha predicts the end of the siege and famine by showing how inexpensive food will be on the next day.
- 2) One of the king's advisors does not believe and his doom is also predicted.
- 3-11) The leprous men's dilemma.
- 3-5) A choice of deaths.
- 6,7) Jehovah's battle.
- 8) Private wealth.
- 9) COMPARE: Holding your peace (good news) and then judgment comes.
- 10,11) The king is informed.
- 12-16) Disbelief yet victory.
- 12) Fear of entrapment.
- 13,14) These five represented all Israel.
- 15,16) Plunder = [spoils] = salvation.
- 17-20) The unbelieving aide of the king dies as predicted.

H. ELISHA'S MISSION TO HAZAEL AND JEHU; THE DEATH OF JEZEBEL Ch 8,9

1. ELISHA'S VARIOUS WORKS 8:1-6

- 1-3) The Shunammite spared but still needs help upon her return.

4-6) The king, based on Gehazi's words, restores the woman's property.

2. ELISHA AND BEN-HADAD 8:7-15

7-10) Ben-Hadad is ill and wants to know if he will recover.

9) Again the gift matches the wealth of the asker.

10) He will not die of illness.

11-13) Hazael will be a wicked king.

14) He delivers the message.

15) Then kills him and becomes king in his place.

3. JEHOHAM REIGNS IN JUDAH 8:16-24

16-20) Jehoram reigns 8 years. Cf: 2 Chron 21:5,20a.

2 years as co-regent with Jehoshaphat.

18,19) Jehoram was evil. Cf: 2 Chron 21:6-11.

2 Chron 21:2-4) Jehoram kills all of his own brothers.

21-23) Edom and Libnah successfully revolt against Judah. Cf: 2 Chron 21:19,20.

2 Chron 21:12-15) A message to Jehoram from Elijah, "You have sinned and caused Judah to sin, therefore the Lord will:

- a. Smite the people with a plague,
- b. And his wives,
- c. And his children,
- d. And all his substance, and
- e. You will die of a sickness of the bowels."

2 Chron 21:16-18) Fulfillment of the above curse from Jehovah.

24) Jehoram dies and Ahaziah reigns in Judah. Cf: 2 Chron 21: 19,20.

4. AHAZIAH REIGN IN JUDAH 8:25-29

26) Enter Athaliah, granddaughter (or daughter) of Omri.

27-29) Ahaziah was evil. Cf: 2 Chron 22:1-5.

He and Israel fought Syria and lost!

5. ANOINTING OF JEHU 9:1-10

1-3) Instructions of Elisha to a son of the prophets.

3) Flee and tarry not - not for fear but to prevent further discussion and involvement.

4-10) Instructions carried out.

4-6) Carrying out of the anointing.

5) Jehu is declared king.

7-10) Additional instructions not stated in vs. 1-3.

7) Strike down = [smite] = eliminate.

8,9) Totally removed like Jeroboam's and Baasha's families.

10) Special prophecy concerning Jezebel. Cf: Prov 6:16-19.

6. JEHU'S CONSPIRACY 9:11-29

11) Jehu hides the truth.

12) These men knew he was not telling the truth so he tells them of his anointing.

13) They accept him as king.

14,15) Do not let your conspiracy be made known. Cf: 2 Chron 22:6.

16-20) Joram's messengers do not return to him.

21-23) Joram and Ahaziah meet Jehu, discover his true mission and they flee.

24-26) Joram killed - arrow between the shoulder blades and out the heart. Cf: 2 Chron 22:7.

25) Burden = prophecy.

27-29) Death of Ahaziah. Cf: 2 Chron 22:9.

7. DEATH OF JEZEBEL 9:30-37

30) Preparing for death - not for allure!

31) Zimri - calling Jehu a murderer and conspirator!?

32) Even her close servants must have known her wrath for they turn on her.

33) Violent death - falling against the building and then trampled to death.

Hardly a death for a queen!

34) Burial for Jezebel. Even though she was evil, she was a king's daughter.

35-37) Prophecy of 1 Kgs 21:23 fulfilled.

IV. THE DECLINE AND FALL OF ISRAEL Ch 10-17

A. JEHU'S EXTERMINATION OF THE HOUSE OF OMRI AND THE WORSHIPERS OF BAAL Ch 10

1. EXECUTIONS OF THE 70 SONS OF AHAB 10:1-11

1-3) Jehu wants to know who will support him.

2) "You have the heir apparent and the means to make him king."

4,5) They fear Jehu and pledge their loyalty.

