

Annals (Chronicles) of the Kings

[Maps](#)

[Charts of Kings](#)

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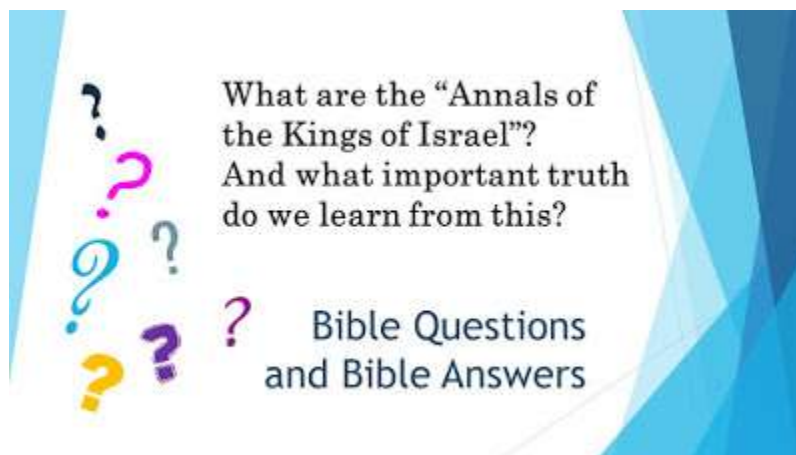
παρρησιάζομαι (*parrēsiazomai*): speaking openly, clearly, and freely without being influenced by fear of people

<http://parresiazomai.blogspot.com/2016/07/what-are-annals-of-kings-of-israel.html>

This is Mark Corbett's blog.

Friday, July 15, 2016

What are the “Annals of the Kings of Israel”? (Questions and Answers #3)



Back in May, a reader of my blog, who is a faithful church member and good friend, submitted this question to my blog after I began a “Question and Answer” category:

Mark, these words are mentioned several times in the OT., "are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel"

My question is : Is there a record of this book in existence or is this another symbol of something else. Just curious to know.

Sorry it has taken me so long to answer! On the surface this may seem like a relatively trivial detail, but as soon as I read the question back in May I realized there was a deep,

important spiritual truth closely related to the answer. So I will begin by offering a direct answer to the question, and then I'll share some thoughts about the deeper spiritual truth which turns out to be immensely practical and important in your life and mine.

What are the “Annals of the Kings of Israel”?

The phrase “Annals of the Kings of Israel” appears 18 times in the books of 1 & 2 Kings, and once in 2 Chronicles. The related phrase “Annals of the Kings of Judah” appears 15 times in 1 & 2 Kings. There are also ten references in 1 & 2 Chronicles to similar books (possibly the same books) by the name “Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel” or something very similar. Here is one example (other examples are very similar):

^{NIV} [1 Kings 14:19](#) The other events of Jeroboam's reign, his wars and how he ruled, are written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel.

The “Annals of the Kings of Israel” and the “Annals of the Kings of Judah” were apparently records kept of the activities of these kings. Like most ancient writings, these records have been lost. They are NOT lost books of the Bible because they were never part of the Bible and were not inspired. If we were to find a copy (which is unlikely), they would provide valuable historical information, but they would not be new books of the Bible.

What can We Learn from these Lost Records?

You might think, “How can we learn anything at all from records we don't have?” Actually, there is one very important lesson we can learn.

The Holy Spirit inspired the authors of 1 & 2 Kings and 1 & 2 Chronicles to be very selective in what information they included about each king. For some kings their entire rule is summed up in a few sentences. Few kings get more than a couple of chapters. Imagine if you read a history of the Presidents of the United States with a similar amount of information about each president. Obviously, a lot is left out. The type of information which made it into these short summaries tells us what was most important to God.

God consistently included the following:

- 1. An inspired judgment describing to what degree each king obeyed and followed God.**
- 2. A description of what each king did with regard to idolatry. Most of the kings worshipped some idols or at least tolerated the worship of the idols by their people. The worst kings added new idols and spread idol worship. The very best kings smashed and burned idols throughout the land.**

These two items are what God focused on in the Bible. Wars? Politics? Building cities? Trade deals? These get mentioned some, and they are not completely unimportant, but they are not emphasized nearly as much as getting rid of idols. In

other words, much of the stuff our news media focuses on today is the kind of stuff that was of secondary importance to God and was recorded in books that are lost. The stuff that God really cared about and included in the Bible is very rarely even mentioned in the news these days. If you spend a lot more time watching Fox or CNN than you do reading your Bible, you may be unintentionally training your brain to have priorities that are vastly different from God's!

At this point you may feel like I'm being unfair, since we don't have Asherah poles or Baal idols around today. That's true. But tragically, idolatry is thriving like never before, and the New Testament is quite clear that God cares about getting rid of the idols in your hearts and lives just as much as He cared about it in the lives of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Modern Days Idols

The New Testament is uncomfortably clear in identifying modern day idols:

[Ephesians 5:5](#) For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person--such a man is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God

[Colossians 3:5](#) Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry



Ouch! That hits home right here in the 21st century. We may not have Asherah poles and Baal temples, but we have lots of immorality and greed. And God expects us to ruthlessly smash and burn these idols just like the best kings of Judah smashed and burned their idols.

It was hard for the kings of Israel and Judah to get rid of their idols because these idols were popular and widespread. If you lived in Israel during the times of the kings, many

members of your own extended family, and many of your neighbors, and a lot of your political leaders, and tragically even many religious leaders, would have been tolerating, and often even celebrating and promoting, all kinds of idols. The same is true today with idols of materialism and sexual immorality.

Don't expect getting rid of your idols to be easy. This is why Jesus said:

^N[Matthew 5:29](#) If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

The point is not to literally gouge out your eye. We are quick to say that. But what is the point? Knowing what Jesus did not mean is great, but we need to also know what He did mean. What He meant is this: be intentional, and even ruthless, in getting rid of sin in your life and anything that causes you to sin.

An idol is anything which we treat as more important than God. Another way of saying this is that an idol is anything which causes us to disobey God or live in a way contrary to God's will. Therefore, things which are not bad in and of themselves (money, food, comfort, TV, sports, hobbies, etc.) turn into idols if they lead us away from God.

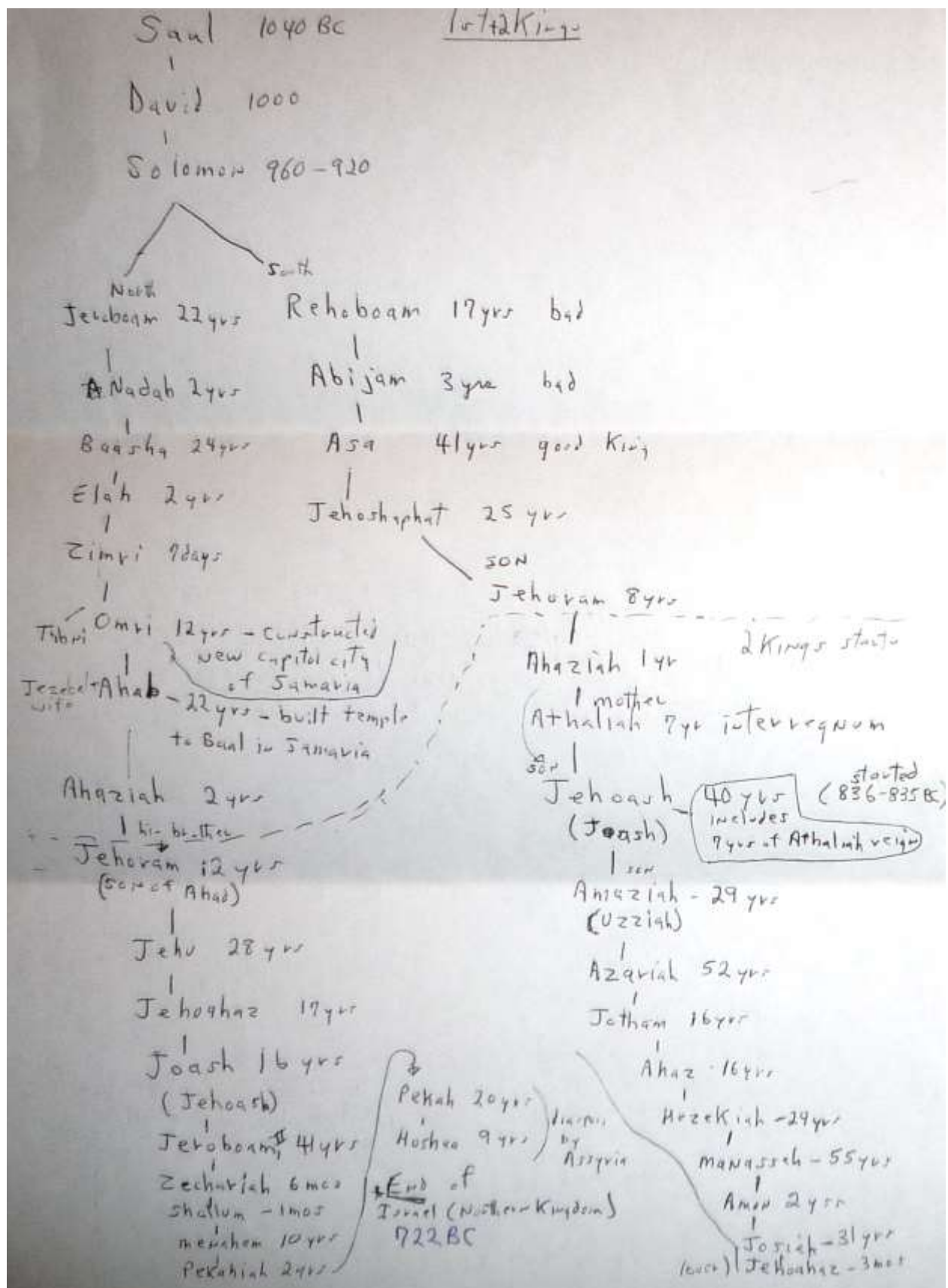
The last verse of 1 John reminds us of the danger of idols:

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. ([1John 5:21 NIV](#))

If you would like to read more on the topic of modern day idolatry, I recommend the book: [*Gods at War: Defeating the Idols that Battle for Your Heart*](#) by Kyle Idleman.

Jim Bodnar: Chart of the Kings

(Bodnar Charts start next page...)



Jehoa^haz - 3 mo^s

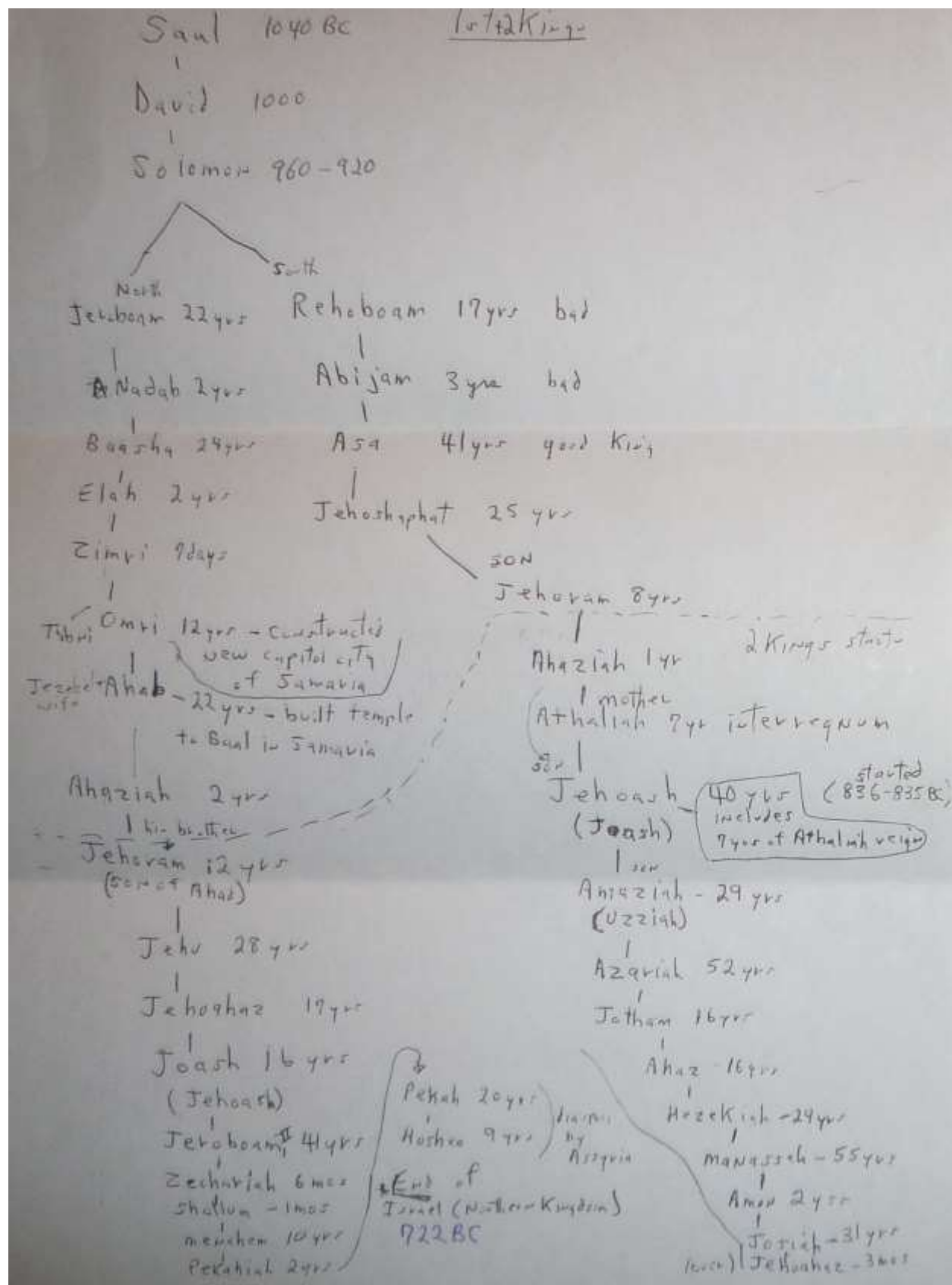
Eli^aKim
(Jehoi^aKim) 11 yr

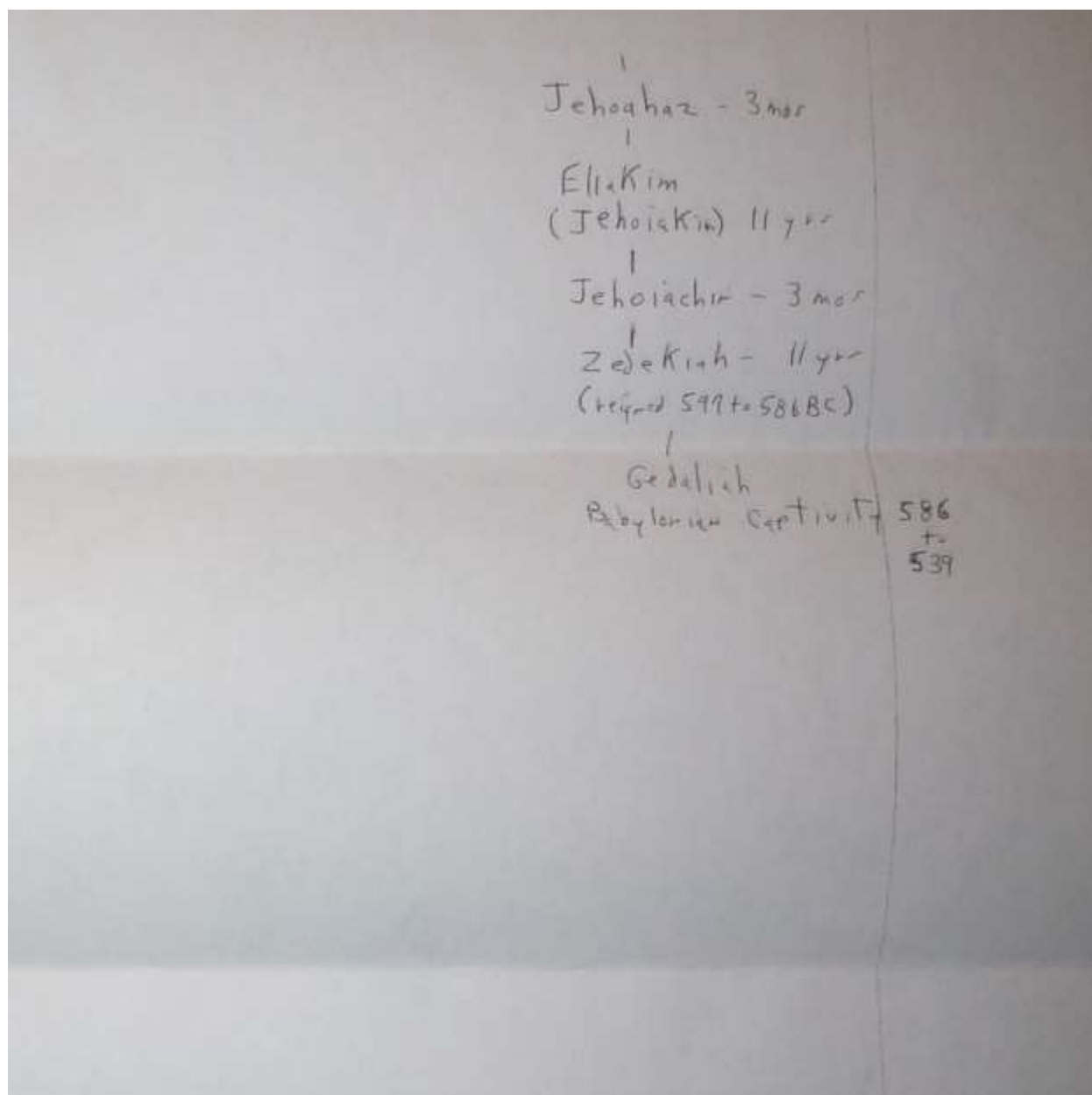
Jehoi^achir - 3 mo^s

Zed^eKim^h - 11 yr
(reigned 597 to 586 BC)

