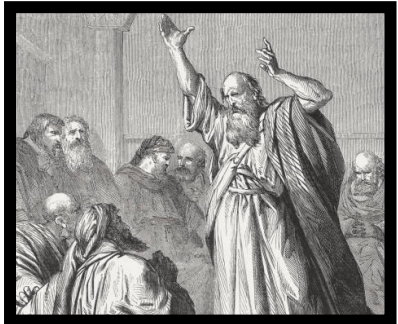


Sabbath Brothers

1 & 2 Kings are considered a single book by Jews

1 Kings: The Eleventh Book of Scripture



Outline of 1 Kings
United Monarchy – Chapters 1-11
Divided Kingdom – Chapters 12-22

Second Law of Thermodynamics (Entropy/Disorder Always Increases)

1 Samuel

The downfall of Saul from humble & obedient to prideful & rebellious

2 Samuel

The downfall of David from honest & obedient to adultery & murder

1-2 Kings

The downfall of the worshipful city of Jerusalem deteriorating into an exiled city of idolatry



Prophets to the Kings

The Prophets actively interacted with Israel during the time of Kings from pre-captivity to post-captivity.

The function of the Prophets was to be a spokesman from God to His leaders and people.

The Prophets had two primary designations in Scripture: a "Prophet" (Navi נביא) and a "Seer" (Chozeh חֹזֶה).

The term "Navi" ("Prophet") originated from the verb "nabû" which means 'to declare/announce.'

While the books of 1 & 2 Kings consist of the history of both Judah and Israel, the books of 1 & 2 Chronicles are focused solely on the "southern kingdom" of Judah from the lineage of David

The northern kingdom of Israel had no "good" kings and consisted of nine different usurping families.

Israel Divides into Two Kingdoms



Israel united under Kings

- Saul (42 years)
- David (40 years)
- Solomon (40 years)



**19 Evil Kings
930BC-722BC**

**11 Evil Kings
8 Good Kings
930BC-587BC**

Southern Kingdom (“Judah” in the Lineage of David)

Descendants of Solomon – Kings of the Southern Kingdom, Judah (1 Chronicles 3:10-16)

	<u>King of Judah</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Hebrew Meaning of Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Reign</u>
1.	Rehoboam	Evil	“The Family is extended”	41	17
2.	Abijah/Abijam	Evil	“The Lord is my Father”	-	3
3.	Asa	Good	“Healer/Physician”	-	41
4.	Jehoshaphat	Good	“The Lord Judges”	35	25
5.	Jehoram	Evil	“Exalting the Lord”	32	8
6.	Ahaziah	Evil	“The Lord has grasped”	22	1
7.	Joash/Jehoash	Good-to-Fallen	“The Lord has given”	7	40
8.	Amaziah	Good	“The Lord is Mighty”	25	29
9.	Azariah/Uzziah	Good	“The Lord is my Strength”	16	52
10.	Jotham	Good	“The Lord is Perfect”	25	16
11.	Ahaz	Evil	“He has Grasped”	20	16
12.	Hezekiah	Good	“The Lord has Strengthened”	25	29
13.	Manasseh	Evil-to-Repentant	“One who causes to forget”	12	55
14.	Amon	Evil	“The Lord has given”	22	2
15.	Josiah	Good	“The Lord will Support”	8	31
16.	Jehoahaz	Evil	“The Lord has Grasped”	23	3 Months
17.	Eliakim/Jehoiakim	Evil	“The Lord raises up”	25	11
18.	Jehoiachin/Coniah or Jeconiah	Evil	“The Lord will uphold”	18	3 Months & 10 Days
19.	Zedekiah	Evil	“The Lord is my righteousness”	21	11
	8 Good	11 Evil	Averages:	22	20

The Capital/Temple is Located in Jerusalem

Northern Kingdom (“Israel” with Usurping Families)

Kings of the Northern Kingdom, Israel					
	<u>King of Israel</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Hebrew Meaning of Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Reign</u>
1.	Jeroboam I	Evil	“He pleads for and opposes the people”	-	22
2.	Nadab (heir)	Evil	“Noble, generous Prince”	-	2
3.	Baasha	Evil	“Brave & bold Seeker”	-	24
4.	Elah (heir)	Evil	“Oak”	-	2
5.	Zimri/Tibni	Evil	“Wild Goat”	-	7 Days
6.	Omri	Evil	“Sheaf of Corn”	-	12
7.	Ahab (heir)	Evil	“Uncle/Father’s Brother”	-	22
8.	Ahaziah (heir)	Evil	“Seized by The Lord”	-	2
9.	Joram (heir)	Evil	“To Elevate”	-	12
10.	Jehu	Good-to-Evil	“He who exists”	-	28
11.	Jehoahaz (heir)	Evil	“He has Grasped”	-	17
12.	Jehoash (heir)	Evil	“Fire of the Lord”	-	16
13.	Jeroboam II (heir)	Evil	“He pleads for and opposes the people”	-	41
14.	Zechariah (heir)	Evil	“The Lord remembers”	-	6 Months
15.	Shallum	Evil	“The Avenged One”	-	1 Month
16.	Menahem	Evil	“Comforter”	-	10
17.	Pekahiah (heir)	Evil	“The Lord has opened his eyes”	-	2
18.	Pekah	Evil	“He that Opens/Liberty”	-	20
19.	Hoshea	Evil	“Salvation”	-	9
	9 Families	19 Evil	Averages:	-	12