6,7) The second letter calls for the death of the 70 sons of Ahab and the rulers comply.

8-11) Jehu shares the fulfillment deeds with the people - they are now one people (nation).

11) Jehu also destroys all those who were close to Ahab.

2. EXECUTION OF THE BRETHREN OF AHAZIAH 10:12-17
CF: 2 CHRON 22:8

13) We have come down to greet the sons of the king and the sons of the queen mother. They were children of Ahab by concubines and therefore brothers of Joram.

14) So they were slain also.

15-17) Death to any seed remaining.

Rechab. Cf: Jer 35:6-19.

3. ELIMINATION OF THE PROPHETS OF BAAL 10:18-28

18,19) Jehu gathers the prophets together as part of his plot against them.

20,21) The temple had worshipers and prophets from one wall to the other.

22) Vestments would easily identify them all.

23) They do not slay any loyal to Jehovah.

24) If one escapes, you die. Cf: 1 Kgs 20:39.

25-28) Death of Baal in Israel.

4. REIGN OF JEHU IN ISRAEL 10:29-36

29-31) Jehu offers false worship!

32,33) Captivity begins during Jehu's reign.

35) Jehu dies.

Jehoahaz reigns in Israel.

B. ATHALIAH AND JOASH OF JUDAH Ch 11,12

1. THE REIGN OF ATHALIAH THE USURPER 11:1-3
CF: 2 CHRON 22:9-12

She is the only woman ruler!

1) Athaliah slays any who are left of the royal seed.

- 2) Jehosheba was the wife of Jehoiada. Cf: 2 Chron 21:11.

Bedroom = [bedchamber] = bedroom in the modern sense of the word. It was a chamber for storage of beds, mattresses, etc.

- 3) They hid him for six years.

2. CORONATION OF JOSIAH 11:4-12
CF: 2 CHRON 23:1-11

- 4) These were priests.

An oath of loyalty before showing them the king.

- 5-11) The battle plan.

- 5,6) The guards are divided into three groups, only one group working at a time.

Those coming on duty are also divided into three groups.

- 7,8) The other two groups receive their instructions.

- 9-11) The plan is carried out.

- 12) A boy king is crowned.

3. DEATH OF ATHALIAH 11:13-16
CF: 2 CHRON 23:12-15

- 15,16) She is removed between ranks of guards and killed outside the temple.

Any who would help her are to die also.

4. JEHOVAH CROWNED AND BAAL REMOVED 11:17-21
CF: 2 CHRON 23:16-21

- 17) The people repledge loyalty to Jehovah. They had fallen away.

- 18) Baal worship removed and its priests killed.

- 19,20) Jehoash (Joash) is king!

- 21) Jehoash is 7 years old. Cf: 2 Chron 24:1.

5. REIGN OF JOASH (JEHOASH) IN JUDAH Ch 12

1-3) Joash is a good king but he still allowed worship of Jehovah in high places. Cf: 2 Chron 23:2,3.

4-16) Repairing of the temple. Cf: 2 Chron 24:4-14.

4,5) For the need of repair see 2 Chron 24:7.

Sin offerings, freewill offerings and requested offerings were to be accepted for the repairs.

6,7) Joash takes the responsibility upon himself to do the repairs as they were not being completed.

8) Priests agreed not to be responsible for either repairs or collection.

9-12) Jehoida's chest is filled and the repairs are made.

13-16) Honesty of all involved.

2 Chron 24:15,16) Death of Jehoiada at age 130.

2 Chron 24:17-19) The idolatry of Joash and Judah.

17,18) Hazael is "bought off" and does not attack Jerusalem.

19,20) As a result Joash is slain by his own servants. Cf: 2 Chron 24:23-27.

21) Joash's slayers.

Amaziah his son reigns. Cf: 2 Chron 24:27-25:1.

C. JEHOAHAZ AND JEHOASH OF ISRAEL Ch 13

1. JEHOAHAZ SON OF JEHU REIGNS IN ISRAEL 13:1-9

2) He worshiped the calves = false worship.

3-5) Servitude - Sorrow and Supplication - Salvation - Sin!

Reminiscent of the period of the Judges!

5) Savior. Cf: v. 25 - Jehoash.
14:25,27 - Jeroboam II.
Son and grandson of Jehoahaz.

- 6) False worship and false gods.
- 7) A small army!
- 8,9) Jehoahaz dies.

2. REIGN OF JEHOASH (JOSIAH) OF ISRAEL 13:10-13

10-13) He was evil.