Ged^alich
Babylonien Captivity 586
to
539

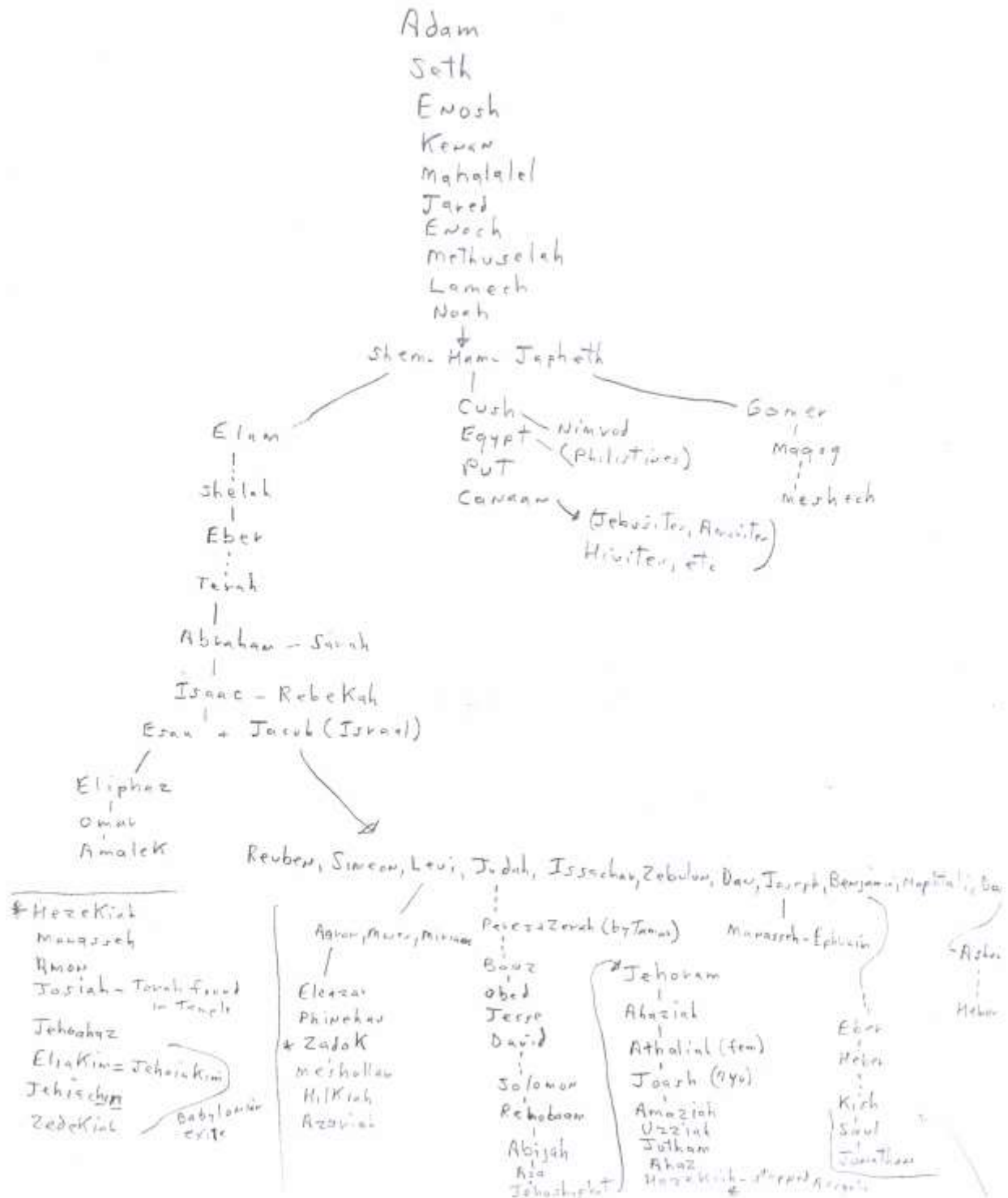
Ver. #2 on next (2) pages...





See Chronicles Genealogy Chart (Jim Bodnar), Next page..

1 Chronicles Genealogy



See also:

Dr. MD. Bennett: A Bible Genealogy

http://www.actscambridge.org/assets/images/bible_genealogy_a1_chart.pdf [PDF]



More charts on next pages...

Kings Before Division of Kingdom of Israel

Saul: First King of Israel; son of Kish; father of Ish-Bosheth, Jonathan and Michal

Ish-Bosheth (or Eshbaal): King of Israel; son of Saul

David: King of Judah; later of Israel; son of Jesse; husband of Abigail, Ahinoam, Bathsheba, Michal, etc.; father of Absalom, Adonijah, Amnon, Solomon, Tamar, etc.

Solomon: King of Israel and Judah; son of David; father of Rehoboam

Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; during his reign the kingdom was divided into Judah in the South and Israel in the North

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| Kings of Israel (North) | Kings of Judah (South) |
|---|--|
| Jeroboam I: Led secession of Israel | Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; first king |
| Nadab: Son of Jeroboam I | Abijah (Abijam; Abia): Son of Rehoboam |
| Baasha: Overthrew Nadab | Asa: Probably son of Abijah |
| Elah: Son of Baasha | Jehoshaphat: Son of Asa |
| Zimri: Overthrew Elah | Jehoram (Joram): Son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah |
| Omri: Overthrew Zimri | Ahaziah: Son of Jehoram and Athaliah |
| Ahab: Son of Omri; husband of Jezebel | Athaliah: Daughter of King Ahab of Israel and Jezebel; wife of Jehoram; only queen to rule over Judah |
| Ahaziah: Son of Ahab | Joash (Jehoash): Son of Ahaziah |
| Jehoram (Joram): Son of Ahab | Amaziah: Son of Joash |
| Jehu: Overthrew Jehoram | Uzziah (Azariah): Son of Amaziah |
| Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Jehu | Jotham: Regent, later King; son of Uzziah |
| Jehoash (Joash): Son of Jehoahaz | Ahaz: Son of Jotham |
| Jeroboam II: Son of Jehoash | Hezekiah: Son of Ahaz; husband of Hephzi-Bah |
| Zechariah: Son of Jeroboam II | Manasseh: Son of Hezekiah and Hephzi-Bah |
| Shallum: Overthrew Zechariah | Amon: Son of Manasseh |
| Menahem: Overthrew Shallum | Josiah (Josias): Son of Amon |
| Pekahiah: Son of Menahem | Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Josiah |
| Pekah: Overthrew Pekahiah | Jehoiakim: Son of Josiah |
| Hoshea: Overthrew Pekah; kingdom overthrown by Assyrians under Sargon II | Jehoiachin: Son of Jehoiakim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Bad <input type="checkbox"/> Mixture of good & bad | Zedekiah: Son of Josiah; kingdom overthrown by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar |

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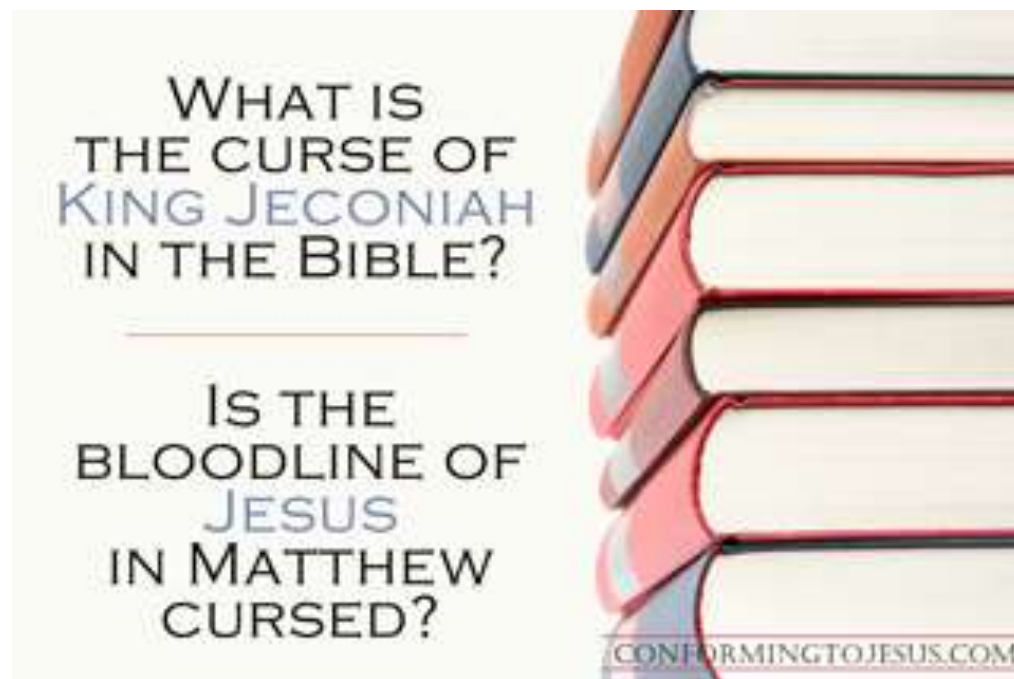
https://www.conformingtojesus.com/charts-maps/en/kings_of_israel-judah_chart.htm

| Kings of Israel (Northern Kingdom) | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Kings | Yrs. of Reign | Dates B.C. | Biblical Reference |
| Jeroboam I | 22 | 976-954 | 1 Kings 11:26 - 14:20 |
| Nadab | 2 | 954-953 | 1 Kings 15:25-28 |
| Baasha | 24 | 953-930 | 1 Kings 15:27 - 16:7 |
| Elah | 2 | 930-929 | 1 Kings 16:6-14 |
| Zimri | (7 days) | 929 | 1 Kings 16:9-20 |
| Omri | 12 | 929-918 | 1 Kings 16:15-28 |
| Ahab | 21 | 918-898 | 1 Kings 16:28 - 22:40 |
| Ahaziah | 1 | 898-897 | 1 Kings 22:40 - 2 Kings 1:18 |
| Jehoram (Joram) | 11 | 897-885 | 2 Kings 3:1 - 9:25 |
| Jehu | 28 | 885-857 | 2 Kings 9:1 - 10:36 |
| Jehoahaz (Joahaz) | 16 | 857-841 | 2 Kings 13:1-9 |
| Jehoash (Joash) | 16 | 841-825 | 2 Kings 13:10 - 14:16 |
| Jeroboam II | 40 | 825-773 | 2 Kings 14:23-29 |
| Zechariah | 1/2 | 773-772 | 2 Kings 14:29 - 15:12 |
| Shallum | (1 month) | 772 | 2 Kings 15:10-15 |
| Menahem | 10 | 772-762 | 2 Kings 15:14-22 |
| Pekahiah | 2 | 762-760 | 2 Kings 15:22-26 |
| Pekah | 20 | 760-740 | 2 Kings 15:27-31 |
| Hoshea | 9 | 740-731 | 2 Kings 15:30 - 17:6 |

| Kings of Judah (Southern Kingdom) | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Kings | Yrs. of Reign | Dates B.C. | Biblical Reference |
| Rehoboam | 17 | 976-959 | 1 Kings 11:42 - 14:31 |
| Abijah | 3 | 959-956 | 1 Kings 14:31 - 15:8 |
| Asa | 41 | 956-915 | 1 Kings 15:8-24 |
| Jehoshaphat | 25 | 915-893 | 1 Kings 22:41-50 |
| Jehoram (Joram) | 8 | 893-886 | 2 Kings 8:16-24 |
| Ahaziah | 1 | 886-885 | 2 Kings 8:24 - 9:29 |
| Athaliah (Queen) | 6 | 885-879 | 2 Kings 11:1-20 |
| Joash (Jehoash) | 40 | 879-840 | 2 Kings 11:1 - 12:21 |
| Amaziah | 29 | 840-811 | 2 Kings 14:1-20 |
| Uzziah (Azariah) | 52 | 811-759 | 2 Kings 15:1-7 |
| Jotham | 18 | 759-743 | 2 Kings 15:32-38 |
| Ahaz | 19 | 743-727 | 2 Kings 16:1-20 |
| Hezekiah | 29 | 727-698 | 2 Kings 18:1 - 20:21 |
| Manasseh | 55 | 698-643 | 2 Kings 21:1-18 |
| Amon | 2 | 643-640 | 2 Kings 21:19-26 |
| Josiah (Josias) | 31 | 640-609 | 2 Kings 22:1 - 23:30 |
| Jehoahaz (Joahaz) | (3 months) | 609 | 2 Kings 23:31-33 |
| Jehoiakim | 11 | 609-597 | 2 Kings 23:34 - 24:5 |
| Jehoiachin | (3 months) | 597 | 2 Kings 24:6-16 |
| Zedekiah | 11 | 597-586 | 2 Kings 24:17 - 25:30 |

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https://www.conformingtojesus.com/what_is_curse_of_king_jeconiah.htm



Kings of Israel and Judah

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| Saul | 1050-1010 BC |
| David | 1010-970 |
| Solomon | 970-930 |

| Judah (and Benjamin) | | | | Israel (Ten Northern Tribes) | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| King | Reign | Character | Prophets | King | Reign | Character | Prophets |
| 1. Rehoboam | 931-913 | Bad | Shemaiah | 1. Jeroboam I | 931-910 | Bad | Abijah |
| 2. Abijah | 913-911 | Bad | | 2. Nadab | 910-909 | Bad | |
| 3. Asa | 911-870 | Good | | 3. Baasha | 909-886 | Bad | |
| | | | | 4. Elah | 886-885 | Bad | |
| | | | | 5. Zimri | 885 | Bad | |
| | | | | 6. Omri | 885-874* | Bad | |
| 4. Jehoshaphat | 870-848* | Good | | 7. Ahab | 874-853 | Bad | Elijah Micalah |
| 5. Jehoram | 848-841* | Bad | | 8. Ahaziah | 853-852 | Bad | |
| 6. Ahaziah | 841 | Bad | | 9. Joram | 852-841 | Bad | Elisha |
| 7. Athaliah | 841-835 | Bad | | 10. Jehu | 841-814 | Bad | |
| 8. Joash | 835-796 | Good | Joel | 11. Jehoahaz | 814-798 | Bad | Jonah Amos Hosea |
| 9. Amaziah | 796-767 | Good | | 12. Jehoash | 798-782 | Bad | |
| 10. Uzziah (Azariah) | 767-740* | Good | | 13. Jeroboam II | 782-753* | Bad | |
| 11. Jotham | 740-732* | Good | Isaiah Micah | 14. Zechariah | 753-752 | Bad | |
| 12. Ahaz | 732-716 | Bad | | 15. Shallum | 752 | Bad | |
| 13. Hezekiah | 716-687 | Good | | 16. Menahem | 752-742 | Bad | |
| 14. Manasseh | 687-642* | Bad | | 17. Pekahiah | 742-740 | Bad | |
| 15. Amon | 642-640 | Bad | Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah | 18. Pekah | 740-732* | Bad | |
| 16. Josiah | 640-608 | Good | | 19. Hoshea | 732-712 | Bad | |
| 17. Jehoahaz | 608 | Bad | | | 722 BC Fall of Samaria to Assyria | | |
| 18. Jehoiakim | 608-597 | Bad | Daniel Ezekiel Jeremiah | | | | |
| 19. Jehoiachin | 597 | Bad | | | | | |
| 20. Zedekiah | 597-586 | Bad | | | | | |
| Destruction of Jerusalem, 9th Av, 586 BC, Babylonian Captivity | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | * Co-regency | |

The Last Five Kings of Judah

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Josiah Reigned 31 years (640-609 BC) | | 5. Zedekiah Reigned 11 years (597–586 BC) Taken prisoner to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar |
| 2. Jehoahaz (Shallum) Reigned 3 months (609 BC) Taken prisoner to Egypt by Pharaoh Neco | 3. Jehoiakim (Eliakim) Reigned 11 years (609-598 BC) Died in Jerusalem | |
| 4. Jehoiachin (Jeconiah, Coniah) Reigned 3 months (December 9, 598 - March 16, 597 BC) Taken prisoner to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar (with Ezekiel) | | |