No “Coronation Ages” of northern Kings are recorded in Scripture



The Eulogies of the Kings of Judah

Burials of the Kings of Judah		
Kings of Judah	Reference	Burial of the Kings of Judah
1. Rehoboam	1 Kings 14:29-31	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? There was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually. And Rehoboam slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess. And Abijam his son became king in his place.</i>
2. Abijah	1 Kings 15:7-8	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Abijam and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam. And Abijam slept with his fathers and they buried him in the city of David; and Asa his son became king in his place.</i>
3. Asa	1 Kings 15:23-24	<i>Now the rest of all the acts of Asa and all his might and all that he did and the cities which he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? But in the time of his old age he was diseased in his feet. And Asa slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.</i>
4. Jehoshaphat	1 Kings 22:45	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might which he showed and how he warred, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?</i>
5. Jehoram	2 Kings 8:23-24	<i>The rest of the acts of Joram and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? So Joram slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and Ahaziah his son became king in his place.</i>
6. Ahaziah	2 Kings 9:28	<i>Then his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem and buried him in his grave with his fathers in the city of David.</i>
7. Athaliah	2 Kings 11:20	<i>So all the people of the land rejoiced and the city was quiet. For they had put Athaliah to death with the sword at the king's house.</i>
8. Joash	2 Kings 12:19-21	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Joash and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? His servants arose and made a conspiracy and struck down Joash at the house of Millo as he was going down to Silla. For Jozacar the son of Shimeath and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, struck him and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David, and Amaziah his son became king in his place.</i>
9. Amaziah	2 Kings 14:18-20	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? They conspired against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to Lachish and killed him there. Then they brought him on horses and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.</i>
10. Azariah	2 Kings 15:6-7	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Azariah and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And Azariah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David, and Jotham his son became king in his place.</i>

Burials of the Kings of Judah		
Kings of Judah	Reference	Burial of the Kings of Judah
11. Jotham	2 Kings 15:36-38	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Jotham and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? In those days the LORD began to send Rezin king of Aram and Pekah the son of Remaliah against Judah. And Jotham slept with his fathers, and he was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Ahaz his son became king in his place.</i>
12. Ahaz	2 Kings 16:19-20	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Ahaz which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? So Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and his son Hezekiah reigned in his place.</i>
13. Hezekiah	2 Kings 20:20-21	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah and all his might, and how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? So Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and Manasseh his son became king in his place.</i>
14. Manasseh	2 Kings 21:17-18	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh and all that he did and his sin which he committed, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh and all that he did and his sin which he committed, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And Manasseh slept with his fathers and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza, and Amon his son became king in his place.</i>
15. Amon	2 Kings 21:25	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? He was buried in his grave in the garden of Uzza, and Josiah his son became king in his place.</i>
16. Josiah	2 Kings 23:28, 30	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?... His servants drove his body in a chariot from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem and buried him in his own tomb.</i>
17. Jehoahaz	2 Kings 23:34	<i>Pharaoh Neco made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the place of Josiah his father, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But he took Jehoahaz away and brought him to Egypt, and he died there.</i>
18. Jehoiakim	2 Kings 24:5-6	<i>Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers, and Jehoiachin his son became king in his place.</i>
19. Jehoiachin	2 Kings 25:29-30	<i>Jehoiachin changed his prison clothes and had his meals in the king's presence regularly all the days of his life; and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king, a portion for each day, all the days of his life.</i>
20. Zedekiah	2 Kings 25:7	<i>They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out the eyes of Zedekiah and bound him with bronze fetters and brought him to Babylon.</i>

Enemies of the Kings

List of the Kings of Syria/Aram

Kings of Syria/Aram	Kings of Judah	Kings of Israel	References
Rezon	Solomon		1 Ki. 11:23-25
Hezion			1 Ki. 15:18
Tabrimmon			1 Ki. 15:18
Ben-Hadad (I)	Asa	Baasha	1 Ki. 15:18-22 & 2 Ch. 16:1-6
Ben-Hadad (II)	Jehoshaphat	Ahab Joram/Jehoram	1 Ki. 19:15 1 Ki. 20:1-16 1 Ki. 20:17-34 1 Ki. 22:1-40 & 2 Ch. 18:1-34 2 Ki. 5 2 Ki. 6:8-23 2 Ki. 6:24-7:20
Hazael	Ahaziah/Jehoahaz Joash	Jehu Jehoahaz	2 Ki. 8:7-15 2 Ki. 8:28-29 2 Ki. 9:14-15 2 Ki. 10:32-33 2 Ki. 12:17-18 2 Ki. 13:3,22
Ben-Hadad (III)			2 Ki. 13:4-7 2 Ki. 13:23-25
Rezin	Ahaz	Pekah	2 Ki. 15:37, 16:5-6 & 2 Chr. 28:5-8 & Isa. 7:1-9 2 Ki. 16:7-8 & 2 Chr. 28:16, 20-21 2 Ki. 16:9 & Isa. 7:16; 8:10, 9:11

Kings of Assyria Chronology

Years of Reign	Assyrian King	References
745-727BC	Tiglath-Pileser III (Pul)	2 Kings 15:19, 29-30; 16:7-10; 1 Chron 5:6, 26; 2 Chron 28:20
727-722BC	Shalmaneser V	2 Kings 17
722-705BC	Sargon II	2 Kings 17
705-681BC	Sennacherib	2 Kings 18