He fought against Amaziah of Judah.

Jeroboam II reigns in Israel.

2 Chron 24:20-22) The stoning of Zechariah son of Jehoiada.

3. DEATH OF ELISHA 13:14-21

14-19) Smite the arrows!

14) Joash (of Israel) mourns over Elisha. Cf: 2:12.

16) Showing Joash that his power come from Jehovah.

2 Chron 24:23,24) Judah defeated by very few Syrians.

17) Victory over Syria predicted.

18) Smite as in shooting (i.e.: smite a person with a bow and arrow).

19) By only shooting three times instead of five or six he showed a lack of zeal so he will have only a partial victory.

20,21) Life in the bones!

Not a grave as we know it today, but a burial place with a stone on top or in front.

God is the God of the living and the dead.

Miracles from where we think there is no life!

4. PROPHECY OF THREE VICTORIES FULFILLED 13:22-25

22-25) Would not “yet” destroy them or cast them from His presence [as yet].

D. AMAZIAH AND AZARIAH (UZZIAH) OF JUDAH AND JEROBOAM II OF ISRAEL 14:1-15:7

1. REIGN OF AMAZIAH OF JUDAH 14:1-22

1-4) He is a good king.

But the worship of Jehovah in the high places is still allowed. Cf: 2 Chron 25:2-5.

2 Chron 25:6-10) Amaziah hires 100,000 Israelite mercenaries but releases them after being warned by Jehovah.

5,6) Slaying of slayers. Cf: Mt 26:52; Deut 24:16.

7) He defeats Edom. Cf: 2 Chron 25:12 (identified as Petra).

2 Chron 25:13) The dismissed mercenaries from Israel attack and spoil Judah.

2 Chron 25:14-16) Amaziah worships the gods of the Edomites and rejects the prophet of Jehovah.

8-14) War between Amaziah (Judah) and Jehoash (Israel). Cf: 2 Chron 25:17-24.

8) Pride and revenge:

a. Revenge - 2 Chron 25:5-13 and

b. Pride - 2 Chron 25:14-16.

9,10) This response carries the idea that you should not reach beyond your means.

11,12) The battle goes to Israel.

13,14) Amaziah watches as the wall of Jerusalem is destroyed.

15,16) Jehoash dies.

Jeroboam II reign. Cf: 13:13.

17-20) Death of Amaziah (Judah). Cf: 2 Chron 25:25-28.

21,22) Azariah, his son, reigns. Cf: 2 Chron 26:2.

He is 16 years old.

He secures the victories over Edom.

Azariah = Uzziah.

Azariah = "In Jehovah is help."

Uzziah = "Whose strength is Jehovah."

2. REIGN OF JEROBOAM II IN ISRAEL 14:23-29

23,24) He was an evil king.

25) He was a strong king.

26,27) Jehovah gave him success because they had not yet been fully rejected.

28) Jeroboam II dies.

29) Zachariah his son reigns.

3. REIGN OF AZARIAH (UZZIAH) OF JUDAH 15:1-7 CF: 2 CHRON 26:1-3

1-3) He was a good king. Cf: 2 Chron 26:4,5.

4) Azariah left the high places.

2 Chron 26:6-8) Uzziah defeats the Philistines and the Arabians. The Ammorites were in subjection.

2 Chron 26:9,10) Uzziah fortifies Jerusalem. He enjoyed husbandry.

2 Chron 26:11-15) Uzziah had a strong army.

5) He became a leper. Cf: 2 Chron 26:16-21.

King = priest!

Jothan, his son, rules Azariah's house and judges Judah.

6,7) Azariah (Uzziah) dies. Cf: 2 Chron 26:22,23.

E. THE LAST KINGS OF ISRAEL: ZECHARIAH, SHALLUM, MENAHEM, PEKAHIAH, PEKAH AND HOSHEA 15:8-31

1. REIGN OF ZACHARIAH IN ISRAEL 15:8-12

8,9) He was evil.

10,11) He was killed.

12) Prophecy fulfilled to Jehu. Cf: 10:30.

2. REIGN OF SHALLUM IN ISRAEL 15:13-15

13) He reigns 1 month.

14) He is slain by Menahem.

3. REIGN OF MENAHEM IN ISRAEL 15:16-22

16) He was a very violent man.

Destruction of the unborn. Cf: Amos 1:13; Hos 13:16.

18) He was an evil king.

19,20) Assyria under Pul invades for the first time. Cf: 1 Chron 5:26.