The Kings and Prophets of Israel and Judah 2 Kings 8:16

| The United Kingdom | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--------|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| Saul 1050–1010 B.C. | | | | | |
| David 1010–970 B.C. | | | | | |
| Solomon 970–930 B.C. | | | | | |
| The Divided Kingdom | | | | | |
| Judah | | B.C. | Israel | | |
| Kings | Writing Prophets | | Kings | Writing Prophets | |
| | | 950 | | | |
| Rehoboam | 930–913 | | Jeroboam I | 930–910 | |
| Abijah | 913–910 | 925 | | | |
| Asa | 910–870 | | Nadab | 910–909 | |
| | | 900 | Baasha | 909–886 | |
| | | | Elah | 886–885 | |
| | | | Zimri | 885 | |
| | | | Tibni | 885–880 | |
| Jehoshaphat | 872–847 | 875 | Omri | 885–874 | |
| | | | Ahab | 874–853 | |
| | | | Ahaziah | 853–852 | |
| Jehoram | 848–841 | 850 | Joram | 852–841 | |
| Ahaziah | 841 | | Jehu | 841–814 | |
| Athaliah | 841–835 | | | | |
| Joash | 835–796 | Joel? | | | |
| | | 825 | | | |
| | | | Jehoahaz | 814–798 | |
| | | 800 | | | |
| Amaziah | 796–767 | | Jehoash | 798–782 | |
| Azariah | 792–740 | | Jeroboam II | 792–753 | |
| | | 775 | | | |
| | | | | | Amos Jonah |
| Jotham | 750–736 | Hosea | Zechariah | 753 | |
| | | Isaiah | Shallum | 752 | |
| Ahaz | 735–720 | Micah | Menahem | 751–742 | |
| | | | Pekahiah | 741–740 | |
| | | 725 | Pekah | 752–732 | |
| Hezekiah | 715–699 | | Hoshea | 732–722 | |

| The Divided Kingdom (continued) | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Judah | | B.C. | Israel | |
| Kings | | Writing Prophets | Kings | Writing Prophets |
| Manasseh | 697–642 | 700 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | 675 | | |
| | | | Israel's Assyrian Captivity | |
| | | 650 | | |
| Amon | 642–640 | Nahum | | |
| Josiah | 640–609 | Zephaniah | | |
| | | 625 | | |
| | | | | |
| Jehoahaz | 609 | Habakkuk | | |
| Jehoiakim | 609–598 | Jeremiah | 600 | |
| Jehoiachin | 598 | Daniel | | |
| Zedekiah | 598–586 | Ezekiel | | |
| | | Obadiah? | | |
| | | 575 | | |
| Judah's Babylonian Captivity | | | | |
| | | 550 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | Haggai | 525 | |
| | | Zechariah | | |
| Judah's Restoration | | | | |
| | | 500 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | 475 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | Malachi | 450 | |
| | | | | |
| | | 425 | | |

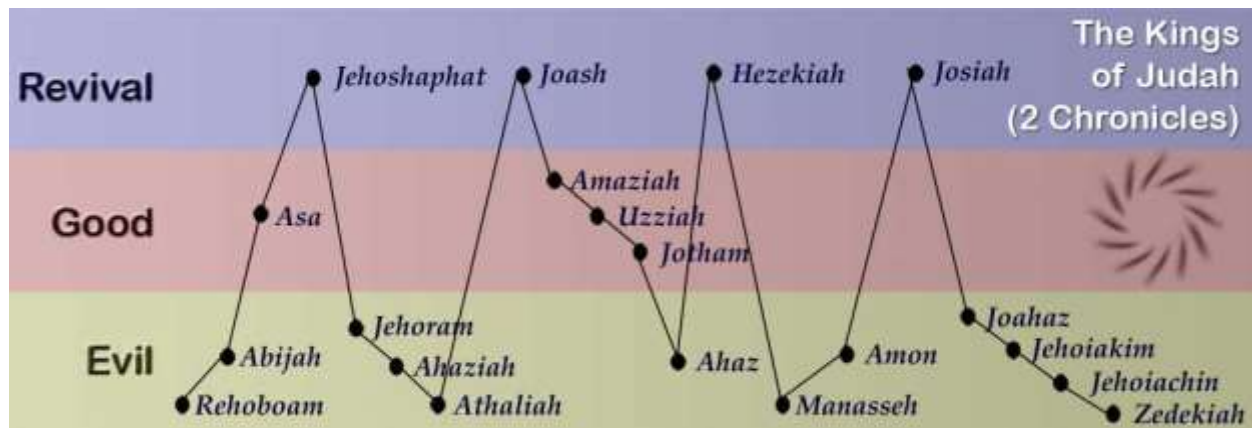
Rulers and Prophets of Israel and Judah

| KINGDOM OF ISRAEL | PROPHETS | KINGDOM OF JUDAH |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Jeroboam I 931-910 | 925 B.C. | Rehoboam 931-913 |
| Nadab 910-909 | | Abijah 913-911 |
| Baasha 909-886 | 900 B.C. | |
| Elah 886-885 | | Asa 911-870 |
| Zimri 885 (7 days) | | |
| Omri 885-874 | 875 B.C. | |
| Ahab 874-853 | Elijah 850 B.C. | Jehoshaphat 870-848 (coregent with Asa 873-870) |
| Ahaziah 853-852 | Elisha Obadiah | Jehoram 848-841 (coregent with Jehoshaphat 853-848) |
| Joram 852-841 | Joel 825 B.C. | Ahaziah 841 (1 year) |
| | | Athaliah 841-835 |
| Jehu 841-814 | | Joash 835-796 |
| | 800 B.C. | |
| Jehoahaz 814-798 | | Amaziah 796-767 |
| Jehoash 798-782 | Jonah 775 B.C. | |
| Jeroboam II 782-753 (coregent with Jehoash 793-782) | Amos 750 B.C. | Uzziah 767-740 (overlap/coregent with Amaziah 792-767; isolated 751-740) |
| Zechariah 753/752 (6 months) | | Jotham 740-736 (coregent with Uzziah 751-740; abdicates 736) |
| Shallum 752 (1 month) | | Ahaz 736-729 (coregent with Jotham 744-736) |
| Menahem 752-742 | Hosea 725 B.C. | |
| Pekahiah 742-740 | Isaiah | Hezekiah 729-686 (regent for Ahaz 729-715) |
| Pekah 740-732 | Micah 700 B.C. | |
| Hosea 732-722 | | |
| FALL OF SAMARIA, 722 | | |
| | 675 B.C. | Manasseh 686-642 (coregent with Hezekiah 696-686) |
| | 650 B.C. | Amon 642-640 |
| | Zephaniah 625 B.C. | Josiah 640-609 |
| | Nahum | Jehoahaz 609 (3 months) |
| | Habakkuk 600 B.C. | Jehoiakim 608-598 |
| | | Jeconiah 598/597 (3 months; coregent with Jehoiakim 608-598) |
| | Ezekiel 575 B.C. | Zedekiah 597-586 |
| | Daniel | FALL OF JERUSALEM, 586 |

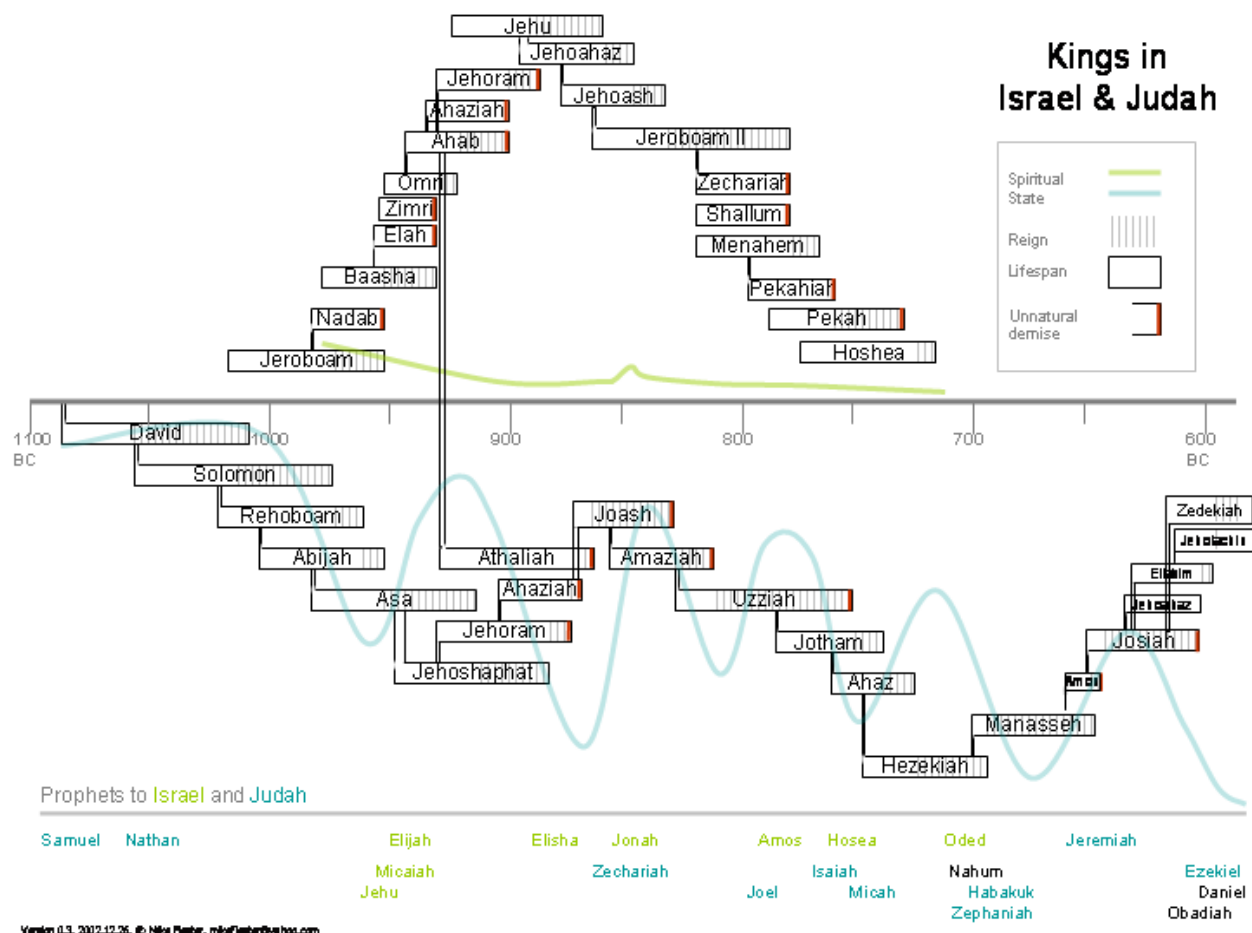
NOTE ABOUT DATES

While scholars' opinions about the dates of kings' reigns and the timing so some prophets' ministries may vary, the dates on this chart are based on the best knowledge and evidence available to us at this time. Most reputable scholars' dates will be close, though not necessarily identical, to these. There simply isn't enough specific information available in the biblical record to identify the timing of each king's reign with certainty.

<http://www.hopkinscommunitychurch.net/day-131-2-chronicles-26-29-uzziah-through-hezekiah/>



<https://www.hopkinscommunitychurch.net/day-133-2-chronicles-33-34-manasseh-amon-and-josiah/>



The Kings of Israel and Judah – Verse by Verse Notes

<https://www.jimcowie.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/The-Kings-of-Israel-and-Judah.pdf> [PDF]

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Asa - Judah's First Reformer (Judah)

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Manasseh - The Murderous Corruptor (Judah)
Amon - The Reprobate (Judah)
Josiah - The Youthful Reformer (Judah)
Jehoahaz - The Preferred (Judah)
Jehoiakim - The Arrogant Tyrant (Judah)
Jehoiachin - The Helpless (Judah)
Zedekiah - The Profane Rebel (Judah)
History from the death of Josiah to the fall of Jerusalem.

Continued next page...

INTRODUCTION

OBJECT OF THE STUDY

The object of this brief review of the kings is to derive useful lessons for modern ecclesial life from that era of ecclesial history. By a careful examination of the significant characters presented in the records of Kings and Chronicles and reflection on the reasons for their successes and failures; the virtues and faults of their reigns, and the effect each had upon the destiny of their nation, the student gains greater insight into human behaviour and is made more sensitive to the many pitfalls which often brought the kings of Israel and Judah 'very low'. There is also much that is positive in this study providing encouragement in the service of our God through the examples of the faithful who punctuated this long period of Israel's history.

A STUDY IN LEADERSHIP

This is essentially a study in leadership for the principal characters were rulers of God's people. The primary focus is on men of responsibility who were tantamount to ecclesial leaders and should have been "shepherds of the flock" of Israel. As such the period of the kings is useful ground for any who have leadership responsibilities in ecclesial and family life today.

ISRAEL AND JUDAH - GOD'S ECCLESIA

Israel and Judah were the ecclesia of God (1 Chron. 29:23; Exod. 19:5-6; Acts 7:38; Jer. 3:14&20; Rom. 11:1-5). As an ecclesia (though at times apostate) all Israelites stood related to the covenants of promise. Each individual lived a life and developed a character which finally determined his eternal destiny. The lives and characters of the kings are recorded by God as both a warning and exhortation to all subsequent generations of covenant bearers whose future will be determined upon the same basis.

A Divine appraisal or summary of each king is inserted in the record of their reigns, whether it was long or short. This is evidence that "the judge of all the earth", whose "eyes run to and fro through the whole earth", was keenly interested in the ways and the actions of the kings as they led His ecclesia in their era. With unerring accuracy He made his final and irreversible assessment of them at the end of their reign (Heb. 13:17).

It will be the object of these notes to highlight the lessons that may be learnt from the record of the kings of Israel and Judah "written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the age are come."

THE ORIGIN OF THE BOOK OF KINGS

The Kings and Chronicles represent an expansive historical record which is distinctly religious in its tenor. Severe indictment or commendation are encountered according to

each ruler's approach to the things of God. The unbiased and direct manner with which the acts of each king are recorded indicates authorship from outside the court of the king. No royal scribe or court historian would record the history of monarchs in such unequivocal and authoritative fashion. Not only would it endanger his position but, in the case of some kings, his life as well. The records were written by men who though fully acquainted with the details of the lives of the kings were not connected with them in any way that might have biased or influenced what they wrote. They were concerned with recording God's view of each king rather than that which the king might have wished to be recorded of himself.

The prophets undoubtedly were the recorders of the history of this period. Neither the royal scribes or the priests could have satisfactorily performed the task that God's prophets accomplished so well. Their names are often mentioned in the Divine summaries appended to each king. The prophets also played a prominent role in the anointing and subsequent accession of kings as the following list shows:

Samuel - Saul (1 Sam. 10:1), and David (1 Sam. 16:12-13); **Nathan** - Solomon (1 Kings 1:11-27,34); **Ahijah** - Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:29-38); **Jehu** - Doom against Baasha (1 Kings 16:1-4,7); **Elisha** - Jehu (2 Kings 9:1-12).

The records of prophets being involved with kings, usually to condemn them, are numerous, but in particular the history of Elijah and Elisha covers 19 chapters from 1 Kings 17 to 2 Kings 13. Who would have such a complete knowledge but the prophets themselves? Furthermore it is noteworthy that many words and phrases used by the writers of these records are echoed by Isaiah, Jeremiah and other O.T. prophets of this period.

THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS

A brief summary of the development of the school of the prophets and their role in Israel will be useful background to our study of the kings.

- 1)** The association of many prophets together commenced in the days of Samuel. Before his time the only prophets mentioned were Abraham (Gen. 20:7); Aaron (Exod. 7:1); Miriam and Deborah, and the unnamed prophet of Jud. 6:8. Moses was also a prophet (Deut. 18:15), but nowhere is it recorded that prophets gathered in groups until the days of Samuel (1 Sam. 10:5, 10-12). If not the founder, Samuel was certainly the first significant leader of the school of the prophets (1 Sam. 19:20).
- 2)** Samuel's yearly circuit of Bethel, Gilgal, Mizpeh and return to Ramah (1 Sam. 7:15-17), was probably in connection with the schools of the prophets he had established.
- 3)** Jezebel murdered groups of prophets (1 Kings 18:4). These were described as Yahweh's prophets (1 Kings 9:10,14).
- 4)** There were evidently communities of prophets in most cities around Samuel's circuit and its immediate vicinity (2 Kings 2:3,5).

- 5)** Elisha's dealings with the sons of the prophets were many. He was clearly their acknowledged leader (2 Kings 4:1,38; 6:1-3).
- 6)** They were manifestly an independent group, having their inception before the monarchy, and therefore well able to play the part of independent Divine recorders.
- 7)** The 'seers' were actually prophets (1 Sam. 9:9). The word in the Hebrew is ra'ah meaning 'to see'. Samuel himself is described as a seer (1 Sam. 9:19).
- 8)** Prophets and seers recorded the history of Kings (1 Chron. 29:29; 2 Chron. 9:29,12:15).

THE CHRONICLES OF THE KINGS

The phrase "The chronicles of the Kings" is found 30 times in the books of Kings and Chronicles; 12 times concerning the kings of Judah (first mention 1Kings 14:29), and 18 times concerning the kings of Israel (first mention 1Kings 14:19).

It is apparent that these "chronicles" were records kept by God's prophets of the affairs of the ruling monarch of each kingdom and that in due course they were assembled and completed to form the books of Kings and Chronicles as we have them today.

THE ACTS OF THE KINGS

The word "acts" is used 50 times in the books of Kings and Chronicles for they are primarily records of the acts or works of men who ruled God's people. They will be judged according to the same rule that has applied to responsible men of all ages; "Behold I come quickly and my reward is with me, to give to every man according as his work shall be" (Rev. 22:12). "Works" or fruits reflect what is in the heart (Matt. 7:16-20, Luke 6:43-45), and therefore the final judgement will be upon the basis of what a man has done, whether it be good or evil (2 Cor. 5:10, Rom. 2:5-16).