Kings of Babylon Chronology

Years of Reign	Assyrian King	References
626-605BC	Nabopolassar	Not in Scripture
604-562BC	Nebuchadnezzar	2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Jeremiah and Ezekiel
556-539BC	Nabonidus	Not in Scripture
550-539BC	Belshazzar	Daniel 5

Usurpers of the Northern Kingdom

Usurper	King at the Time	Reference	Notes
1. Jeroboam	Rehoboam	1 Kings 12:20	God Blessed
2. Baasha	Nadab	1 Kings 15:28	Fulfilled 1 Kings 14:10
3. Zimri	Elah	1 Kings 16:12	Elah was killed while drunk
4. Omri	Zimri	1 Kings 16:17-18	Zimri Commits Suicide
Joram	Ahaziah	2 Kings 1:17 2 Kings 3:1	Ahaziah Died w/o a Son, Ahaziah's Brother, Joram
5. Jehu	Joram	2 Kings 9:3-10 2 Kings 9:25	Jehu Anointed by the Lord Fulfilled 1 Kings 21:-19-24
6. Shallum	Zechariah	2 Kings 15:10	Fulfilled 2 Kings 10:30
7. Menahem	Shallum	2 Kings 15:14	Shallum Reigned 1 Month
8. Pekah	Pekahiah	2 Kings 15:25	Pekahiah Reigned 2 Years
9. Hoshea	Pekah	2 Kings 15:30	Assyria Took Captives from Pekah



David's Deathbed (1 Kings 1:1-10)

1 Now King David was old and getting on in years. Although they covered him with bedclothes, he could not get warm.
2 So his servants said to him: "Let us search for a young virgin for my lord the king. She is to attend the king and be his caregiver. She is to lie by your side so that my lord the king will get warm."
3 They searched for a beautiful girl throughout the territory of Israel; they found Abishag the Shunammite and brought her to the king.
4 The girl was of unsurpassed beauty, and she became the king's caregiver. She served him, but he was not intimate with her.
5 Adonijah son of Haggith kept exalting himself, saying, "I will be king!" He prepared chariots, cavalry, and 50 men to run ahead of him.
6 But his father had never once reprimanded him by saying, "Why do you act this way?" In addition, he was quite handsome and was born after Absalom.
7 He conspired with Joab son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest. They supported Adonijah,
8 but Zadok the priest, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, Nathan the prophet, Shimei, Rei, and David's warriors did not side with Adonijah.
9 Adonijah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fattened cattle near the stone of Zoheleth, which is next to En-rogel. He invited all his royal brothers and all the men of Judah, the servants of the king,
10 but he did not invite Nathan the prophet, Benaiah, the warriors, or his brother Solomon.

As an elderly man of nearly 70 years old, the blood did not flow through David as it once did, and without that, it was futile for David's servants to cover him. The blood of the young virgin could warm them both.

A common custom (even in modern times) is for Israelites to each have their own individual bed due to the heat.

Another concubine was not David's idea, but his attendants, and he simply acquiesced. David's servants saw women as utilitarian instead of human beings with God given value

Believers should value humans the way God values them.

Adonijah had the same number of men as Absalom (2 Samuel 15:1)

The Shunammite girl named Abishag ("father of ignorance/error/wandering") was brought in to nurse him.

This Shunammite may be the lady of Song of Solomon.

Shunam was in the valley of Jezreel (Joshua 19:18; 1 Samuel 28:4) as is the valley of Megiddo (Armageddon – Rev 16:16).

Adonijah began to fall into the same prideful sin as his brother Absalom (2 Sam 15:1, 11-12)

David failed in punishing his sons (Amnon - 2 Samuel 13:21; Absalom – 2 Samuel 14:33)

Adonijah ("the Lord is my master") followed Absalom ("father of peace") in many ways; both had physical attributes without the spiritual qualities



Adonijah conferred w/ Joab (military) and Abiathar (priest) to become next king

- Adonijah Alienated Six Key Allies
1. Zadok (priest)
 2. Benaiah (commander of Cherethite/Pelethite warriors)
 3. Nathan (prophet)
 4. Shimei (mighty man – 1 Ki 4:18)
 5. Rei ("friend" - possible mighty man)
 6. Remainder of mighty men

David's Eldest Children Born in Hebron (1 Chronicles 3:1-9)		
	Son	Mother
1.	Amnon	Ahinoam the Jezreelite
2.	Daniel	Abigail the Carmelite
3.	Absalom	Maacah, the daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur
4.	Adonijah	Haggith

Solomon Anointed King (1 Kings 1:28-40)

28 King David responded by saying, "Call in Bathsheba for me."

So she came into the king's presence and stood before him.

29 The king swore an oath and said, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life from every difficulty,

30 just as I swore to you by the LORD God of Israel: Your son Solomon is to become king after me, and he is the one who is to sit on my throne in my place, that is exactly what I will do this very day."

31 Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground, paying homage to the king, and said, "May my lord King David live forever!"

32 King David then said, "Call in Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada for me." So they came into the king's presence.

33 The king said to them, "Take my servants with you, have my son Solomon ride on my own mule, and take him down to Gihon.