Menahem buys Pul off.

Pul was the last king of Nineveh. After him the capital was moved to Babylon.

21,22) Menahem dies.

Pekahiah his son reigns.

4. REIGN OF PEKAHIAH IN ISRAEL 15:23-26

23,24) He was evil.

25,26) He was killed by one of his own captains.

5. REIGN OF PEKAH IN ISRAEL 15:27-29

28) He was evil.

29) Assyria comes again and takes Naphtali away into captivity.

6. REIGN OF HOSHEA IN ISRAEL 15:30,31

30,31) Pekah is killed by Hoshea.

Hoshea becomes the last king of Israel.

F. JOTHAM AND AHAZ OF JUDAH 15:32-Ch 16

1. REIGN OF JOTHAM IN JUDAH 15:32-38

32-34) He was a good king. Cf: 2 Chron 26:23-27:8.

35) He also left the high places.

2 Chron 27:5,6) Jotham subjugates the Ammorites.

37) Rezin of Syria and Pekah of Israel war against Judah.

38) Jotham dies. Cf: 2 Chron 27:7-9.

Ahaz, his son, reigns. Cf: 2 Chron 27:9-28:1.

2. REIGN OF AHAZ IN JUDAH Ch 16

1-4) He was an evil king. Cf: 2 Chron 28:1-4.

He worshiped idols, including Molech.

5) Rezin of Syria and Pekah of Israel attack Judah but do not prevail.

6) Rezin captures Elath. Cf: 2 Chron 28:5-8.

2 Chron 28:9-15) Israel also takes many captives and spoils, but the prophet Obed and certain princes procure their release.

2 Chron 28:17-19) Edom and Philistia invade and conquer parts of Judah.

7,8) Ahaz pays Tiglath-Pileser of Assyria to help him. Cf: 2 Chron 28:16-21.

9) Syria falls to Assyria and is taken captive.

10-18) Subjective religion sets its own rules.

10,11) Ahaz sends Urijah the priest a drawing of an altar he saw in Damascus. Urijah builds one like it.

12,13) Ahaz sacrifices to the gods of Damascus. Cf: 2 Chron 28:22-25.

14-18) Ahaz goes even further by altering Jehovah's appointed vessels and closing the doors of the temple. Cf: 2 Chron 28:24.

19,20) Death of Ahaz. Cf: 2 Chron 28:26,27.

Hezekiah, his son, reigns.

G. THE FALL OF SAMARIA: ITS RESETTLEMENT BY SEMI-CONVERTED PAGANS Ch 17

1-6) Reign of Joshea of Israel.

1,2) Hoshea was an evil king but not so bad as his predecessors.

3) Shalmaneser = Shalman (Hos 10:14) = Sargon (Isa 20:1).

4-6) Hoshea is taken prisoner.

This is the end of Israel as a nation!

7-18) Sins of Israel:

a. Served false gods - 7-12,

b. Refused to hear Jehovah's prophets - 13,14,

c. Rejected Jehovah's statutes - 15,16,

d. Sold themselves to do evil - 17,

Therefore Jehovah removed them out of His sight - 18.

19) Sins of Judah = sins of Israel.

20-23) Jehovah finally runs out of patience.

24-41) Results of the captivity.

24) Moving of captured peoples to different places. Cf: v. 6.

25-28) Jehovah sends lions among these heathen peoples so that they know Jehovah still rules.

28) Send a priest to teach the Gentiles.

29-34) They feared the Lord, yet served their own gods.

35-39) What Jehovah expected from Israel.

40) Israel did not listen to Jehovah.

41) Mixed worship by those removed into Israel.

V. THE JEWISH KINGDOM AFTER THE FALL OF SAMARIA Ch 18-25

A. HEZEKIAH AND SENNACHERIB Ch 18,19

1. REIGN OF HEZEKIAH IN JUDAH 18:1-8 CF: 2 CHRON 28:27-29:1

1-3) He was a good king. Cf: 2 Chron 29:2.

2 Chron 29:3-19) Hezekiah calls on the Levites. He has them sanctify themselves and cleanse the temple.

2 Chron 29:20-26) Sin offerings for all Israel.

Hezekiah sets the service of the house of the Lord in order.

2 Chron 30:1-12) Hezekiah sends letters to all Judah AND Israel to keep the passover.

Many scorned them but some responded.