It is sobering to reflect upon the fact that as God recorded the "acts" of the kings of Israel and Judah, so He is also recording our "acts" in a special record known amongst us as "a book of the life" as distinct from "The Book of Life". Psa . 56:8, Mal. 3:16, and Rev. 20:12 make reference to these personal records of our lives and character, commenced at the time we become responsible to Divine judgement.

The final assessment of our "acts" will determine whether or not our name is found still recorded in "The Book of Life" by the Judge before whom "we must all stand". If in that record there are found sins unrepented of, and therefore unforgiven; works of the flesh and "acts" that testify to "an evil heart of unbelief", then inevitably the Divine condemnation will also be recorded therein, as it was in the case of every wicked or unfaithful king in Israel and Judah. On the other hand, if the Judge finds a record of worthy "acts"; the fruit of a good and responsive heart having produced works of faith out of a character reflecting his own; and manifested in a man who, knowing his weakness and dependence upon God's mercy and strength, repented of his sins and

sought forgiveness, then the Divine assessment will be one of commendation as it was in the case of just a few kings in Judah.

It remains to be seen if God will reveal the history of our lives to future generations of mortals in the Kingdom Age for their “learning and admonition” as he has revealed the lives and characters of the kings to us. One thing is certain however. Very few of the kings, if any, would have realised that the affairs of their lives and their “acts” would be preserved for the scrutiny of all subsequent generations.

Finally, some mention should be made of the important relationship between “acts” and character. Character is the mature product of faith and obedience developed by the influence of the word of God upon the mind and heart under trial. As an individual grows in faith, and obedience to the Divine will he is conformed in measure to the moral image or pattern of Christ who was the perfect manifestation of his Father’s character. A man’s works over a period of time testify to his character. Hence Christ’s intention to judge a man “according to that which he hath done” (Rom. 2:6; 2 Cor. 5:10). In this context the following maxim is not without some force:-

| |
|--|
| Sow an Act - Reap a Habit, Sow a Habit - Reap a Character, Sow a Character - Reap a Destiny. |
|--|

CHRONOLOGY OF THE KINGS

Chronology is a rewarding study in itself but its real value lies in the light it throws upon the surrounding text. Studied in conjunction with the text it is a valuable aid to deeper understanding of the Divine record of the Kings.

Unfortunately, experience has shown that it is extremely difficult to arrive at an absolutely certain chronological table for the period of Israel’s history between 931 and 586 BC. The issue is confused by some contradictory synchronisms and other difficulties apparently due to interpolation and errors in the transcription of the text. Some commentators even suggest that there were differing dating systems employed in Judah and Israel. These difficulties will only be fully appreciated by those who attempt to reconstruct the chronology of the period. However, despite the many difficulties, much valuable detail is available enabling a reasonable reconstruction to be made, though dogmatism in some areas is impossible.

Most authorities now agree that 931 BC was the year of the division of the kingdom of Solomon and that 723 BC was the year of Israel’s collapse at the hand of Shalmaneser king of Assyria. 586 BC is generally agreed to be the year of the dissolution of Judah’s kingdom and the demise of Zedekiah its last king at the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

Not wishing to enter into a detailed consideration of the chronology of the period the author has for the purpose of these notes adopted the following chronological table from the commentary on 1 and 2 Kings by John Gray which is largely based on the chronological scheme elaborated by Edwin R. Thiele in his work *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings*. Gray makes some significant modifications to Thiele's work and although there are still areas of difficulty with his chart, it seems the most satisfactory among those encountered so far.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

| ISRAEL | | JUDAH | |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Jeroboam I | 931-910 | Rehoboam | 930-914 |
| Nadab | 910-909 | Abijah | 913-911 |
| Baasha | 909-886 | Asa | 911-871 |
| Elah | 886-885 | | |
| Omri (rule disputed) | 885-881 | | |
| (undisputed) | 881-874 | | |
| Ahab | 874-853 | Jehoshaphat | 871-847 |
| Ahaziah (co-regent) | 855 | | |
| (sole king) | 853-852 | Jehoram (co-regent) | 853 |
| Jehoram | 852-841 | (sole king) | 848-841 |
| Jehu | 841-814 | Ahaziah | 841 |
| | | Athaliah | 841-836 |
| Jehoahaz | 813-797 | Joash | 835-796 |
| Jehoash (co-regent) | 799 | Amaziah (co-regent) | 798 |
| (sole king) | 796-781 | (sole king) | 795-767 |
| Jeroboam II (co-regent) | 794 | Azariah/Uzziah (co-regent) | 791 |
| (sole king) | 781-754 | (sole king) | 766-740 |
| Zechariah | 754-753 | | |
| Shallum | 753 | | |
| Menahem's rising | 753 | Jotham (co-regent) | 750 |
| Menahem established | 751-742 | (sole king) | 739-734 |
| Pekahiah | 742-741 | Ahaz (co-regent) | 734 |
| Pekah | 740-732/1 | (recognised by Tiglath-pileser) | 732 |
| | | (formal accession) | 730 |
| Hoshea | 731-723 | (reign) | 730-715 |
| Fall of Samaria | 723-722 | Hezekiah (co-regent) | 729 |
| | | (sole king) | 714-686 |
| | | Manasseh (co-regent) | 695 |
| | | (sole king) | 685-641 |
| | | Amon | 640-639 |
| | | Josiah | 639-609 |
| | | Jehoahaz (3 months) | 609 |
| | | Jehoiakim | 608-597 |
| | | Jehoiachin (3 months) | 597 |
| | | Zedekiah | 596-586 |
| | | Fall of Jerusalem | 586 |

THE CHRONOLOGICAL DATA OF THE KINGS OF JUDAH

| KING | SYNCHRONISM | REIGN | REFERENCE | 2 Chron. |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Rehoboam | | 17 years | 1 Kings 14:21 | 12:13 |
| Abijah | 18th of Jeroboam | 3 years | 15:1-2 | 13:1 |
| Asa | 20th of Jeroboam | 41 years | 15:9-10 | 16:13 |
| Jehoshaphat | 4th of Ahab | 25 years | 22:41-42 | 20:31 |
| Jehoram | 5th of Jehoram | 8 years | 2 Kings 8:16-17 | 21:5 |
| Ahaziah | 12th of Jehoram | 6 years | 11:3-4 | 22:12 |
| Joash | 7th of Jehu | 40 years | 12:1 | 24:1 |
| Amaziah | 2nd of Jehoash | 29 years | 14:1-2 | |
| 25:1 | | | | |
| Uzziah | 27th of Jeroboam | 52 years | 15:1-2 | 26:3 |
| Jotham | 2nd of Pekah | 16 years | 15:32-33 | 27:1 |
| Ahaz | 17th of Pekah | 16 years | 16:1-2 | 28:1 |
| Hezekiah | 3rd of Hoshea | 29 years | 18:1-2 | 29:1 |
| Manasseh | | 55 years | 21:1 | 33:1 |
| Amon | | 2 years | 21:19 | 33:21 |
| Josiah | | 31 years | 22:1 | 34:1 |
| Jehoahaz | | 3 months | 23:31 | 36:2 |
| Jehoiakim | | 11 years | 23:36 | 36:5 |
| Jehoiachin | | 3 months 10 days | 24:8 | 36:9 |
| Zedekiah | | 11 years | 24:18 | 36:11 |

| COMPARISON OF THE ARMIES OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH | | | | | |
|--|--------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| ISRAEL | | | JUDAH | | |
| | | | Rehoboam | 930 BC | 180,000 |
| Jeroboam | 912 BC | 800,000 | Abijah | 912 BC | 400,000 |
| | | | Asa | 905 BC | 580,000 |
| Ahab | 865 BC | 7,232 | Jehoshaphat | 875 BC | 1,160,000 |

THE CHRONOLOGICAL DATA OF THE KINGS OF ISRAEL

The following table sets out the recorded synchronisms of the kings of Israel in relation to the kings of Judah as noted in the books of 1 and 2 Kings.

| KING | SYNCHRONISM | LENGTH OF REIGN | 1 Kings |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Jeroboam | | 22 years | 14:20 |
| Nadab | 2nd of Asa | 2 years | 15:25 |
| Baasha | 3rd of Asa | 24 years | 15:28,33 |
| Elah | 26th of Asa | 2 years | 16:8 |
| Zimri | 27th of Asa | 7 days | 16:10,15 |
| Omri | 31st of Asa | 12 years | 16:23 |
| Ahab | 38th of Asa | 22 years | 16:29 |
| Ahaziah | 17th of Jehoshaphat | 2 years | 22:51 |
| Jehoram | 18th of Jehoshaphat | 12 years | 2 Kings 3:1 |
| Jehu | | 28 years | 10:36 |
| Jehoahaz | 23rd of Joash | 17 years | 13:1 |
| Jehoash | 37th of Joash | 16 years | 13:10 |
| Jeroboam | 15th of Amaziah | 41 years | 14:23 |
| Zachariah | 38th of Uzziah | 6 months | 15:8 |
| Shallum | 39th of Uzziah | 1 month | 15:13 |
| Menahem | 39th of Uzziah | 10 years | 15:17 |
| Pekahiah | 50th of Uzziah | 2 years | 15:23 |
| Pekah | 52nd of Uzziah | 20 years | 15:27 |
| Hoshea | 12th of Ahaz | 9 years | 17:1 |

The Books of the Chronicles and the Kings and Samuel

In 1 and 2 Chronicles we see repeated much of the information found in 1 and 2 Kings. The following chart shows how the books differ:

Style

1 and 2 Kings: realism

1 and 2 Chronicles: idealism

Viewpoint

1 and 2 Kings: civil and political

1 and 2 Chronicles: spiritual and moral

Purpose

1 and 2 Kings: indictment; to document the failures of God's people

1 and 2 Chronicles: incitement; to encourage the Jews returning from captivity

Focus

1 and 2 Kings: northern and southern kingdoms; all kings whether good or evil

1 and 2 Chronicles: southern kingdom of Judah; King David, King Solomon, and the godly kings of Judah

Discussion of the temple and worship

1 and 2 Kings: five chapters (1 Kin. 5–8; 2 Kin. 12)

1 and 2 Chronicles: twenty chapters (1 Chr. 13; 15; 16; 22–26; 28; 29; 2 Chr. 2–7; 24; 29; 30; 34)

1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles

<https://chrisedmondson.blogspot.com/2010/07/1-2-kings-1-2-chronicles.html>

In the Hebrew Bible, the last book is the book of Chronicles (later broken into 1 & 2 Chronicles).

Here is a chart of 1 Kings, giving you an overview of the chapters and how they relate to one another:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|--|---|
| POLITICALLY David succeeded by Solomon NATIONALLY Kingdom united ECONOMICALLY Solid and secure SPIRITUALLY Shaky | Solomon <i>"In all his splendor"</i> Crowned and inaugurated (1-2) Married and exalted (3-4) Temple erected and dedicated (5-8) Warned and blessed (9-10) | Decline and Demise | Disruption <i>"A kingdom divided against itself"</i> Internal conflict and hostility (12-14) Civil war and idolatry (15-16) Ahab and Elijah (17-22) "He served Baal and worshiped him and provoked the Lord God of Israel to anger according to all that his father had done." (22:53) | POLITICALLY King after king NATIONALLY Kingdom divided ECONOMICALLY Unstable SPIRITUALLY Empty |
| | CHAPTERS 1-10 | CHAPTER 11 | CHAPTERS 12-22 | |
| | Time | Forty years | Eighty years | |
| Kingdom | United and strong | | Divided and weak | |
| People | Solomon | | Jeroboam to Ahaziah Rehoboam to Jehoshaphat | |
| Identity | "All Israel . . . sons of Israel" | | North: Israel; Samaria; Ephraim South: Judah; Jerusalem | |
| Key Verses | 9:3-9; 11:11-13 | | | |
| Christ in 1 Kings | Solomon's wisdom, which foreshadows Him who "became for us the wisdom of God" (1 Cor. 1:30); the prophetic ministry and miracles of Elijah | | | |

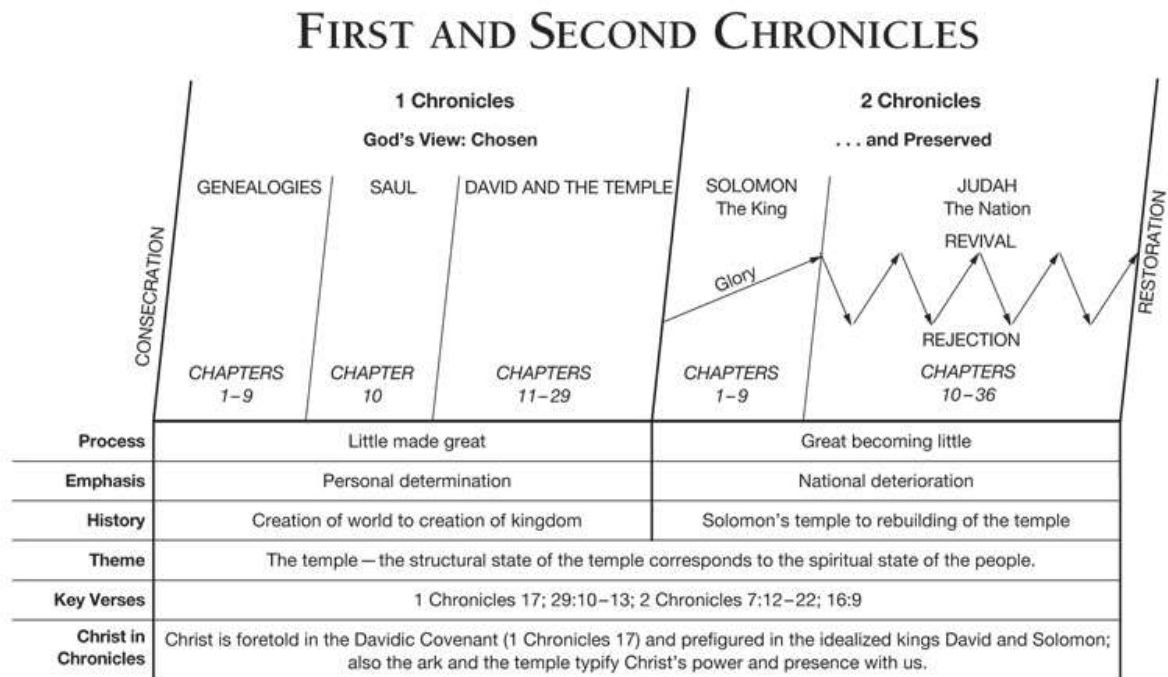
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In 2 Kings, we see the fall of two divided nations: Israel & Judah:

| | Northern Kingdom Israel | Both Kingdoms (Alternating) | Southern Kingdom Judah |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| | ISRAEL'S FALL TO ASSYRIA 722 B.C. | JUDAH'S FALL TO BABYLON 586 B.C. | |
| | CHAPTERS 1-10 | CHAPTERS 11-17 | CHAPTERS 18-25 |
| Northern Prophets | Elijah Elisha | Jonah Amos Hosea | |
| Southern Prophets | | Obadiah Joel Micah Isaiah | Nahum Zephaniah Jeremiah Habakkuk |
| Northern Kings | Ahaziah | to | Hoshea |
| Southern Kings | | Jehoram | to Zedekiah |
| Main Theme | God is patient, but He does not allow persistent sin to go unpunished | | |
| Key Chapters | 17 and 25 | | |
| Christ in 2 Kings | Foreshadowed in the faithfulness of some Judean kings; seen in the healing ministry and compassion of Elisha | | |

Continued next page...

Here is an overview of 1 & 2 Chronicles:



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The United Kingdom 1051-931BC

The complete history of the united kingdom period is found in 1 Samuel 9 through 1 Kings 11. Click [here](#) to see the previous blog post).

| | | |
|---------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Saul | No Heart | 40 years (see 1 Sam. 9-31) |
| David | Whole Heart | 40 years (see 2 Sam. 1- 24) |
| Solomon | Half Heart | 40 years (see 1 Kings 1-11) |

During this time frame, David and Solomon penned beautiful Hebrew poetry (David wrote about half the Psalms, Solomon wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. Solomon's wisdom stemmed from God, for God asked him what he wanted (1 Kings 3)

That night the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!" Solomon replied, "You showed faithful love to your servant my father, David, because he was honest and true and faithful to you. And you

have continued your faithful love to him today by giving him a son to sit on his throne. "Now, O LORD my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn't know his way around. And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted! Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?" The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom. So God replied, "Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies— I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! And I will also give you what you did not ask for—riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life! And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands as your father, David, did, I will give you a long life."

1 Kings 3:5-14

As wise as Solomon was, he acted like a fool...

Now King Solomon loved many foreign women along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the sons of Israel, "You shall not associate with them, neither shall they associate with you, for they will surely turn your heart away after their gods." Solomon held fast to these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned his heart away. For it came about when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

1 Kings 11:1-4

Wanting to please his wives more than the Lord, he set up idols in Jerusalem and joined in the worship (1 Kings 11:5-8). Eventually, what began as a crack within the king's heart resulted in a great divide within the nation. After Solomon died, the nation of Israel experienced a civil war, and was divided into north and south.

The Divided Kingdom

931BC-586BC

Why did the nation crumble into two parts? 4 reasons caused the split...