34 There, Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet are to anoint him as king over Israel. You are to blow the ram's horn and say, 'Long live King Solomon!'

35 You are to come up after him, and he is to come in and sit on my throne. He is the one who is to become king in my place; he is the one I have commanded to be ruler over Israel and Judah."

36 "Amen," Benaiah son of Jehoiada replied to the king. "May the LORD, the God of my lord the king, so affirm it.

37 Just as the LORD was with my lord the king, so may He be with Solomon and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David."

38 Then Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites went down, had Solomon ride on King David's mule, and took him to Gihon.

39 Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tabernacle and anointed Solomon.

Then they blew the ram's horn, and all the people proclaimed, "Long live King Solomon!"

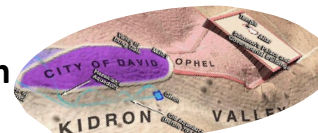
40 All the people followed him, playing flutes and rejoicing with such a great joy that the earth split open from the sound.

David testifies to the Lord's strength in this matter just as the Lord had aided in all of the other times.

Benaiah was the captain of his personal security detail



David mentions Israel and Judah in Solomon's kingdom



Gihon would be the beginning of Hezekiah's tunnel

David first met Bathsheba by sending his servants to fetch her (2 Samuel 11:4)

At the end of David's life, he calls for Bathsheba again.

David declares that Solomon would take over his throne to continue as king after his death to which Bathsheba states "may David live forever."

David will live forever - spiritually, and the line of David leads to Jesus, the eternal king.

Gihon ("valley of grace") was the only natural watering hole on the outskirts of Jerusalem in the Kidron Valley (Genesis 2:13; 2 Chronicles 32:30, 33:14; Isaiah 8:6).

As the captain of King David's security detail, Benaiah supports Solomon's coronation with an "Amen."

Gihon was a pool of water instead of an actual spring

This is the first use of "Amen" since the Pentateuch when "Amen ("so be it") confirmed a curse or judgment (Numbers 5:22; Deut. 27)

The focus of Benaiah was on the strength of the Lord instead of any skill of Solomon.

The word "Cherethites" means "Cretans", and they were a mercenary group from the Aegean Sea (1 Samuel 30:14)

The word "Pelethites" seems to come from the word "Philistines"

Solomon Has Adonijah Killed (1 Kings 2:13-25)

¹³ Now Adonijah son of Haggith came to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother.

She asked, "Do you come peacefully?" "Peacefully," he replied,

¹⁴ and then asked, "May I talk with you?" "Go ahead," she answered.

¹⁵ "You know the kingship was mine," he said. "All Israel expected me to be king, but then the kingship was turned over to my brother, for the LORD gave it to him.

¹⁶ So now I have just one request of you; don't turn me down." She said to him, "Go on."

¹⁷ He replied, "Please speak to King Solomon since he won't turn you down. Let him give me Abishag the Shunammite as a wife."

¹⁸ "Very well," Bathsheba replied. "I will speak to the king for you."

¹⁹ So Bathsheba went to King Solomon to speak to him about Adonijah. The king stood up to greet her, bowed to her, sat down on his throne, and had a throne placed for the king's mother. So she sat down at his right hand.

²⁰ Then she said, "I have just one small request of you. Don't turn me down." "Go ahead and ask, mother," the king replied, "for I won't turn you down."

²¹ So she said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to your brother Adonijah as a wife."

²² King Solomon answered his mother, "Why are you requesting Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah?

Since he is my elder brother, you might as well ask the kingship for him, for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab son of Zeruiah."

²³ Then Solomon took an oath by the LORD: "May God punish me and do so severely if Adonijah has not made this request at the cost of his life.

²⁴ And now, as the LORD lives, the One who established me, seated me on the throne of my father David, and made me a dynasty as He promised—I swear Adonijah will be put to death today!"

²⁵ Then King Solomon gave the order to Benaiah son of Jehoiada, who struck down Adonijah, and he died.



Adonijah's
Death
Wish

Adonijah had attempted to steal David's throne from Bathsheba's son (1 Kings 1:1-27), Solomon.

Bathsheba wanted to ensure that he did not intend to injure or harm her.

Adonijah's three elder brothers (Amnon Daniel/Chileab, Absalom) were dead making him next in line for the throne.

Adonijah realized that the Lord had chosen Solomon for King (1 Kings 1:48, 2:24) in spite of the expectations of all of Israel.

Having intimate relations with the concubine of one's father was to claim his position (Genesis 35:22; 49:3-4; 2 Samuel 16:20-23).

No one knew more of David's final actions, statements, intentions, etc. in his final days than his personal "nurse." This information could have easily been leveraged by Adonijah.

Bathsheba naively refers to Adonijah's "small" request as she refers to Adonijah as Solomon's brother.

Solomon enlightened Bathsheba on what she is requesting.

If Solomon were to give Abishag to Adonijah, Solomon might as well give the kingdom to Adonijah, to Abiathar the Priest and to Joab the past army commander.

The world chips away at the kingdom of God with seemingly "slight" demands that undermine the true king.

Solomon then vowed by the Lord that he would take Adonijah's life now that he understood Adonijah's intent.