2 Chron 30:13-22) The Lord accepted the nation's true repentance.

2 Chron 30:23-27) The congregation keeps another seven days just for the joy of the occasion.

2 Chron 31:2-21) Hezekiah restores the Law for offerings and there was great abundance.

4) Hezekiah destroyed the bronze serpent. Cf: Num 21:9; 2 Chron 31:1.

5-8) His faith in Jehovah was rewarded.

2. THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL REPEATED 18:9-12

3. THE INVASION OF SENNACHERIB 18:13-37
CF: ISA 36,37

13-17) Hezekiah trusts in vain riches and promises.

18-21) Sennacherib tells Hezekiah not to trust in Egypt.

22) Sennacherib tells Hezekiah not to trust in Jehovah. Cf: 2 Chron 32:9-15.

23,24) A challenge to pay tribute because they could not, even with proper means like horses, etc., defeat a weak lieutenant in their army.

25) Sennacherib claims direction from Jehovah also.

26,27) Speak in Syrian not Hebrew - they did not want everyone to hear their threat.

Cf: 2 Chron 32:16-19.

28) The request is rejected and the taunts begin again.

29) Do not trust in Hezekiah!

30) Do not trust in Jehovah!

31) Make peace with me and remain at home.

32) Until I remove you to another good home just like yours.

33,34) No other gods saved their peoples from me!

35) Is Jehovah any better?

36) The people were ordered not to answer the challenge.

37) Hezekiah is told.

The messengers rent their clothes because of the challenge and blaspheme of Jehovah.

4. JERUSALEM SPARED - DEATH OF SENNACHERIB Ch 19

- 1-5) Seek Jehovah's help!
 - 1) Hezekiah went to the temple and prayed.
- 2-5) Hezekiah sent word to Isaiah.
- 6-7) "Fear not Sennacherib" is Jehovah's answer:
 - a. Jehovah will defeat him, and
 - b. He will be slain in his own land.
- 8-13) Trouble for Sennacherib but he tries one last time to get Hezekiah to surrender.
- 9) Tirhakah of Ethiopia (Egyptian ruler) is attacking so Sennacherib has no time for a long siege of Jerusalem.
- 10) Do not trust in Jehovah. Cf: 2 Chron 32:17.
- 11-13) Sennacherib's boast:
 - a. We have conquered all - v. 11,
 - b. Their gods delivered them to us - vs 12, so
 - c. Where are those kings now? - v. 13.
- 14-19) The prayer of Hezekiah. Cf: 2 Chron 32:20.
- 14) Show and tell to Jehovah.
- 15) Praise.
- 16) Please hear your servant.
- 17) The Assyrians are victorious.
- 18) They destroyed false gods.
- 19) Therefore show the world who Jehovah is by sparing Judah.
- 20-34) Isaiah gives Jehovah's reply.

- 20) God hears prayer.
- 21,22) You (Sennacherib) have blasphemed Jehovah.
- 23-26) Speaking as boastful Sennacherib would have.
- 27,28) Jehovah knows all he does and will turn him around as a rider does his horse.
- 29-31) The signs which Jehovah gives.
- 29) The two-year siege will end and in the third year you will plant and harvest.
- 30,31) Just as the remnant of seed for planting is left, so there shall be a remnant for Jehovah.
- 32-34) Therefore Jehovah fights for Israel.
- 32) Sennacherib will not enter Jerusalem.
- 33) He shall go home the way he came.
- 34) The defense of Jerusalem is Jehovah's defense.
- 35-37) Jehovah's promises fulfilled. Cf: 2 Chron 32:21,22.
- 35) 185,000 Assyrians killed.
- No natural cause could do this in one night.
- 36) Sennacherib retreats.
- 37) Sennacherib slain by his own sons - prophecy fulfilled!

2 Chron 32:23) Hezekiah becomes prosperous again and is exalted by all nations.

B. HEZEKIAH'S ILLNESS: HIS DISPLAY OF WEALTH TO CHALDEAN ENVOYS Ch 20

**1. HEZEKIAH'S ILLNESS AND RECOVERY 20:1-22
CF: 2 CHRON 32:24ff**

- 1) Set your house in order!
- 2,3) Not a self-righteous prayer but an honest one.

To be cut off at age 40 was a disgrace.

To be cut off without a son was a disgrace (Manasseh was born during these 15 years).

4-7) God answers prayers:

- a. He will be healed,
- b. Add 15 years to his life, and
- c. Jehovah will defend Jerusalem.

8-11) The sign of Ahaz's sundial.

2. HEZEKIAH'S RECEPTION OF THE BABYLONIAN EMBASSY 20:12-19

12,13) Vanity is his ruin. Cf: 2 Chron 32:25,26,31.