- Spiritual decline, due to the influx of idolatry
- Solomon's heart was divided, resulting in the kingdom being divided.

- Economic burden, from Solomon and his son overworking and overtaxing the people (12:3-14)
- Failures in Solomon's family, because they broke God's covenant

When you read Kings and Chronicles, remember that they are tracing the history of two nations at the same time (Kings mainly centers on the kingdom, and Chronicles mainly centers on the kingdom).

There are a couple of names that are used interchangeably for the North and the South. Take a look...

The Northern Kingdom (11 Tribes)

Israel

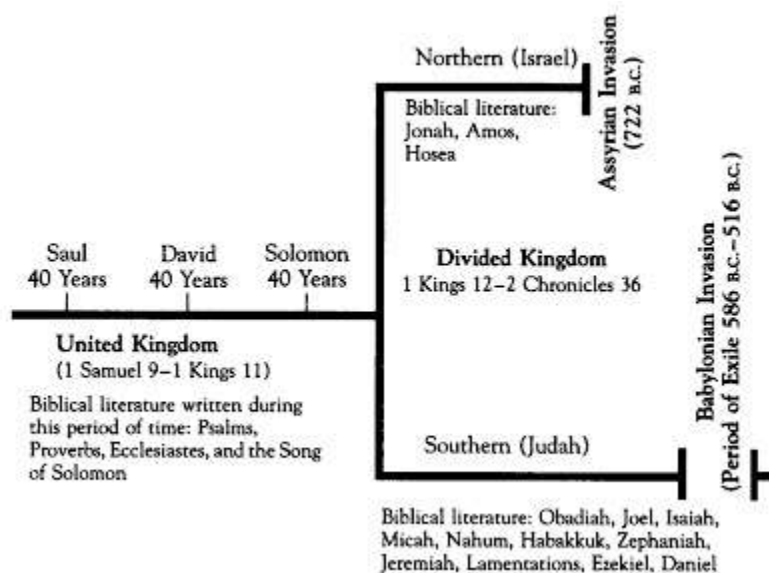
Ephraim

Samaria

The Southern Kingdom (1 Tribe)

Judah

Jerusalem





<https://reasonabletheology.org/whats-the-difference-between-kings-and-chronicles/>

It is clear to even the casual reader that the books of 1 and 2 Kings share a great deal of similarities with the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles. So much so, in fact, that some wonder why it is that we have both of these accounts of Israel's history in our Bibles.

At first glance it can seem as though the same information is being repeated but from a slightly different angle. And this is, to some extent, true. Roughly 50% of the material in Chronicles is covered elsewhere in the Old Testament.

So why do we have both Kings and Chronicles in our Bibles? The answer lies in understanding the differences between these two histories of Israel.

In order to account for these differences, we must first understand the date and setting of each of these books.

Together with the books of Samuel, Kings was written around 550-560 BC during the Babylonian exile, while Chronicles was written after the exile was over, around 450-440 BC. Whereas Samuel/Kings addressed the hardhearted Jews experiencing exile and captivity, Chronicles seeks to inspire hope and faith in God among those who are hurting after this spiritually devastating ordeal.

The fact that these two accounts of Israel's history are given to different audiences accounts for the contrasts between the two. While Samuel/Kings needed to show the people that the nation's troubles were the result of their sinful disobedience rather than God's abandonment of His people, Chronicles wanted to encourage the Israelites and help them turn back to worshiping Yahweh as the one true God.

Continued next page...

Three distinctives in Chronicles help show how it is different than Samuel/Kings.

A Focus on David and Solomon

The Chronicler focuses heavily on David and Solomon, to the tune of 29 chapters. When discussing these rulers, the spotlight is on their triumphs rather than their respective failures of adultery and idolatry.

Though Chronicles does not whitewash history, it does deal more favorably with many of the kings of Israel. For instance, the wicked King Manasseh is described as an evil king in both 1 Kings 22 and 2 Chronicles 33, but only Chronicles mentions his repentance and return to God.

A Focus on Judah

A second distinctive is that the Chronicler focuses primarily on the kings of Judah, the house of David, rather than the kings of Israel (remember, the kingdoms were divided after the death of Solomon). When the kings of Israel (the northern kingdom) are mentioned, it is because it has a direct connection to the narrative related to the exploits of Judah in the south.

While it does not ignore the northern kingdom and the complex issues associated with it, the book of Chronicles sees Judah as the center of God's work among His people.

A Focus on Restoration

Lastly, whereas Samuel/Kings acknowledges that God dealt with the wickedness of Israel's kings by punishing even their descendants, Chronicles focuses on God's dealing with obedient and disobedient kings within their own lifetime.

The overall purpose of Chronicles was not to browbeat an already dejected Israel, but to lift them up and point them back to God. This is why it is fitting that the book of Chronicles is the final book in the Hebrew Bible (or Tanakh). By demonstrating for them how God is in control, the author of Chronicles seeks to inspire a return to proper worship and reverence for Yahweh, the God of Israel.

While there is more that can be said about the difference between the books of Kings and Chronicles, the above distinctives reveal that the latter book is not redundant. When we read Scripture – particularly the Old Testament – we must remember that while these books were written *for* us they were not originally written *to* us.

The original readers of these books would have been much better attuned to the differences in their content and in their purpose. As we read through the Bible we will always benefit by trying to first understand what the text meant to the original audience before we try to understand how it applies to us today.

The Distinction Between Kings and Chronicles

[2 Kings 25:21](#) - And **Nebuchadnezzar** the king of Babylon smote them, and slew them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried away out of their land.

| Comparison List of Kings and Chronicles | |
|---|---|
| Kings | Chronicles |
| The Book of Kings was Written after the Beginning of the Captivity in Babylon | The Book of Chronicles Was Written after the Return from Babylon and Persia |
| The Book of Kings was Compiled by a Prophet | The Book of Chronicles Was Compiled by a Priest |
| The Emphasis of the Book of Kings Is Earthly | The Emphasis of The Book of Chronicles Is Heavenly |
| Both Israel and Judah Are the Theme of the Book of Kings | Judah Is the Main Theme of the Book of Chronicles |
| The History of the Book of Kings Is Political with a Focus on the Kings | The History of the Book of Chronicles Is Ecclesiastical with a Focus on the Priests |
| The Book of Kings Closes with Bondage in a Foreign Land | The Book of Chronicles Closes with Restoration from Foreign Oppressors |

[2 Chronicles 36:23](#) - Thus saith **Cyrus** king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.

Source: <https://www.bible-history.com/old-testament/kings-chronicles.html>



<http://www.stephenjbedard.com/2015/07/02/what-is-the-difference-between-samuelkings-and-chronicles/>

How Are Samuel/Kings and Chronicles different?

There is a difference between Chronicles and Samuel/Kings. To begin with, they do not appear in the same sections within the Hebrew Bible. The Jewish order of the books is different than the Christian order (which is based on the Greek Old Testament).

The Hebrew Bible has three sections: Law, Prophets and Writings. Samuel and Kings are found in the Prophets section, specifically the Former Prophets along with Joshua and Judges. Chronicles is found within the writings, along with books such as the Psalms, Proverbs and others.

When you read Samuel/Kings and Chronicles, there is an obvious difference. The earlier books deals with both kingdoms, Israel and Judah, while Chronicles is only interested in Judah. Israel is only dealt with when it has an immediate impact on the events in Judah.

But there is another difference that not everyone sees. Chronicles cleans up the reputation of the kings. For example, if you go to 1 Chronicles 20, you can see where the story of Bathsheba fits but it is not there. Chronicles removes most of the bad stuff. The same is true of Solomon. In 1 Kings, we see that Solomon really lost his way in the final years of his reign. If you only read Chronicles, you would think his reign was a complete success.

Why do these differences exist? It comes down to the historical context. Samuel/Kings was written at the beginning of the exile. It was a time of repentance and reflection of how they had come to that terrible situation. Chronicles was written after the exile was

over and the Jews were trying to re-establish themselves. It would do no good to go over their sinful past. They needed to have renewed faith in their leaders. Chronicles was written for a Jewish people who needed encouragement and strengthening. That is exactly what Chronicles does.

The Harmony of Samuel, Kings, & Chronicles, part 1

<https://bethhavenchurchkc.com/sermons/the-harmony-of-samuel-kings-chronicles-part-1/>

Beth Haven Church: The Harmony of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles, part 1 [Video]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLeZu5lf7JQ>

The Harmony of Samuel, Kings, & Chronicles, part 11

<https://bethhavenchurchkc.com/sermons/the-harmony-of-samuel-kings-chronicles-part-11/>

Beth Haven Church: Harmony of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles, part 2 [Video]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTpRk5y2sdc>

[NOTE: There are at least 12 parts to this series]

Comparison of 1–2 Chronicles with 2 Samuel and 1–2 Kings

<https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/chart-13-02/>

Harmony of the books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles

<https://biblehandbookidea.wordpress.com/harmony-samuel-kings-chronicles/>

Middletown Bible Church: Samuel, Kings, Chronicles

<http://www.middletownbiblechurch.org/oldtesta/oldtes5.htm>

COMPARISON About the Books of Kings and Chronicles

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/1ce2f09f3aaccdc0c48bf74364e50476?AccessKeyId=CBD9AA38305486ABBDEA&disposition=0&alloworigin=1> [PDF]

Kings and Chronicles: Interpreting Historical Interpretation

<https://directionjournal.org/11/2/kings-and-chronicles-interpreting.html>

On Kings vs. Chronicles "Contradictions"

<https://gptsrabbi.blogspot.com/2008/07/on-kings-vs-chronicles-contradictions.html>

The Reliability of Kings and Chronicles

<https://bible.org/article/reliability-kings-and-chronicles> (see chart next page)

Samuel-Kings & Chronicles Harmony

<https://adiakrisis.files.wordpress.com/2011/09/harmony-of-samuel-kings-and-chronicles.pdf> [PDF]

A harmony of the books of Samuel, Kings and Chronicles - Crockett

<https://people.bethel.edu/~pferris/ot102/harmonysamuelchron-crockett.pdf> [PDF]

A Harmony of the Books of Samuel, Kings and Chronicles - Crockett

http://www.swartzentrover.com/cotor/E-Books/christ/Crockett/HSKC_AO3.htm

Introduction to Samuel, Kings and Chronicles (from a Theology of Work perspective)

<https://www.theologyofwork.org/old-testament/samuel-kings-chronicles-and-work>

See also: <https://www.theologyofwork.org/resources/the-theology-of-work-bible-commentary>

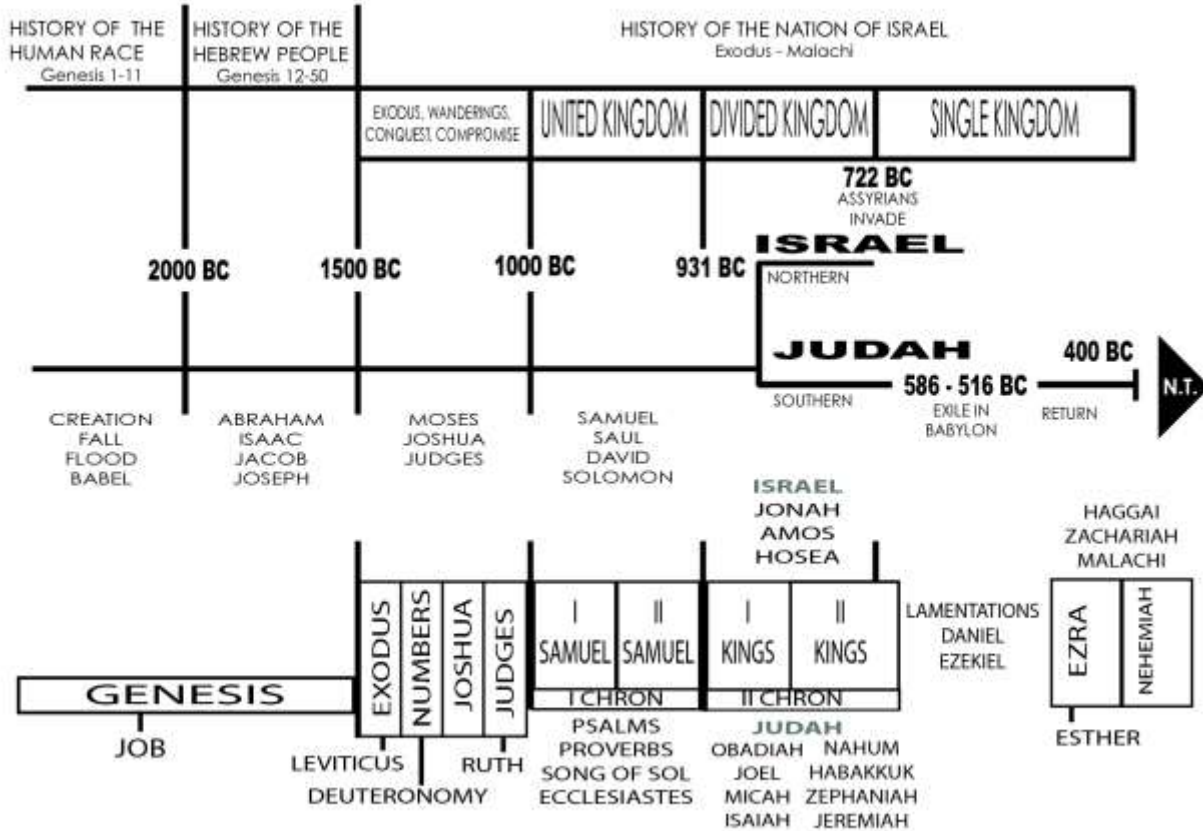
Chart of Israel's and Judah's Kings and Prophets

<https://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2017/07/updated-chart-of-israels-and-judahs-kings-and-prophets/> (see next page)