Solomon acted immediately to eradicate the unfaithful influence

Rightful Heirs
Solomon – King
Benaiah – Military
Zadok – Priest
Nathan - Prophet

The King's (Solomon) Judgment of Death (1 Kings 2:13-46)		
1.	Adonijah	Treachery & Attempting to Usurp King's Power
2.	Joab	Murderer
3.	Shimei	Contempt for the King and Trespassing Agreement

Judgment of Abiathar & Joab (1 Kings 2:26-34)

²⁶ The king said to Abiathar the priest, "Go to your fields in Anathoth. Even though you deserve to die, I will not put you to death today, since you carried the ark of the Lord God in the presence of my father David and you suffered through all that my father suffered."

²⁷ So Solomon banished Abiathar from being the LORD's priest, and it fulfilled the LORD's prophecy He had spoken at Shiloh against Eli's family.

²⁸ The news reached Joab. Since he had supported Adonijah but not Absalom, Joab fled to the LORD's tabernacle and took hold of the horns of the altar.



²⁹ It was reported to King Solomon: "Joab has fled to the LORD's tabernacle and is now beside the altar." Then Solomon sent Benaiah son of Jehoiada and told him, "Go and strike him down!"

³⁰ So Benaiah went to the tabernacle and said to Joab, "This is what the king says: 'Come out!'" But Joab said, "No, for I will die here." So Benaiah took a message back to the king, "This is what Joab said, and this is how he answered me."



³¹ The king said to him, "Do just as he says. Strike him down and bury him in order to remove from me and from my father's house the blood that Joab shed without just cause.

³² The LORD will bring back his own blood on his head because he struck down two men more righteous and better than he, without my father David's knowledge. With his sword, Joab murdered Abner son of Ner, commander of Israel's army, and Amasa son of Jether, commander of Judah's army.

³³ Their blood will come back on Joab's head and on the head of his descendants forever, but for David, his descendants, his dynasty, and his throne, there will be peace from the LORD forever."

³⁴ Benaiah son of Jehoiada went up, struck down Joab, and put him to death. He was buried at his house in the wilderness.

"The Lord came, stood there, and called as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel responded, "Speak, for Your servant is listening." The Lord said to Samuel, "I am about to do something in Israel that everyone who hears about it will shudder. On that day I will carry out against Eli everything I said about his family, from beginning to end. I told him that I am going to judge his family forever because of the iniquity he knows about: his sons are defiling the sanctuary, and he has not stopped them. Therefore, I have sworn to Eli's family: The iniquity of Eli's family will never be wiped out by either sacrifice or offering."

(1 Samuel 3:10-14)

Although Joab was faithful to David as King over Absalom, Joab had defected to Adonijah over his younger brother Solomon.

Joab did not attempt to physically fight the order of execution, but instead Joab fled to the Tabernacle for mercy. (The Temple had not yet been constructed by Solomon).

David granted Joab his request of being slaughtered in the Tabernacle and remove the curse of the innocent blood that Joab had shed (Abner – 2 Samuel 3:26-30; Amasa – 2 Samuel 20:8-10).

Abner (Ishbosheth's Commander) and Amasa (Absalom's Commander) were judged to be more righteous and better than Joab (David's Commander).

An individual's personal righteousness (צְדִיקָה) can be relative although perfect righteousness only comes through Christ.

Instead of living in Jerusalem (the city of peace), Joab's home was in the wilderness

Benaiah became the commander of Solomon's army while Zadok replaced Abiathar as high priest.

God Grants Solomon Wisdom (1 Kings 3:1-14)

1 Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt by marrying Pharaoh's daughter. Solomon brought her to live in the city of David until he finished building his palace, the LORD's temple, and the wall surrounding Jerusalem.

2 However, the people were sacrificing on the high places, because until that time a temple for the LORD's name had not been built.

3 Solomon loved the LORD by walking in the statutes of his father David, but he also sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there because it was the most famous high place. He offered 1,000 burnt offerings on that altar.

5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask. What should I give you?"

6 And Solomon replied, "You have shown great and faithful love to Your servant, my father David, because he walked before You in faithfulness, righteousness, and integrity. You have continued this great and faithful love for him by giving him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today.

7 "LORD my God, You have now made Your servant king in my father David's place. Yet I am just a youth with no experience in leadership.

8 Your servant is among Your people You have chosen, a people too numerous to be numbered or counted.

9 So give Your servant an obedient heart to judge Your people and to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

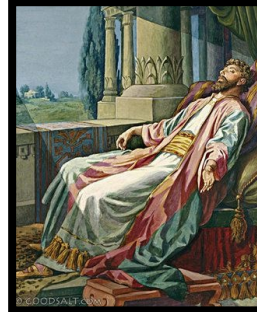
10 Now it pleased the Lord that Solomon had requested this.

11 So God said to him, "Because you have requested this and did not ask for long life or riches for yourself, or the death of your enemies, but you asked discernment for yourself to understand justice,

12 I will therefore do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has never been anyone like you before and never will be again.

13 In addition, I will give you what you did not ask for: both riches and honor, so that no man in any kingdom will be your equal during your entire life.

14 If you walk in My ways and keep My statutes and commands just as your father David did, I will give you a long life."



The first (external) act of Solomon as King was to marry into an alliance with Egypt (1 Kings 7:8)

Since Egypt represents the world's bondage of sin, Solomon seems to make peace with this trouble by a marriage to it.