14-19) Isaiah's condemnation.

15) Honesty on Hezekiah's part.

17) You will lose all.

18) You will lose your sons.

19) Grace to Hezekiah in that the punishment will not come in his life time.

2 Chron 32:27-30) Hezekiah prospered in all his works - wealth, fortified cities, etc.

2 Chron 32:2-8) Hezekiah prepares to defend against Sennacherib.

Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him; for there are more with us than with him. With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God, to help us and to fight our battles.

3. DEATH OF HEZEKIAH 20:20,21

20,21) Noted works of Hezekiah.

Hezekiah dies. Cf: 2 Chron 32:32,33.

Manasseh, his son, reigns.

C. WICKED KING MANASSEH: HIS SON AMON CH 21

1. REIGN OF MANASSEH IN JUDAH 21:1-18

1-9) He was evil:

- a. He built high places - v. 3,
- b. He built altars to Baal - v. 3,
- c. He erected groves - v. 3,
- d. He served all the host of heaven - v. 3,
- e. He built altars in the temple - v. 4,
- f. He built altars in the court of the temple - v. 5,
- g. He offered human sacrifices - v. 6,
- h. He practiced astrology - v. 6,
- i. He practiced witchcraft - v. 6,
- j. He set idols in the temple - v. 7,
- k. He did more evil than the nations God removed - v. 9,
- l. He shed innocent blood - v. 16.

Cf: 2 Chron 33:1-9.

10-16) Captivity as a result. Cf: 2 Chron 33:10.

12) Both ears will tingle.

13) How thorough will this cleansing be? Amos 7:7,8.

14) There will be a smaller remnant.

2 Chron 33:11) Manasseh carried away to Babylon.

2 Chron 33:12,13) Manasseh repents, is forgiven and then returned to Jerusalem.

Then Manasseh knew that the Lord was God.

2 Chron 33:14-16) Manasseh restores and fortifies the cities of Judah.

He also destroys all the idol worship places he had built and offers sacrifices to Jehovah.

2 Chron 33:17) The people continue false worship in the high places, BUT only to Jehovah.

17,18) Death of Manasseh. Cf: 2 Chron 33:18-20.

His son Amon reigns.

2. REIGN OF AMON IN JUDAH 21:19-26

19-22) Amon was evil just as his father had been. Cf: 2 Chron 33:20-23.

23-26) Death of Amon.

23) His servants kill him. Cf: 2 Chron 33:24.

24) The people kill his servants. Cf: 2 Chron 33:25-34:1.

26) Josiah, his son, reigns.

D. THE REFORMS OF JOSIAH CH 22

1,2) Josiah was a good king. Cf: 2 Chron 34:2.

2 Chron 34:3-7) Josiah sought after Jehovah and destroyed the places of idol worship, even into Israel!

3-7) Josiah repairs the temple. Cf: Ch 12 - Jehoash & 2 Chron 34: 8-13.

The priests were honest also.

8-14) Finding the Scripture in the House of the Lord. Cf: 2 Chron 34:14-21.

8-10) The Law is brought to Josiah and is read to him.

11) The Scroll was plain enough to be understood!

12-14) Josiah sends the high priest and others to Huldah the prophetess.

15-20) God's judgment for Judah and Josiah. Cf: 2 Chron 34:22-28.

15-17) Wrath to Judah for apostasy.

18-20) Peace to Josiah for faithfulness.

E. THE FINAL KINGS AND FALL OF JERUSALEM CH 23-25:21

1. THE REST OF JOSIAH'S REIGN IN JUDAH 23:1-30

1-3) Reading of the Law in the temple and renewal of the Covenant.

The Law is read to all the leaders of Judah.

The people confirm their pledge to Jehovah. Cf: 2 Chron 34: 29-32.

4-25) Eradication of idolatry:

- a. Destroyed idols of Baal and his vessels - v. 4,
- b. Killed the idolatrous priests - v. 5,
- c. Burned the groves - v. 6,
- d. Broke down the houses of the sodomites - v. 7,
- e. Defiled the high places - v. 8,
- f. He defiled Molech - v. 10,
- g. Destroyed sun worship - v. 11,
- h. Broke down altars of Manasseh - v. 12,
- i. Destroyed Solomon's grove - v. 13,
- j. Destroyed the altar at Bethel - v. 15,
- k. Burned the bones of the false priests - v. 16, Cf: 1 Kgs 13:1ff,
- l. Removed the houses of the high places in Samaria - v. 19,
- m. Slew the priests of the high places in Samaria - v. 20,
- n. Killed workers of witchcraft - v. 24.