| United Kingdom | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------|--|---|---|-------------------------|-------------|---|--|
| Years (BC) | King | Start / End | Prophet | Scripture | | | | | |
| 1050 - 1010 | Saul | Good / Evil | Samuel | 1 Sa 8-31 1 Ch 9-10 | | | | | |
| 1010 - 970 | David (Captain) | Good / Good | Samuel | 1 Sa 16-31 2 Sa 1-24 1 Ki 1-2 1 Ch 11-29 | | | | | |
| | | | Nathan | | | | | | |
| 970 - 930 | Solomon (Son) | Good / Evil | Nathan | 1 Ki 1-11 2 Ch 1-9 | | | | | |
| Divided Kingdom | | | | | | | | | |
| Judah | | | | | Israel | | | | |
| Years | King | Start / End | Prophet | Scripture | Years | King | Start / End | Prophet | Scripture |
| 931 - 913 | Rehoboam (Son) | Evil / Evil | Shemaiah | 1 Ki 12, 14 2 Ch 10-12 | 931 - 910 | Jeroboam I (servant) | Evil / Evil | Ahijah | 1 Ki 12-14 2 Ch 10 |
| 913 - 911 | Abijah (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 1 Ki 15 2 Ch 13 | | 910 - 909 | Nadab (son) | Evil / Evil | |
| 911 - 870 | Asa (Son) | Good/Good | Hanani | 1 Ki 15 2 Ch 14-16 | 909 - 886 | Baasha | Evil / Evil | Jehu | 1 Ki 16 |
| | | | | | 886 - 885 | Elah (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 1 Ki 16 |
| | | | | | 885 | Zeri (captain) | Evil / Evil | Micalah | 1 Ki 16 |
| | | | | | 885 - 874 | Omri (Captain) | Evil / Evil | Elijah 1 Ki 17-18 1 Ki 21 2 Ki 1-2 | 1 Ki 16 1 Ki 17 2 Ch 18 |
| | | | | | 874 - 853 | Ahab (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 1 Ki 22 2 Ki 1 |
| 870 - 848 | Jehoshaphat (Son) | Good/Good | | 1 Ki 22 2 Ch 17-20 | 853 - 852 | Ahaziah (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 1 |
| 848 - 841 | Jehoram (Son) | Evil / Evil | Obadiah(?) | 2 Ki 8 2 Ch 21 | 852 - 841 | Joram (Son of Ahab) | Evil / Evil | Elisha 1 Ki 19 2 Ki 2-8 2 Ki 13 | 2 Ki 9 |
| 841 | Ahaziah (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 8-9 2 Ch 22 | 841 - 814 | Jehu (Captain) | Good / Evil | | 2 Ki 9-10 |
| 841 - 835 | Athaliah (mother) | Evil / Evil | 2 Ki 11 2 Ch 22-23 | | | | | | |
| 835 - 796 | Josiah (son of Ahaaziah) | Good / Evil | Aoef | 2 Ki 11-12 2 Ch 23-24 | | | | | |
| 796 - 767 | Amaziah (Son) | Good / Evil | | 2 Ki 14 2 Ch 25 | 814 - 798 | Jehoahaz (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 13 |
| 767 - 740 | Uzziah aka Azariah (Son) | Good/Evil | Isaiah Micah | 2 Ki 15 2 Ch 26 | 798 - 782 | Jehoash (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 13-14 |
| | | | | | 782 - 753 | Jeroboam II (Son) | Evil / Evil | 2 Ki 14 | |
| | | | | | 753 - 752 | Zechariah (Son) | Evil / Evil | Amos Hosea | 2 Ki 15 |
| | | | | | 752 | Shallum | Evil / Evil | 2 Ki 15 | |
| | | | | | 752 - 742 | Manahem | Evil / Evil | Jonah (2 Kings 14:25, Jonah 1:1) | 2 Ki 15 |
| 742 - 740 | Pekahiah (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 15 | | | | | |
| 742 - 732 | Jotham (Son) | Good/Good | | 2 Ki 15 2 Ch 27 | 742 - 740 (real) 733 - 722 (son) | Pekah (Captain) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 15 |
| 732 - 716 | Ahaz (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 16 2 Ch 28 Is 7 | 732 - 722 | Hoshea | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 17 |
| 716 - 687 | Hezekiah (Son) | Good/Good | | 2 Ki 18-20 2 Ch 29-32 Is 38-39 | Israel into Assyrian captivity - 722 BC | | | | |
| 687 - 642 | Manasseh (Son) | Evil / Good | | 2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33 | Nahum | | | | |
| 642 - 640 | Amon (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33 | | | | | |
| 640 - 608 | Josiah (Son) | Good/Good | | 2 Ki 22-23 2 Ch 34-35 | Daniel | | | | |
| 608 | Jehoahaz (Son) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 23 2 Ch 36 | | | | | |
| 608 - 597 | Jehoiakim (Son of Josiah) | Evil / Evil | Hobakkuk Zephaniah Jeremiah | 2 Ki 23-24 2 Ch 36 | | | | | |
| 597 | Jehoiachin (Son) | Evil / Evil | Ezekiel (Babylonian) | 2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36 | | | | | |
| 597 - 586 | Zedekiah (Son of Josiah) | Evil / Evil | | 2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36 | | | | | |
| Judah into Babylonian captivity - 586 BC | | | | | | | | | |
| 586-450 | | | Jeremiah Haggai Zechariah Malachi | | | | | | |
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| KINGS OF ISRAEL & JUDAH | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| KINGDOM/KING <small>Bold type = basically good king</small> | YEARS OF REIGN | REFERENCE |
| United Kingdom | | |
| Saul | 32 | 1 Samuel 9:1-31:13 |
| David | 40 | 2 Samuel |
| Solomon | 40 | 1 Kings 2:1-11:43 |
| Southern Kings (Judah) | | |
| Rehoboam | 17 | 1 Kings 12:1-14:31; 2 Chronicles 10:-12:16 |
| Abijah | 3 | 1 Kings 15:1-8; 2 Chronicles 13:1-22 |
| Asa | 41 | 1 Kings 15:9-24; 2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14 |
| Jehoshaphat | 25 | 1 Kings 22:41-50; 2 Chronicles 17:1-20:37 |
| Jehoram | 8 | 2 Kings 8:16-24; 2 Chronicles 21:1-20 |
| Ahaziah | 1 | 2 Kings 8:25-29; 2 Chronicles 22:1-9 |
| Athaliah (queen) | 7 | 2 Kings 11:1-16; 2 Chronicles 22:1-23:21 |
| Joash | 40 | 2 Kings 11:17-12:21; 2 Chronicles 23:16-24:27 |
| Amaziah | 29 | 2 Kings 14:1-22; 2 Chronicles 25:1-28 |
| Uzziah (Azariah) | 52 | 2 Kings 15:1-7; 2 Chronicles 26:1-23 |
| Jotham | 16 | 2 Kings 15:32-38; 2 Chronicles 27:1-9 |
| Ahaz | 16 | 2 Kings 16:1-20; 2 Chronicles 28:1-27 |
| Hezekiah | 29 | 2 Kings 18:1-20:21; 2 Chronicles 29:1-32:33 |
| Manasseh | 55 | 2 Kings 21:1-18; 2 Chronicles 33:1-20 |
| Amon | 2 | 2 Kings 21:19-26; 2 Chronicles 33:21-25 |
| Josiah | 31 | 2 Kings 22:1-23:30; 2 Chronicles 34:1-35:27 |
| Jehoahaz | 3 months | 2 Kings 23:31-33; 2 Chronicles 36:1-4 |
| Jehoiakim | 11 | 2 Kings 23:34-24:7; 2 Chronicles 36:5-8 |
| Jehoiachin | 3 months | 2 Kings 24:8-16; 2 Chronicles 36:9-10 |
| Zedekiah | 11 | 2 Kings 24:18-25:21; 2 Chronicles 36:11-21 |
| Northern Kings (Israel) | | |
| Jeroboam I | 22 | 1 Kings 12:25-14:20; 2 Chronicles 10:1-12:16 |
| Nadab | 2 | 1 Kings 15:25-31 |
| Baasha | 24 | 1 Kings 15:32-16:7 |
| Elah | 2 | 1 Kings 16:8-14 |
| Zimri | 7 days | 1 Kings 16:15-20 |
| Tibni | 3 | 1 Kings 16:21-22 |
| Omri | 11 | 1 Kings 16:21-28 |
| Ahab | 22 | 1 Kings 16:29-22:40 |
| Ahaziah | 2 | 1 Kings 22:51-53; 2 Kings 1:1-18 |
| Joram | 12 | 2 Kings 2:1-8:15 |
| Jehu | 28 | 2 Kings 9:1-10:36 |
| Jehoahaz | 17 | 2 Kings 13:1-9 |
| Jehoash | 16 | 2 Kings 13:10-25 |
| Jeroboam II | 41 | 2 Kings 14:23-29 |
| Zechariah | 6 months | 2 Kings 15:8-12 |
| Shallum | 1 month | 2 Kings 15:13-15 |
| Menahem | 10 | 2 Kings 15:16-22 |
| Pekahiah | 2 | 2 Kings 15:23-26 |
| Pekah | 20 | 2 Kings 15:27-31 |
| Hoshea | 10 | 2 Kings 17:1-41 |

A CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT



Compiled from several sources by Tom Oyler, 2010.



| Jeremiah 52 | Parallels in 2 Kings 24-25 | Parallels in Jeremiah 39 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| vv. 1–11 | 24:18-25:7 | |
| vv. 4–11 | | vv. 1–7 |
| vv. 12–27 | 25:8–21 | |
| vv. 31–34 | 25:27–30 | |

The Chronicler's Purpose

<https://intheinbetweendotcom.wordpress.com/tag/chartstables/>

All OT history is intended to be an factual historical account. It also has a theological/religious purpose (Remember from [this post](#) that political history and religious history were virtually indistinguishable in Israel). This theological purpose guides the authors in what they choose to include: this is why some stories, like [Judah's in Genesis 38](#) and [Ruth's](#), are included and other stories are left out altogether and also why [only certain details of each story are included](#).

The Chronicler had a specific theological agenda in mind when he wrote 1 & 2 Chronicles: it was almost as if he were writing a religious commentary on the histories contained in 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings in order to portray the significance of the Davidic Covenant. The books of 1&2 Chronicles were written at a later date: probably after 400 B.C.E.: even though the temple was no longer standing and no king sat in the throne in Jerusalem, the Chronicler wanted to emphasize that the promise of a Messiah from the line of David still stood.

[The blueprint](#) shows, in very broad strokes, how 1 & 2 Chronicles corresponds to 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings. The following chart, from *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament* by John Walton, gives a far more detailed break-down of this correspondence:

| Correlation of Samuel/Kings and Chronicles | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| SAMUEL/KINGS | TOPICS | CHRONICLES | SAMUEL/KINGS | TOPICS | CHRONICLES |
| | Genealogies | 1 Chr 1-9 | 2 Kgs 8:25-29; 9:21-28 | Ahaziah | 2 Chr 22:1-9 |
| 1 Sam 1-3, 7 | Samuel | | 2 Kgs 9:10 | Jehu | |
| 1 Sam 4-6 | Capture of ark | | 2 Kgs 11 | Athaliah | 2 Chr 22:10-23:21 |
| 1 Sam 8-15 | Saul | 1 Chr 10 | 2 Kgs 12 | Joash | 2 Chr 24 |
| 1 Sam 16-31 | David's youth | | 2 Kgs 13:1-9 | Jehoahaz | |
| 2 Sam 1-10 | David's successes | 1 Chr 11:1-9; 13-20 | 2 Kgs 13:10-25; 14:8-16 | Jehoash | |
| 2 Sam 11-12 | David and Bathsheba | | 2 Kgs 14:1-22 | Amaziah | 2 Chr 25 |
| 2 Sam 13-21 | David's troubles | | 2 Kgs 14:23-29 | Jeroboam II | |
| 2 Sam 22-23 | Misc. David | 1 Chr 11:10-12:40; 22-29 | 2 Kgs 15:1-7 | Uzziah (Azariah) | 2 Chr 26 |
| 2 Sam 24 | David's census | 1 Chr 21 | 2 Kgs 15:8-12 | Zechariah | |
| 1 Kgs 1-3 | Solomon's wisdom | 2 Chr 1 | 2 Kgs 15:13-15 | Shallum | |
| 1 Kgs 5-9:9 | Temple | 2 Chr 2-7 | 2 Kgs 15:16-22 | Menahem | |
| 1 Kgs 4, 9-10 | Misc. Solomon | 2 Chr 8-9 | 2 Kgs 15:32-38 | Jotham | 2 Chr 27 |
| 1 Kgs 11 | Solomon's troubles | | 2 Kgs 15:23-26 | Pekahiah | |
| 1 Kgs 12:1-24; 14:21-31 | Rehoboam | 2 Chr 10-12 | 2 Kgs 15:27-31 | Pekah | |
| 1 Kgs 11:26-40; 12:25-14:20 | Jeroboam | | 2 Kgs 16 | Ahaz | 2 Chr 28 |
| 1 Kgs 15:1-8 | Abijah | 2 Chr 13 | 2 Kgs 17:1-6 | Hoshea | |
| 1 Kgs 15:9-24 | Asa | 2 Chr 14-16 | 2 Kgs 17:7-41 | Fall of Samaria | |
| 1 Kgs 15:25-31 | Nadab | | 2 Kgs 18-20 | Hezekiah | 2 Chr 29-32 |
| 1 Kgs 15:27-28; 16:1-7 | Baasha | | 2 Kgs 21:1-18 | Manasseh | 2 Chr 33:1-20 |
| 1 Kgs 16:8-14 | Elah | | 2 Kgs 21:19-26 | Amon | 2 Chr 33:21-25 |
| 1 Kgs 16:9-20 | Zimri | | 2 Kgs 22-23:30 | Josiah | 2 Chr 34-35 |
| 1 Kgs 16:21-28 | Omri | | 2 Kgs 23:31-34 | Jehoahaz | 2 Chr 36:1-3 |
| 1 Kgs 16:29-34; 20:22-40 | Ahab | | 2 Kgs 24:1-7 | Jehoiakim | 2 Chr 36:4-8 |
| 1 Kgs 17-19 | Elijah | | 2 Kgs 24:8-17 | Jehoiachin | 2 Chr 36:9-10 |
| 1 Kgs 22:41-50 | Jehoshaphat | 2 Chr 17-20 | 2 Kgs 24:18-20 | Zedekiah | 2 Chr 36:11-14 |
| 1 Kgs 22:51-53; 2 Kgs 1:1-18 | Ahaziah | | 2 Kgs 25:1-21 | Fall of Jerusalem | 2 Chr 36:15-21 |
| 2 Kgs 2-8:15 | Elisha | | 2 Kgs 25:22-26 | Gedaliah | |
| 2 Kgs 8:16-24 | Jehoram | 2 Chr 21 | 2 Kgs 25:27-30 | Jehoiachin's exile | |
| 2 Kgs 3:1-3; 9:14-24 | Jehoram | | | Cyrus' decree | 2 Chr 36:22-23 |

Note: Kings of the northern kingdom of Israel are given in italics.

| Correlation of Samuel/Kings and Chronicles | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| SAMUEL/KINGS | TOPICS | CHRONICLES | SAMUEL/KINGS | TOPICS | CHRONICLES |
| | Genealogies | 1 Chr 1-9 | 2 Kgs 8:25-29; 9:21-28 | Ahaziah | 2 Chr 22:1-9 |
| 1 Sam 1: 3, 7 | Samuel | | 2 Kgs 9:10 | <i>Jehu</i> | |
| 1 Sam 4-6 | Capture of ark | | 2 Kgs 11 | Athaliah | 2 Chr 22:10-23-21 |
| 1 Sam 8-15 | Saul | 1 Chr 10 | 2 Kgs 12 | Joash | 2 Chr 24 |
| 1 Sam 16-31 | David's youth | | 2 Kgs 13:1-9 | <i>Jehoahaz</i> | |
| 2 Sam 1-10 | David's successes | 1 Chr 11:1-9; 13-20 | 2 Kgs 13:10-25; 14:8-16 | <i>Jehoash</i> | |
| 2 Sam 11-12 | David and Bathsheba | | 2 Kgs 14:1-22 | Amaziah | 2 Chr 25 |
| 2 Sam 13-21 | David's troubles | | 2 Kgs 14:23-29 | <i>Jeroboam II</i> | |
| 2 Sam 22-23 | Misc. David | 1 Chr 11:10-12:40; 22-29 | 2 Kgs 15:1-7 | Uzziah (Azariah) | 2 Chr 26 |
| 2 Sam 24 | David's census | 1 Chr 21 | 2 Kgs 15:8-12 | <i>Zechariah</i> | |
| 1 Kgs 1-3 | Solomon's wisdom | 2 Chr 1 | 2 Kgs 15:13-15 | <i>Shallum</i> | |
| 1 Kgs 5-9:9 | Temple | 2 Chr 2-7 | 2 Kgs 15:16-22 | <i>Menahem</i> | |
| 1 Kgs 4, 9-10 | Misc. Solomon | 2 Chr 8-9 | 2 Kgs 15:32-38 | Jotham | 2 Chr 27 |
| 1 Kgs 11 | Solomon's troubles | | 2 Kgs 15:23-26 | <i>Pekahiah</i> | |
| 1 Kgs 12:1-24; 14:21-31 | Rehoboam | 2 Chr 10-12 | 2 Kgs 15:27-31 | <i>Pekah</i> | |
| 1 Kgs 11:26-40; 12:25-14:29 | <i>Jeroboam</i> | | 2 Kgs 16 | Ahaz | 2 Chr 28 |
| 1 Kgs 15:1-8 | Abijah | 2 Chr 13 | 2 Kgs 17:1-6 | <i>Hoshea</i> | |
| 1 Kgs 15:9-24 | Asa | 2 Chr 14-16 | 2 Kgs 17:7-41 | Fall of Samaria | |
| 1 Kgs 15:25-31 | <i>Nadab</i> | | 2 Kgs 18-20 | Hezekiah | 2 Chr 29-32 |
| 1 Kgs 15:27-28; 16:1-7 | <i>Baasha</i> | | 2 Kgs 21:1-18 | Manasseh | 2 Chr 33:1-20 |
| 1 Kgs 16:8-14 | <i>Elah</i> | | 2 Kgs 21:19-26 | Amon | 2 Chr 33:21-25 |
| 1 Kgs 16:9-20 | <i>Zimri</i> | | 2 Kgs 22-23:30 | Josiah | 2 Chr 34-35 |
| 1 Kgs 16:21-28 | <i>Omri</i> | | 2 Kgs 23:31-34 | Jehoahaz | 2 Chr 36:1-3 |
| 1 Kgs 16:29-34; 26-27:40 | <i>Ahab</i> | | 2 Kgs 24:1-7 | Jehoiakim | 2 Chr 36:4-8 |
| 1 Kgs 17-19 | Elijah | | 2 Kgs 24:8-17 | Jehoachin | 2 Chr 36:9-10 |
| 1 Kgs 22:43-50 | Jehoshaphat | 2 Chr 17-20 | 2 Kgs 24:18-20 | Zedekiah | 2 Chr 36:11-14 |
| 1 Kgs 22:51-53; 2 Kgs 1:1-18 | <i>Ahaziah</i> | | 2 Kgs 25:1-21 | Fall of Jerusalem | 2 Chr 36:15-21 |
| 2 Kgs 2:8-15 | Elisha | | 2 Kgs 25:22-26 | Gedaliah | |
| 2 Kgs 8:16-24 | Jehoram | 2 Chr 21 | 2 Kgs 25:27-30 | Jehoachin's exile | |
| 2 Kgs 3:1-3; 9:14-24 | <i>Jehoram</i> | | | Cyrus' decree | 2 Chr 36:22-23 |