The Egyptian queen was kept in Jerusalem until after Three Places were constructed:	
1.	Solomon's Palace For Solomon to Live
2.	The Lord's Temple For the Lord to be Worshipped
3.	Jerusalem's Wall For Jerusalem's Protection

The high place was instituted by Samuel (1 Samuel 9:12), but polluted by Jeroboam (1 Kings 12:31)

High Places were a continual distraction from Jerusalem as a central place of worship (1 Kings 13:33, 14:23, 15:14, 22:43; 2 Kings 12:3; 14:4, 15:4, 35; 17:11, 29; 21:3) – until Hezekiah and Josiah (2 Kings 18:4, 23:8).

In return to God's love for him (2 Sam 12:24; 1 Jn 4:19), Solomon loved the Lord which was evidenced (as always) through obedience

Solomon lists three of David's characteristics that pleased the Lord:

1. faithfulness(loyalty)
2. righteousness(morally)
3. integrity(honesty)

Pleasing God begins with humility of one's weakness (2 Chronicles 34:27; Job 22:9; Psalm 51:17).

Solomon requested "wisdom to lead God's people" which was partially due to David's influence (1 Chronicles 22:5, 12; 29:1).

God blessed Solomon beyond his request (Malachi 3:10; Ephesians 3:20) with unconditional riches & honor.

Solomon's Wisdom as Judge (1 Kings 3:16-28)

¹⁶ Then **two women who were prostitutes** came to the king and stood before him.

¹⁷ One woman said, "Please my lord, this woman and I live in the same house, and I had a baby while she was in the house.

¹⁸ **On the third day after I gave birth, she also had a baby and we were alone.**

No one else was with us in the house; just the two of us were there.

¹⁹ **During the night this woman's son died because she lay on him.**

²⁰ **She got up in the middle of the night and took my son from my side while your servant was asleep. She laid him at her breast, and she put her dead son in my arms.**



²¹ When I got up in the morning to nurse my son, I discovered he was dead. **That morning, when I looked closely at him I realized that he was not the son I gave birth to.**

²² "No," the other woman said. "My son is the living one; your son is the dead one." The first woman said, "No, your son is the dead one; my son is the living one." **So they argued before the king.**

²³ The king replied, "This woman says, 'This is my son who is alive, and your son is dead,' but that woman says, 'No, your son is dead, and my son is alive.'"

²⁴ **The king continued, "Bring me a sword." So they brought the sword to the king.**

²⁵ Solomon said, "Cut the living boy in two and give half to one and half to the other."

²⁶ **The woman whose son was alive spoke to the king because she felt great compassion for her son. "My lord, give her the living baby," she said, "but please don't have him killed!"** But the other one said, "He will not be mine or yours. Cut him in two!"

²⁷ **The king responded, "Give the living baby to the first woman, and don't kill him. She is his mother."**

²⁸ **All Israel heard about the judgment the king had given, and they stood in awe of the king because they saw that God's wisdom was in him to carry out justice.**

The birth mother spoke first and gave the background to the event

Two harlots (symbolic of idolaters) claimed to being the parent of the same son just as the northern kingdom and southern kingdom had each claimed David as their rightful King (2 Samuel 19:41-43) and the favor of God (John 4:19-20).

The number "2" symbolizes "witness"

The greatest blessing in Jewish culture was to have a son, and these two lonely harlots desired to have a son as their family to support and be supported.

The number "3" symbolizes "revelation"

"It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed." (Romans 13:11)

"So then, we must not sleep, like the rest, but we must stay awake and be serious." (1 Thessalonians 5:6)

There is a danger in being asleep (especially spiritual sleep)

The second woman accidentally killed her baby while asleep

The first woman lost her living baby while she was asleep

	Israel / World	Judah / Christian
Both Harlots	Sinner	Sinner
Child	False Belief	Messiah
Both Asleep	Unaware	Unaware
Response	Agree with Judgment / Law	Beg for Grace
Focus	Judgment	Child
Sword	Discerning Word of God	Discerning Word of God

Law versus Grace

Solomon may have witnessed his father, King David, determine whether Ziba or Mephibosheth had told the truth in regards to their faithfulness to David during Absalom's rebellion.

David ordered his kingdom be split, but Mephibosheth told David to give the entire kingdom to Ziba because he just wanted to live in peace at David's house (2 Samuel 20:24-30)



The sword (symbolic of God's Word) was used to determine the truth

The King identified the rightful mother by her sentiment towards her son.

All of Israel attributed Solomon's wisdom to the Lord, and as a result, Israel feared the king.

The Testimony of Solomon's Wisdom (1 Kings 4:29-34)

29 God gave Solomon wisdom, very great insight, and understanding as vast as the sand on the seashore.

30 Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of all the people of the East, greater than all the wisdom of Egypt.

31 He was wiser than anyone—wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, sons of Mahol. **His reputation extended to all the surrounding nations.**

32 Solomon composed 3,000 proverbs, and his songs numbered 1,005.

33 He described trees, from the cedar in Lebanon to the hyssop growing out of the wall. He also taught about animals, birds, reptiles, and fish.

34 People came from everywhere, sent by every king on earth who had heard of his wisdom, to listen to Solomon's wisdom.

The wisdom that God provided Solomon equated to the extent of Solomon's responsibility (1 Kings 4:26)

Like his father (David), Solomon was musical

Approximately 800 of Solomon's proverbs are included in the Book of Proverbs consisting of 915 verses

Cedar was the royal wood of the Temple (1 Kings 6:9) while Hyssop represented lowly plants.