Cf: 2 Chron 34:33.

21-23) Passover reinstated. Cf: 2 Chron 35:1-19.

26-28) Jehovah must still punish Judah for Manasseh's sins.

29,30) Josiah dies in battle.

2 Chron 35:20-27) Pharaoh Nechoh of Egypt:

- a. He was not at war with Judah.
- b. He was going to war with Assyria.
- c. He was directed by Jehovah.
- d. But he sent messengers to him, saying: "What have I to do with you, king of Judah? I have not come against you this day, but against the house which I have war; for God commanded me to make haste. Refrain from meddling with God, who is with me, lest He destroy you."

Jehoahaz, his son, reigns. Cf: 2 Chron 36:1,2.

2. REIGN OF JEHOAHAZ OF JUDAH 23:31-34

31,32) He was evil.

33,34) Jehoahaz taken to Egypt by Pharaoh Nechoh.

He dies there.

Eliakim, son of Josiah, made king by Pharaoh Nechoh.

3. REIGN OF JEHOIAKIM (ELIAKIM) OF JUDAH 23:35-24:7

34-37) Eliakim's name changed to Jehoiakim by Pharaoh Nechoh - v. 34.

He was evil. Cf: 2 Chron 36:3-5.

24:1) 606 B.C.

Jehoiakim serves Babylon three years then rebels. Cf: 2 Chron 36:6,7.

2-4) Punishment is the result of Manasseh's and Judah's sins.

5,6) Jehoiakim dies. Cf: 2 Chron 36:8.

Jehoiachin his son reigns. Cf: 2 Chron 36:8,9.

7) Babylon's rule extended even to Egypt.

4. JEHOIACHIN'S DEFEAT 24:8-16

8,9) He was evil.

10-12) He surrenders to Nebuchadnezzar.

13) 697 B.C.

All of the treasures are taken to Babylon.

14-16) All royalty, warriors and craftsmen are taken away.

5. BEGINNING OF THE REIGN OF ZEDEKIAH OF JUDAH 24:17-20

17) Nebuchadnezzar makes Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle away.

Nebuchadnezzar changes Mattaniah's name to Zedekiah. Cf: 2 Chron 36:10,11.

19) He was evil. Cf: 2 Chron 36:12.

20) He rebelled against Babylon. Cf: 2 Chron 36:13.

He is the last king of Judah.

Their wickedness is the cause of their ruin. Cf: 2 Chron 36:13-20.

6. CONQUEST OF JERUSALEM 25:1-7

1-3) TWO-YEAR SIEGE AND THE FAMINE.

4-7) Zedekiah captured, his sons killed and his eyes put out. Cf: Ezek 12:1-16.

7. DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM AND THE TEMPLE AND THE PEOPLE CARRIED AWAY 25:8-21 CF: 2 CHRON 36:17-19

8) Nebuchadnezzar sends Nebuzaradan to complete the destruction of Jerusalem and removal of the people.

Nebuzaradan's work included:

- a. Burn the temple - v. 9,
- b. Burn the palace - v. 9,
- c. Burn the houses of the great men - v. 9,
- d. Break down the walls of the city - v. 10,
- e. Remove the captives - v. 11,
- f. Leave the poor to take care of the fields - v. 12,
- g. Take all the valuables from the Temple - vv. 13-17,
- h. Remove the chief priests - v. 18,
- i. Remove the king's counselors - v. 19,
- j. Remove the men of war - v. 19.

20,21) All of h, i and j are killed.

2 Chron 36:20,21) The captivity is a Sabbath for the land.

This is fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy. Cf: Jer 25:12; 29:10.

F. ASSASSINATION OF GEDALIAH: FAVOR SHOWN TO JEHOICHIN 25:22-30

1. GOVERNOR GEDALIAH 25:22-26

22) Gedaliah made governor.

23,24) Ishmael and followers are told to serve Babylon.

25,26) Ishmael slays Gedaliah, and all of importance that are left flee to Egypt.

2. JEHOICHIN RESTORED TO KINGLY HONOR IN CAPTIVITY 25:27-30

28) Honored above all other vassal kings there.

29,30) He received a king's allowance the rest of his life.

This partially fulfills Jer 27:12,13.