Note: Kings of the northern kingdom of Israel are given in bold italics

Samuel-Kings & Chronicles Harmony

<https://adiakrisis.files.wordpress.com/2011/09/harmony-of-samuel-kings-and-chronicles.pdf> [PDF]

| DAVIDIC KINGDOM EVENT | SAMUEL-KINGS | CHRONICLES |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Death of King Saul: Final Battle | 1 Samuel 31 | 1 Chronicles 10 |
| David Hears of the Deaths | 2 Samuel 1 | |
| War between David & House of Saul | 2 Samuel 2-4 | |
| David becomes King of Northern Kingdom | 2 Samuel 5 | 1 Chronicles 11:1-9; 14:1-6 |
| <i>David's Army (significant variation)</i> | 2 Samuel 23 | 1 Chronicles 11:10 - 12:40 |
| Moving of Ark to Jerusalem | 2 Samuel 5:17 - 6:5 | 1 Chronicles 14:8-17; 13:1-8 |
| Uzzah touches Ark and dies | 2 Samuel 6:6-12 | 1 Chronicles 13:9-14 |
| Moving of Ark, cont'd | | 1 Chronicles 15:1-14 |
| Sacrifices offered | 2 Samuel 6:13 | 1 Chronicles 15:15 |
| Levitical singers appointed | | 1 Chronicles 15:16-27 |
| David's "undignified" dance | 2 Samuel 6:14-19 | 1 Chronicles 15:28 - 16:3 |
| Ark ministers appointed; David sings praises | | 1 Chronicles 16:4-43 |
| David rebuked by Saul's daughter Michal | 2 Samuel 6:20-23 | |
| YHWH refuses David's request to build Temple | 2 Samuel 7 | 1 Chronicles 17 |
| David's war victories, expansion of Kingdom | 2 Samuel 8 | 1 Chronicles 18 |
| David makes peace with House of Saul | 2 Samuel 9 | |
| Ammonite War narrative | 2 Samuel 10:1 - 11:1 | 1 Chronicles 19:1 - 20:1 |
| David's affair with Bathsheba, plot against Uriah | 2 Samuel 11 | |
| Ammonite War narrative, cont'd | 2 Samuel 12:26-31 | 1 Chronicles 20:1-3 |
| Philistine War narrative | | 1 Chronicles 20:4-8 |
| Ammon & Absalom episode | 2 Samuel 13:1 - 20:26 | |
| Burial of Saul and Jonathon's bones | 2 Samuel 21:1-14 | |
| Defeat of Philistine giants | 2 Samuel 21:15 - 23:7 | |
| David's lack of faith (counting of enlistable males) | 2 Samuel 24 | 1 Chronicles 21 |
| David prepares Temple furnishings | | 1 Chronicles 22:1-19 |
| Adonijah attempts to take throne | 1 Kings 1:1-42 | |
| David appoints Solomon to succeed him on throne | 1 Kings 1:43-53 | 1 Chronicles 23:1 |
| David's last religious and political appointments | | 1 Chronicles 23:2 - 27:34 |
| Solomon commissioned to build Temple | | 1 Chronicles 28:1 - 29:22 |
| David's death, transfer of throne to Solomon | 1 Kings 2:1-11 | 1 Chronicles 29:23-30 |

| SOLOMONIC KINGDOM EVENT | SAMUEL-KINGS | CHRONICLES |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|
| Early events in Solomon's reign | 1 Kings 2:12 - 3:3 | |
| Solomon's prayer for wisdom | 1 Kings 3:4-15 | 2 Chronicles 1 |
| Solomon's Court | 1 Kings 3:16 - 4:34 | |
| Solomon consults King Hiram of Tyre | 1 Kings 5 | 2 Chronicles 2 |
| <i>Solomon builds Temple (significant variation)</i> | 1 Kings 6-7 | 2 Chronicles 3:1 - 5:1 |
| Dedication of Temple | 1 Kings 8:1-9 | 2 Chronicles 5:2-10 |
| Glory of YHWH fills Temple | 1 Kings 8:10-11 | 2 Chronicles 5:11-13 |
| Blessing of congregation | 1 Kings 8:12-21 | 2 Chronicles 6:1-11 |
| Solomon's prayer | 1 Kings 8:22-53 | 2 Chronicles 6:12-42 |
| <i>First royal offerings (significant variation)</i> | 1 Kings 8:54-66 | 2 Chronicles 7:1-11 |
| YHWH appears to Solomon again | 1 Kings 9:1-9 | 2 Chronicles 7:12-22 |
| Hiram and Solomon exchange goods | 1 Kings 9:10-14 | 2 Chronicles 8:1-6 |
| Taxes levied | 1 Kings 9:15-19 | |
| Foreigners made to serve as bondservants | 1 Kings 9:20-23 | 2 Chronicles 8:7-10 |
| Solomon receives Pharaoh's daughter as a wife | 1 Kings 9:24 | 2 Chronicles 8:11 |
| Annual sacrifices made | 1 Kings 9:25 | 2 Chronicles 8:12-16 |
| Commissioning of royal navy | 1 Kings 9:26-28 | 2 Chronicles 8:17-18 |
| Queen of Sa'aba (or Sheba?) | 1 Kings 10 | 2 Chronicles 9 |
| Solomon's foreign wives | 1 Kings 11:1-40 | |
| Solomon's death | 1 Kings 11:41-43 | 2 Chronicles 9:29-31 |

| | SAMUEL-KINGS | CHRONICLES |
|--|--------------|------------|
| DAVIDIC ACCOUNT AUTHORIAL PURPOSE | | |
| SOLOMONIC ACCOUNT AUTHORIAL PURPOSE | | |

| RULER OF JUDAH (S.K.) | SAMUEL-KINGS | CHRONICLES | PROPHETS |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Rehoboam (933-917 BCE) | 1 Kings 12:1-24 1 Kings 14:21-31 | 2 Chronicles 9:31-12:16 | (non-writing prophets) |
| Abijah/Abijam (917-915 BCE) | 1 Kings 15:1-8 | 2 Chronicles 13 | |
| Asa (914-874 BCE) | 1 Kings 15:8-24 | 2 Chronicles 14:1 - 16:14 | |
| Jehoshaphat (874-850 BCE) | 1 Kings 22:41-50 | 2 Chronicles 17:1 - 20:37 | |
| Jehoram (850-843 BCE) | 2 Kings 8:16-24 | 2 Chronicles 21 | |
| Ahaziah (843-842 BCE) | 2 Kings 8:25-29 2 Kings 9:27-29 | 2 Chronicles 22:1-10 | Joel |
| Queen Athaliah (842-837 BCE) | 2 Kings 11 | 2 Chronicles 22:10 - 23:21 | Joel |
| Joash/Jehoash (837-798 BCE) | 2 Kings 12 | 2 Chronicles 24 | Joel, Zechariah |
| Amaziah (798-770 BCE) | 2 Kings 14:1-22 | 2 Chronicles 25 | Joel, Jonah |
| Azariah/Uzziah (792-740 BCE) | 2 Kings 15:1-7 | 2 Chronicles 26 | Isaiah |
| Jothan (740-735 BCE) | 2 Kings 15:32-38 | 2 Chronicles 27:1-9 | Hosea, Isaiah, Micah |
| Ahaz (735-720 BCE) | 2 Kings 16 | 2 Chronicles 28 | Hosea, Isaiah, Micah |
| Hezekiah (720-692 BCE) | 2 Kings 18-20 | 2 Chronicles 29-32 | Hosea, Isaiah 36-39, Micah |
| Manasseh (692-638 BCE) | 2 Kings 21:1-18 | 2 Chronicles 33:1-20 | |
| Amon (638 BCE) | 2 Kings 21:19-26 | 2 Chronicles 33:21-25 | |
| Josiah (638-608 BCE) | 2 Kings 22:1 - 23:30 | 2 Chronicles 33:25 - 35:27 | Zephaniah, Jeremiah 1 |
| Jehoahaz (3 mos. in 608 BCE) | 2 Kings 23:31-33 | 2 Chronicles 36:1-4 | |
| Jehoiakim/Eliahim (608-597 BCE) | 2 Kings 23:34 - 24:7 | 2 Chronicles 36:5-8 | Jeremiah 25-27; Daniel 1-2; Habakkuk |
| Jehoiachin (3 mos. in 597 BCE) | 2 Kings 24:8-17 | 2 Chronicles 36:9-10 | |
| Zedekiah/Mattaniah (597-586 BCE) | 2 Kings 24:18 - 25:26 | 2 Chronicles 36:11-21 | Jeremiah 28-52, Ezekiel |
| EXILE | | | |
| Cyrus of Persia (allowed return) | | 2 Chronicles 36:22-23 | Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-3; prophesied in Isaiah 45 |
| Darius I of Persia | | | Ezra 4:5; Haggai, Zechariah |
| Ahasuerus & Esther (30 yrs) | | | Esther; Nehemiah |

NOTE: The Northern Kingdom (Israel) rulers, all of whom were wicked, are not mentioned in Chronicles.

HIGHLIGHT the Southern Kingdom (Judah) rulers which are judged in the text as good.

Comparison of 1–2 Chronicles with 2 Samuel and 1–2 Kings

<https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/chart-13-02/>

| | <u>1 Chronicles</u> | <u>2 Samuel</u> |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| Genealogies | 1:1–9:44 | |
| Death of Saul and sons | 10:1–14 | <u>1 Sam.</u> 31:1– <u>2 Sam.</u> 1:16 |
| Lament for Saul | | 1:17–27 |
| David king of Judah | | 2:1–7 |
| War between house of Saul and David; Ish-bosheth made king | | 2:8–3:1 |
| David’s sons in Hebron | | 3:2–5 |
| Abner helps David | | 3:6–21 |
| Joab kills Abner | | 3:22–39 |
| Ish-bosheth killed | | 4:1–12 |
| David king of Judah and Israel | 11:1–3 | 5:1–5 |
| Conquest of Jerusalem | 11:4–9 | 5:6–10 |
| David’s mighty men | 11:10–47 | 23:8–39 |
| David’s men at Ziklag | 12:1–22 | |
| Celebration at Hebron | 12:23–40 | |
| Attempted return of ark; death of Uzzah | 13:1–14 | 6:1–11 |
| David’s house built | 14:1–2 | 5:11–12 |
| David’s children in Jerusalem | 14:3–7 | 5:13–16 |
| David defeats Philistines | 14:8–17 | 5:17–25 |
| Spiritual preparation for the ark’s return | 15:1–24 | |
| Ark brought to Jerusalem | 15:25–16:6 | 6:12–19 |
| David and Michal | | 6:20–23 |

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| David's psalm of praise | 16:7–43 | |
| David's desire to build the temple | 17:1–2 | 7:1–3 |
| Davidic covenant | 17:3–15 | 7:4–17 |
| David's prayer of praise | 17:16–27 | 7:18–29 |
| David's victories | 18:1–13 | 8:1–14 |
| David's officials | 18:14–17 | 8:15–18 |
| David helps Mephibosheth | | 9:1–13 |
| Ammonites defeated | 19:1–15 | 10:1–14 |
| Syrians defeated | 19:16–19 | 10:15–19 |
| Ammonites defeated | 20:1–3 | 11:1; 12:26–31 |
| David and Bathsheba | | 11:2–12:25 |
| Amnon, Tamar, and Absalom | | 13:1–14:33 |
| Absalom's rebellion | | 15:1–19:43 |
| Sheba's rebellion | | 20:1–26 |
| Famine; death of Saul's sons | | 21:1–14 |
| War with Philistines; the Philistine giants | 20:4–8 | 21:15–22 |
| David's psalm of deliverance | | 22:1–51 |
| David's last words | | 23:1–7 |
| David's census | 21:1–27 | 24:1–25 |
| David plans for the temple | 21:28–22:5 | |
| David's charge to Solomon and the leaders | 22:6–19 | |
| David organizes temple personnel | 23:1–26:32 | |
| Israel's military | 27:1–15 | |
| Israel's leaders | 27:16–34 | |

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| David's charge to Israel; affirmation of Solomon | 28:1–10 |
| Pattern for the temple | 28:11–21 |
| Offerings for the temple | 29:1–9 |
| David's prayer of thanks for the temple | 29:10–19 |

[1 Kings](#)

| | | |
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| David and Abishag | | 1:1–4 |
| Adonijah claims the throne | | 1:5–27 |
| Solomon’s coronation | 29:20–25 | 1:28–40 |
| David instructs Solomon | | 2:1–9 |
| Death of David | 29:26–30 | 2:10–11 |
| Solomon establishes his kingdom | | 2:12–46 |

[2 Chronicles](#)

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Solomon marries Pharaoh's daughter | | 3:1–3 |
| Solomon at Gibeon | 1:1–6 | 3:4 |
| God gives Solomon wisdom | 1:7–12 | 3:5–14 |
| Solomon's wise judgment | | 3:16–28 |
| Solomon's prosperity | 1:14–17 | 4:20–34 |
| Preparations for the temple | 2:1–18 | 5:1–18 |
| Temple built | 3:1–5:1 | 6:1–38; 7:13–51 |
| Solomon's palace | | 7:1–12 |
| Ark brought to the temple | 5:2–12 | 8:1–9 |
| God's glory fills the temple | 5:13–14 | 8:10–11 |
| Solomon blesses the people | 6:1–11 | 8:12–21 |
| Solomon consecrates the temple | 6:12–42 | 8:22–61 |

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| Fire from the Lord consumes the sacrifices | 7:1–3 | |
| Solomon and the people offer sacrifices | 7:4–7 | 8:62–64 |
| Feast of Tabernacles | 7:8–10 | 8:65–66 |
| The covenant confirmed | 7:11–22 | 9:1–9 |
| Solomon’s territory increases | 8:1–6 | 9:10–19 |
| Solomon’s enemies defeated | 8:7–10 | 9:20–23 |
| Solomon’s religious practices | 8:11–16 | 9:24–25 |
| Solomon’s economic operations | 8:17–18 | 9:26–28 |
| Queen of Sheba visits | 9:1–12 | 10:1–13 |
| Solomon’s wealth | 9:13–28 | 10:14–29 |
| Solomon’s apostasy and adversaries | | 11:1–40 |
| Death of Solomon | 9:29–31 | 11:41–43 |
| Division of the kingdom | 10:1–11:23 | 12:1–33 |
| Man of God from Judah warns Jeroboam (Israel) | | 13:1–34 |
| Ahijah’s prophecy against Jeroboam | | 14:1–18 |
| Death of Jeroboam | | 14:19–20 |
| Shishak invades Judah | 12:1–12 | 14:25–28 |
| Reign of Rehoboam (Judah) | 12:13–16 | 14:21–24, 29–31 |
| War between Judah and Israel | 13:1–22 | 15:1–8 |
| Evaluation of Asa (Judah) | 14:1–8 | 15:9–12 |
| Ethiopians defeated | 14:9–15 | |
| Azariah the prophet | 15:1–7 | |
| Asa’s reforms | 15:8–19 | 15:13–15 |
| Asa defeats Syria | 16:1–10 | 15:16–22 |

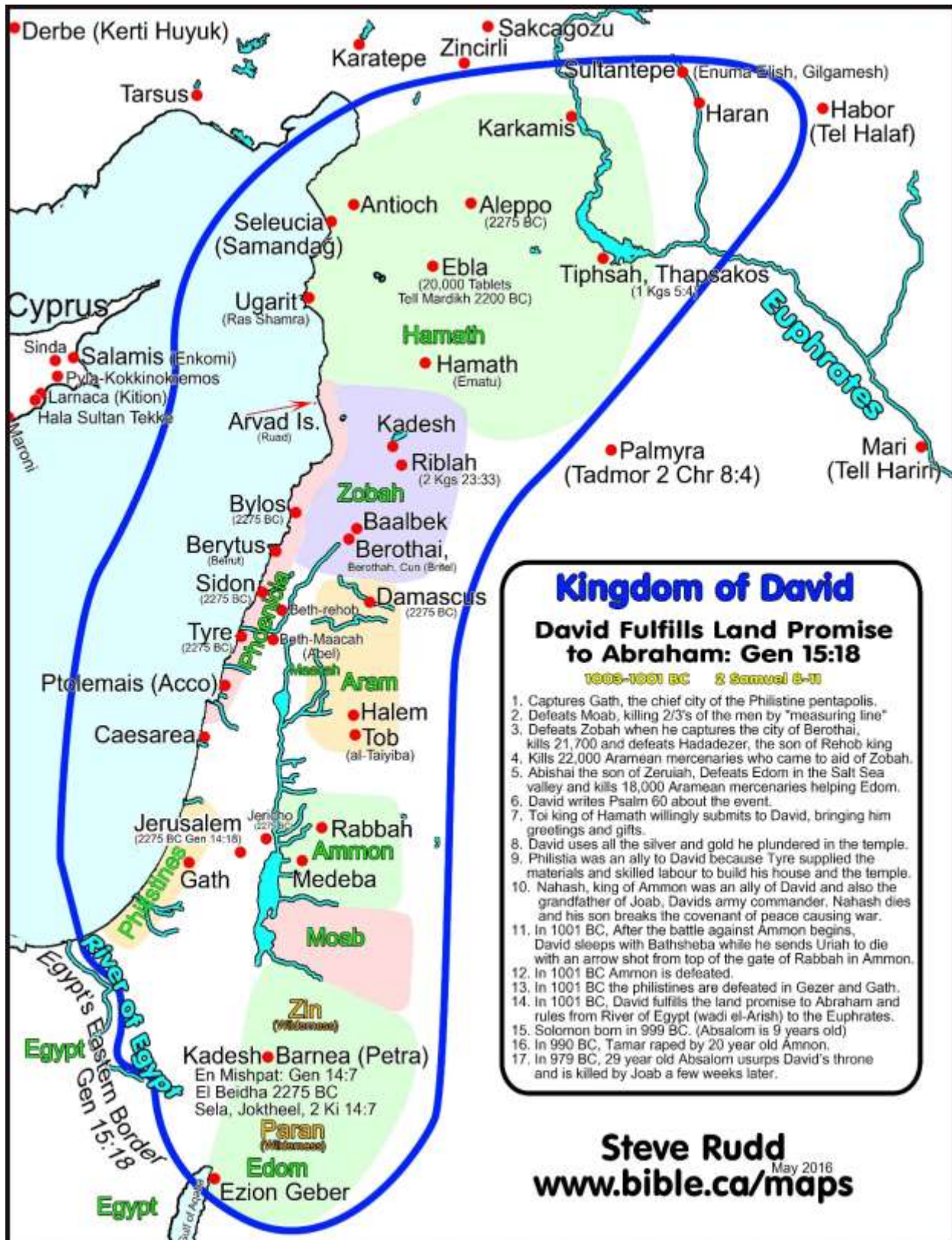
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| Death of Asa | 16:11–14 | 15:23–24 |
| Reigns of Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri (Israel) | | 15:25–16:28 |
| Ahab becomes king (Israel) | | 16:29–34 |
| Elijah | | 17:1–19:18; 21:17–29 |
| Call of Elisha | | 19:19–21 |
| Ahab conquers Syria, acquires Naboth's vineyard | | 20:1–21:29 |
| Evaluation of Jehoshaphat (Judah) | 17:1–9 | |
| Expansion of Judah | 17:10–19 | |
| Jehoshaphat's alliance with Ahab; death of Ahab | 18:1–34 | 22:1–40 |
| Jehoshaphat's reforms, crisis, and deliverance | 19:1–20:30 | |
| Reign of Jehoshaphat | 20:31–37 | 22:41–50 |
| Reign of Ahaziah (Israel) | | 22:51–53 |
| <u>2 Kings</u> | | |
| Death of Ahaziah; Elijah's prophecy | | 1:1–18 |
| Elijah and Elisha | | 2:1–25 |
| Evaluation of Jehoram (Israel) | | 3:1–3 |
| Moab rebels | | 3:4–27 |
| The widow's oil | | 4:1–7 |
| The Shunammite woman | | 4:8–37 |
| Miracles for the prophets | | 4:38–44 |
| Naaman healed | | 5:1–27 |
| The axe head recovered | | 6:1–7 |
| Chariots of fire | | 6:8–23 |