When the world understood Solomon's wisdom, everyone wanted to listen

The east may include Asian wisdom (of men like Confucius 500BC) or the "more moderate" east of Mesopotamia

Both Asian and Egyptian cultures were known for their literature while Solomon's wisdom surpassed both.

Job is called "*the greatest of all the people of the East*" (Job 1:3)

Four (creation) incredibly wise men are listed (1 Chronicles 2:6), but Solomon surpassed them all as much as the wisdom of Jesus surpassed any other man's (Mt 12:42; Lk 11:31).

Ethan the Ezrahite authored Psalm 89

Heman authored Psalm 88

Solomon taught about four categories of animals

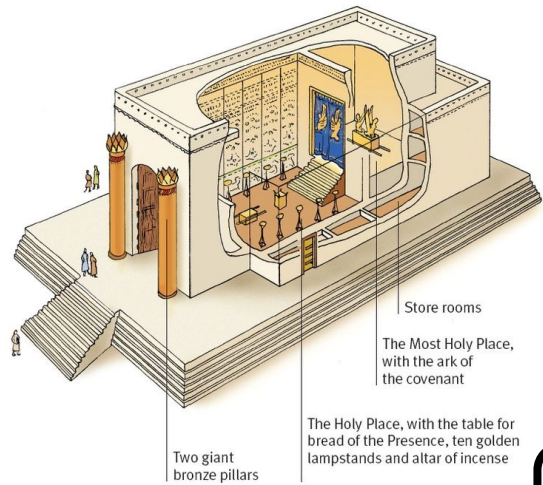
God Gives His people what they need to fulfill His calling

So what if God's people are not obediently following His call?

This should still be the case for God's Word

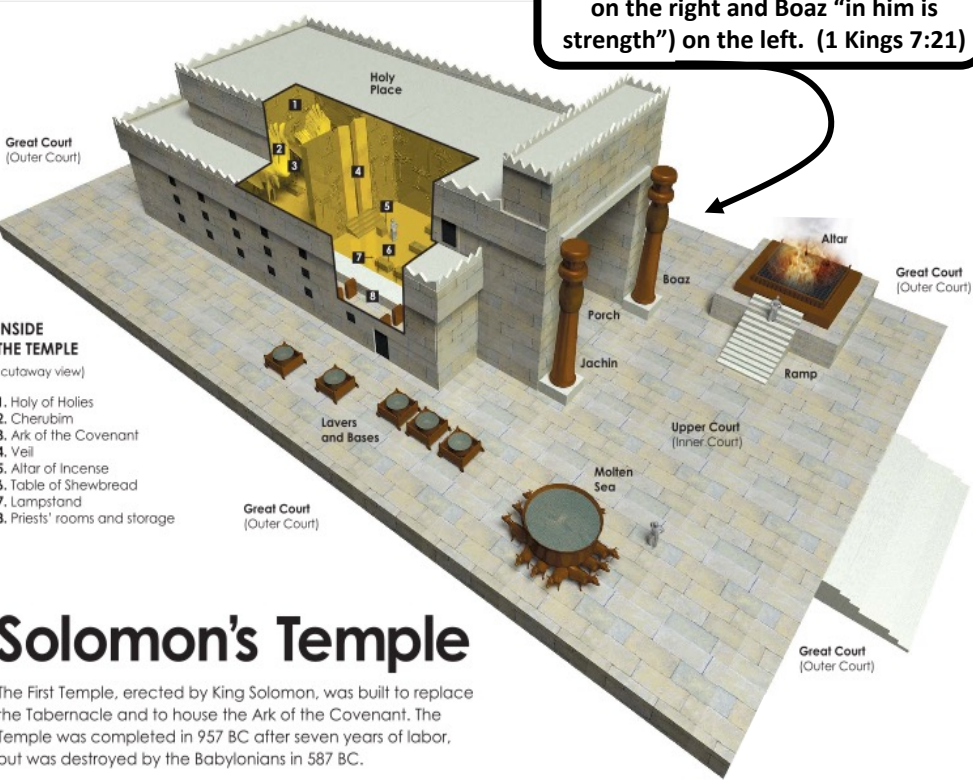
The Tabernacle (1 Kings 6-7)

“The word of the LORD came to Solomon: ‘As for this temple you are building—if you walk in My statutes, observe My ordinances, and keep all My commands by walking in them, I will fulfill My promise to you, which I made to your father David.’” (1 Kings 6:11-12)



The pillars in the vestibule were called Jachin (“he will establish”) on the right and Boaz (“in him is strength”) on the left. (1 Kings 7:21)

Tabernacle – Temple Comparisons			
	Tabernacle	Temple	
Holy Place	20 X 10 Cubits	40 X 20 Cubits (1 Kings 6:2)	60 X 30 Feet
Holy of Holies	10 X 10 Cubits	20 x 20 Cubits (1 Kings 6:20)	30 X 30 Feet
Entire Structure	30 X 10 Cubits	60 X 20 Cubits (1 Kings 6:2)	90 X 30 Feet
Height – Holy of Holies	10 Cubits	20 Cubits (1 Kings 6:20)	30 Feet
Height – Holy Place	10 Cubits	30 Cubits (1 Kings 6:2)	45 Feet
Lampstand	One	Ten Lampstands	
Laver	One	Ten Mobile Lavers & Molten Sea	
Table of Showbread	One	Ten Tables	



Solomon's Temple

The First Temple, erected by King Solomon, was built to replace the Tabernacle and to house the Ark of the Covenant. The Temple was completed in 957 BC after seven years of labor, but was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 BC.