2 CHRON 36:22,23) The proclamation of Cyrus permitting the return from captivity and for the rebuilding of the Temple.

FIRST AND SECOND CHRONICLES BACKGROUND

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. These books seem to be unnecessarily repetitious.
 - 1. They treat the same historical period as the books of Samuel and Kings.
 - 2. Over half of the material in these books is a duplication of information contained in previous Old Testament books.
- B. The difference is that these books review this same information from a different perspective and with a specific goal in view.
- C. The name of the book:
 - 1. In the Hebrew Bible these two books bear the title of “the words of the days.” It is evident from 1 Chron 27:24 that the term is used in the sense of annals.
 - 2. It is called “Of Things Omitted” in the Septuagint and Latin versions prior to Jerome’s Vulgate.
 - 3. It is called “Chronicles” in the English Bibles following the change of name given by Jerome.
- D. In the Hebrew Bible, Chronicles is the last book while in the English Bibles it is placed after Kings following the Septuagint and Vulgate orders.
- E. The books of Chronicles were written late in Old Testament history (after the return from the Babylonian captivity) and were designed to impress the returnees with their spiritual heritage.
 - 1. The writer wanted these returning Jews to see themselves as the continuation of the Davidic kingdom.
 - 2. He also wanted them to be strongly aligned to Jehovah, the temple, the priesthood, and the covenant.
- F. The material covers the period from Adam to the return of the people from Babylonian captivity.

II. BACKGROUND

- A. The books originally formed a single book in the Hebrew Bible and were most likely joined with the books of Ezra and Nehemiah in their earliest days.
- B. Tradition assigns their authorship to Ezra.
 - 1. The Talmud (Bara Bathra 15a) declares Ezra as the writer.
 - 2. Ezra was a skilled scribe in the post-exilic period. Cf: Ezra 7:6.
 - 3. The Chronicles close with the edict of Cyrus which summons the Jews to return to Jerusalem to build the temple.
 - a. The book of Ezra begins with the same edict but gives it more completely than the Chronicles.
 - b. From this relationship with the book of Ezra many have drawn the conclusion that Ezra is also the author of Chronicles.
- C. The historical setting for the writing of Chronicles must take the following facts into consideration:
 - 1. Cyrus' proclamation of 536 B.C. allowed the Jews to return to their homeland - 2 Chron 36:22,23.
 - 2. Ezra returned to Jerusalem about 458 B.C. "in the seventh year of the king." This was Artaxerxes I, ruler of Persia from 465 to 423 B.C. Cf: Ezra 7:8.
 - 3. Although the temple had been rebuilt (520-515 B.C.) the people were lax about their spiritual duties.
 - 4. Under Nehemiah's leadership there existed a set of circumstances favorable to the writing of a book such as the Chronicles.
- D. In order to provide the proper historical background for the restored Jewish state the author stressed the nation's heritage and unbroken connection with the patriarchs.
- E. The language of the Chronicles shows that it comes from the general period of Ezra about 450-425 B.C.

III. THE MESSAGE OF THE CHRONICLES

- A. With the exiles home from Babylon it was important that they be reminded of their covenant relationship with the Lord.
- B. They needed to be impressed with the fact that their covenant relationship was safeguarded through the divinely ordained worship at the temple and the priesthood which administered that worship.
 - 1. Although the temple had been rebuilt it was being neglected by the people.
 - 2. Religious revival could not occur apart from the restoration of the people's worship there.
 - 3. By reminding the people of the glory of that which God had given them, the writer hopes to convince them that true well being and blessings will come only by obedience to the theocratic principles which Jehovah had established.
- C. The message of Chronicles is that the Jews restored to their homeland should see themselves as the true continuation of Jehovah's promise-keeping work to Abraham's descendants and that they should act accordingly.
 - 1. The territory of the Northern Kingdom was occupied by the Samaritans who regarded themselves as heirs to the covenant made to Abraham. Chronicles rejects this idea that these people of mixed heritage could be God's chosen people.
 - 2. The holy temple and the holy city were to be seen in a unique light in that true worship is a necessary part of honoring the covenant the returnees have with God.
- D. Chronicles is not a mere repetition of the material in Samuel and Kings.
 - 1. The earlier books provided a political history of the nation from a prophetic point of view.
 - 2. Chronicles is a religious history written from the priestly point of view.

FIRST AND SECOND CHRONICLES OUTLINE

- I. Genealogical Material 1 Chron 1-9
- II. The Reign of David 1 Chron 10-29
- III. The Reign of Solomon 2 Chron 1-9
- IV. The History of Judah to Its Fall 2 Chron 10-36