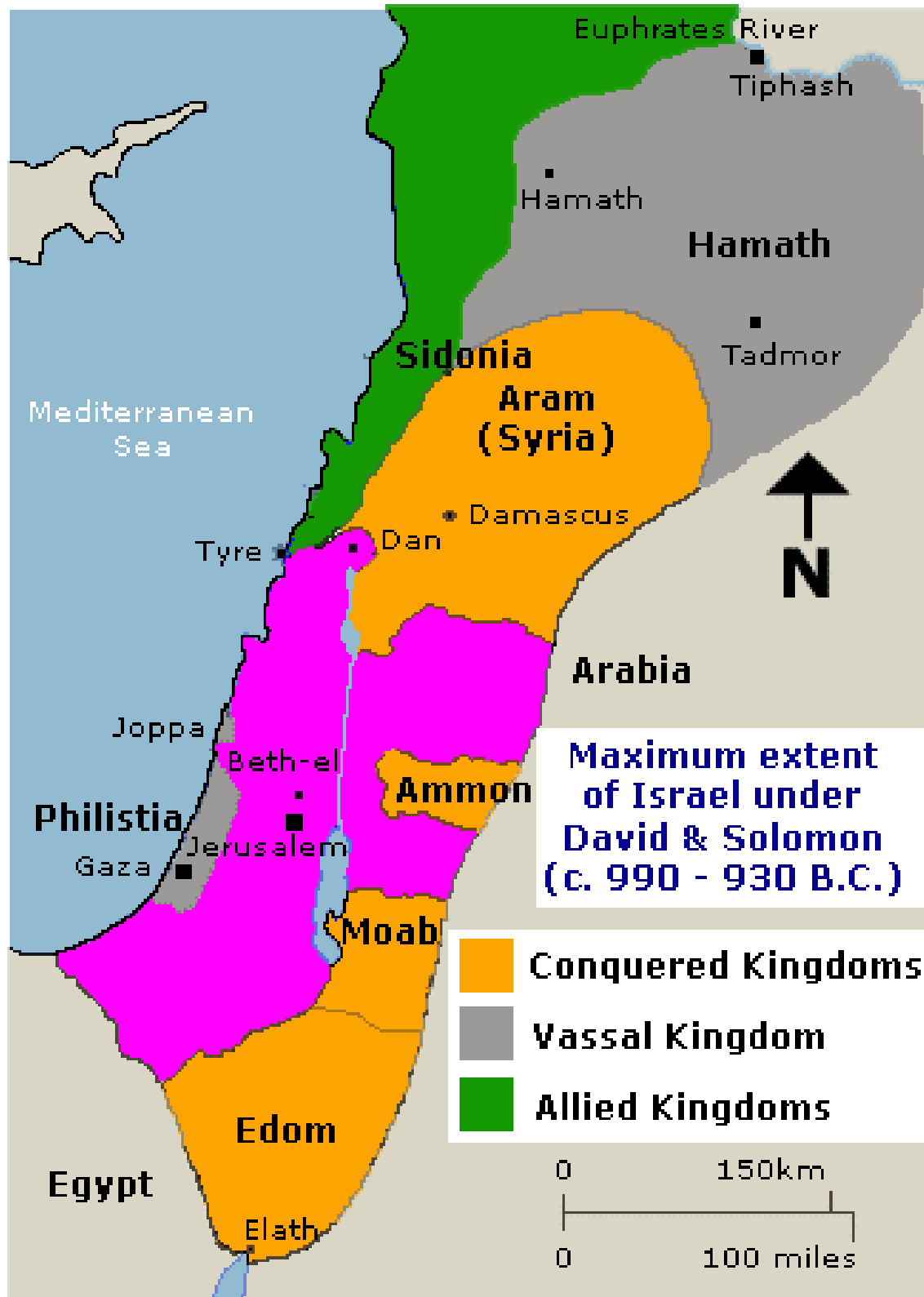
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| Siege of Samaria | | 6:24–7:20 |
| Shunammite's land restored | | 8:1–6 |
| Hazael kills Ben-hadad | | 8:7–15 |
| Evaluation of Jehoram (Judah) | 21:1–7 | 8:16–19 |
| Edom and Libnah rebel | 21:8–11 | 8:20–22 |
| Warning of Elijah | 21:12–15 | |
| Invasion of Philistia and Arabia | 21:16–17 | |
| Death of Jehoram | 21:18–20 | 8:23–24 |
| Reign of Ahaziah (Judah) | 22:1–9 | 8:25–29; 9:15–16, 27–28; 10:12–14 |
| Reign of Jehu (Israel) | 22:7–9 | 9:1–10:36 |
| Reign of Athaliah (Judah) | 22:10–23:15 | 11:1–16 |
| Jehoiada's reforms (Judah) | 23:16–21 | 11:17–20 |
| Evaluation of Joash (Judah) | 24:1–3 | 11:21–12:3 |
| Joash repairs the temple | 24:4–14 | 12:4–16 |
| Death of Jehoiada | 24:15–16 | |
| Jehoiada's son killed | 24:17–22 | |
| Syria invades Judah | 24:23–24 | 12:17–18 |
| Death of Joash | 24:25–27 | 12:19–21 |
| Reign of Jehoahaz (Israel) | | 13:1–9 |
| Reign of Jehoash (Israel) | | 13:10–13 |
| Elisha's final prophecy and death | | 13:14–25 |
| Reign of Amaziah (Judah) | 25:1–16 | 14:1–20 |
| Israel defeats Judah | 25:17–24 | 14:8–14 |
| Death of Amaziah | 25:25–28 | 14:17–20 |

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| Evaluation of Uzziah (Judah) | 26:1–5 | 14:21–22; 15:1–5 |
| Reign of Jeroboam II (Israel) | | 14:23–29 |
| Victories of Uzziah | 26:6–15 | |
| Sinful offering of Uzziah | 26:16–21 | |
| Death of Uzziah | 26:22–23 | 15:6–7 |
| Reign of Zechariah (Israel) | | 15:8–12 |
| Reign of Shallum (Israel) | | 15:13–16 |
| Reign of Menahem (Israel) | | 15:17–22 |
| Reign of Pekahiah (Israel) | | 15:23–26 |
| Reign of Pekah (Israel) | | 15:27–31 |
| Reign of Jotham (Judah) | 27:1–9 | 15:32–38 |
| Evaluation of Ahaz (Judah) | 28:1–4 | 16:1–4 |
| Israel defeats Judah | 28:5–21 | 16:5–9 |
| Ahaz's idolatry and death | 28:22–27 | 16:10–12 |
| Fall of Israel | | 17:1–23 |
| Resettlement of Israel | | 17:24–41 |
| Evaluation of Hezekiah (Judah) | 29:1–2 | 18:1–8 |
| Hezekiah cleanses the temple | 29:3–19 | |
| Hezekiah restores temple worship | 29:20–36 | |
| Hezekiah restores Passover | 30:1–27 | |
| Hezekiah destroys idols, organizes priests | 31:1–21 | |
| Fall of Israel (restated) | | 18:9–12 |
| Assyria invades Judah | 32:1–23 | 18:13–19:37 |
| Hezekiah's illness and restoration | 32:24–26 | 20:1–11 |
| Hezekiah's wealth and foolish pride | 32:27–31 | 20:12–19 |

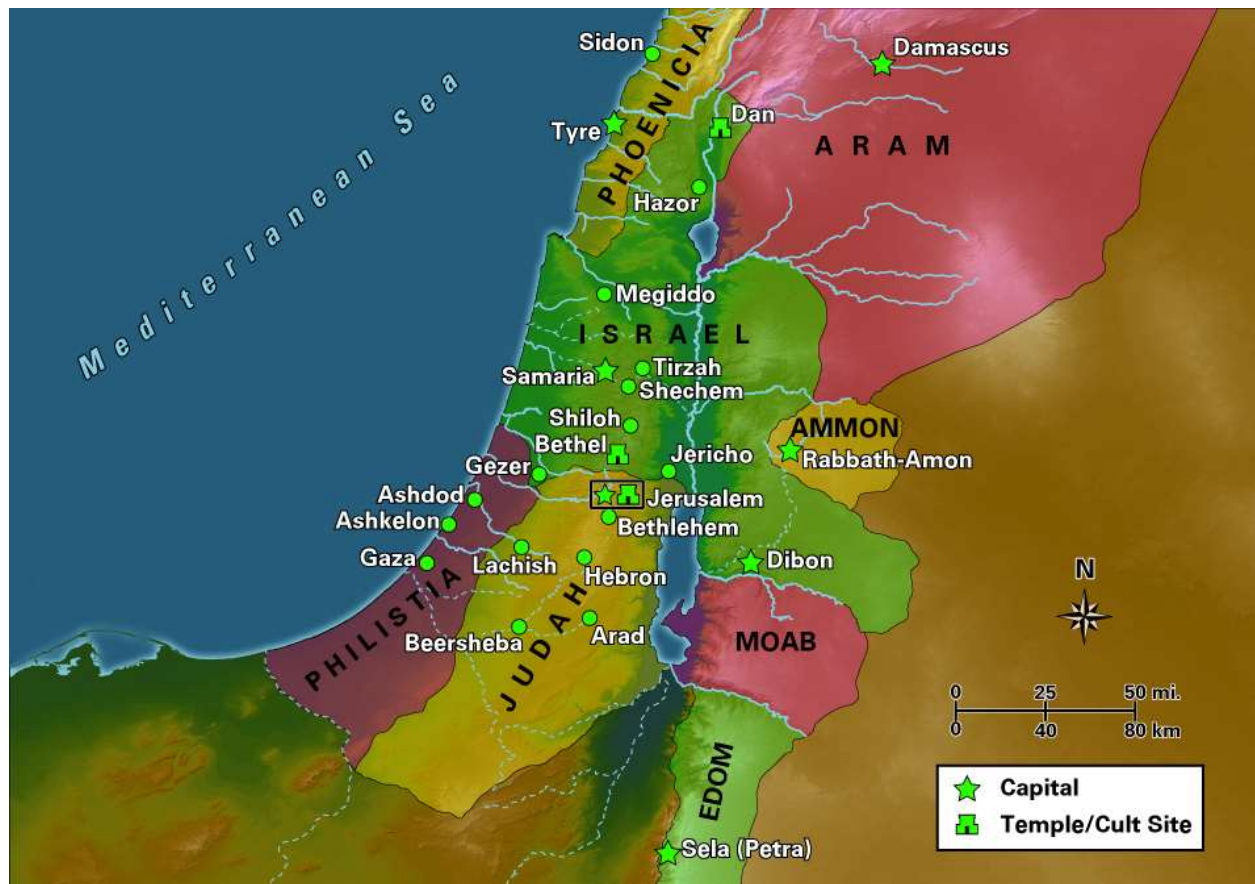
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| Death of Hezekiah | 32:32–33 | 20:20–21 |
| Reign of Manasseh (Judah) | 33:1–9 | 21:1–18 |
| Manasseh's repentance | 33:10–20 | |
| Reign of Amon (Judah) | 33:21–25 | 21:19–26 |
| Evaluation of Josiah (Judah) | 34:1–2 | 22:1–2 |
| Josiah's early reforms | 34:3–7 | |
| Josiah repairs the temple | 34:8–13 | 22:3–7 |
| Book of Law discovered; Josiah's reforms | 34:14–33 | 22:8–23:20 |
| Passover celebrated | 35:1–19 | 23:21–27 |
| Death of Josiah | 35:20–27 | 23:28–30 |
| Reign of Jehoahaz (Judah) | 36:1–3 | 23:31–33 |
| Reign of Jehoiakim (Judah) | 36:4–8 | 23:34–24:7 |
| Reign of Jehoiachin (Judah); Babylonian captivity | 36:9–10 | 24:8–17 |
| Evaluation of Zedekiah (Judah) | 36:11–12 | 24:18–20 |
| Destruction of Jerusalem | 36:13–21 | 25:1–21 |
| Remnant flees to Egypt | | 25:22–26 |
| Jehoiachin released | | 25:27–30 |
| Proclamation by Cyrus | 36:22–23 | |

Maps

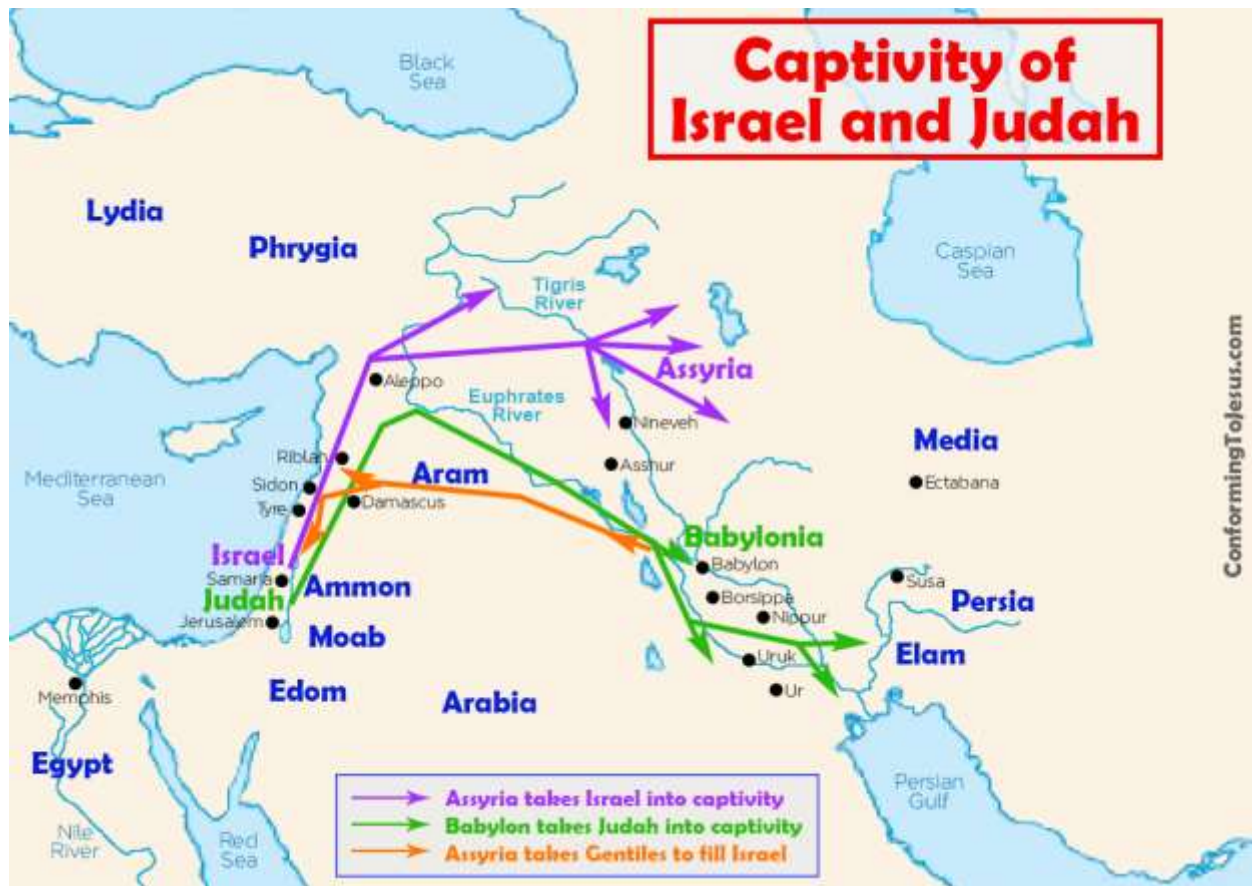




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