The Tabernacle (Exodus 25:8-9, 26:30) was patterned after the Heavenly Tabernacle (Revelation 15:5)

Seven Tabernacles/Temples are referenced in the Bible:		Seven times are we referenced as the Temple of God because He is in us.	
1. Tabernacle/Temple	(1 Samuel 1:9)	1. 1 Corinthians 3:9-17	
2. Solomon's Tabernacle	(1 Kings 6:5,7)	2. 1 Corinthians 6:19	
3. Nehemiah/Zerubbabel	(Ezra 4:1-2)	3. 2 Corinthians 6:16	
4. Herod	(John 2:20)	4. Ephesians 2:20-21	
5. Defiled by Antichrist	(2 Thes 2:4, Daniel 9:27)	5. Hebrews 3:6	
6. Millennial	(Ezekiel 41:1)	6. 1 Peter 2:5	
7. Jesus	(Rev 21:3, 22)	7. 1 Peter 4:17	

The Queen of Sheba (1 Kings 10:1-13)

Nothing is too difficult for the King

Tradition: They were married & had a son, Menyelek I



The Queen of Sheba (“captivity/old man”), representing the *Gentiles*, came up to Jerusalem to pay him homage as all the nations will to Christ during the millennium (Zech. 14:16).

- Sheba’s gifts may be a foreshadowing of the wise men at the nativity (Is 60:6).
- The fame of Solomon was meant to draw attention to God and not to himself.

The Queen of Sheba brought offerings to the king (Matthew 2:11) and hid nothing from him (Psalm 69:5; Ecclesiastes 12:14), but instead was completely open to the king’s insight (Isaiah 55:8-9).

The queen witnessed the blessings of Solomon through his household. (Gen 18:19) It seems that the queen had initially wanted to challenge Solomon, but her competitive spirit gave way – the same term is used in Joshua 5:1.

A firsthand experience of the King was more powerful than the testimonies. (Deuteronomy 11:7, 29:2; John 4:42, 20:29; Luke 10:23-24)

Seven Items of The King took the Queen’s Breath Away (1 Kings 10:4-5 & 2 Chronicles 9:3-4)

1.	Wisdom	2 Sam 14:20; 1 Kings 3:28; Job 12:13; Dan 2:20
2.	Palace	Ps 11:4, 45:6, 47:8
3.	Food at His Table	Mt 8:11; Lk 22:30
4.	His Servants Residence	Jn 14:2-3
5.	Attendant’s Service & Clothing	Is 61:10; Zech 3:1-5
6.	His Cupbearers	Gen 40:21; Neh 1:11; Mt 20:22-23; Mk 10:39; 1 Cor 10:16
7.	The Burnt Offerings	Gen 8:20, 22:2-8; Lev 1:10

¹ The queen of Sheba heard about Solomon’s fame connected with the name of Yahweh and came to test him with difficult questions.

² She came to Jerusalem with a very large entourage, with camels bearing spices, gold in great abundance, and precious stones. She came to Solomon and spoke to him about everything that was on her mind.

³ So Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too difficult for the king to explain to her.

⁴ When the queen of Sheba observed all of Solomon’s wisdom, the palace he had built,

⁵ the food at his table, his servants’ residence, his attendants’ service and their attire, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he offered at the LORD’s temple, it took her breath away.

⁶ She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your words and about your wisdom is true.

⁷ But I didn’t believe the reports until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, I was not even told half. Your wisdom and prosperity far exceed the report I heard.

⁸ How happy are your men. How happy are these servants of yours, who always stand in your presence hearing your wisdom.

⁹ May Yahweh your God be praised! He delighted in you and put you on the throne of Israel, because of the LORD’s eternal love for Israel. He has made you king to carry out justice and righteousness.”

¹⁰ Then she gave the king four and a half tons of gold, a great quantity of spices, and precious stones. Never again did such a quantity of spices arrive as those the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

¹¹ In addition, Hiram’s fleet that carried gold from Ophir brought from Ophir a large quantity of almug wood and precious stones.

¹² The king made the almug wood into steps for the LORD’s temple and the king’s palace and into lyres and harps for the singers. Never before had such almug wood come, and the like has not been seen again even to this very day.

¹³ King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba her every desire—whatever she asked—besides what he had given her out of his royal bounty.

Then she, along with her servants, returned to her own country.

Reminder

Expectations of the King (Deuteronomy 17:14-20)

¹⁴ “When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’

¹⁵ you may indeed set a king over you whom the LORD your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.

¹⁶ Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’

¹⁷ And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

¹⁸ “And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests.

¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them,

²⁰ that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.



God foresaw that Israel would want a human king like the other nations (peer pressure on a national level).

God would choose Israel's king instead of the people subjectively selecting (Hosea 8:4)

Horses represent military might (Proverbs 21:31; Psalms 33:17).



The accumulation of horses encouraged the king to rely on his own strength instead of God's provision.

Kings were not to accumulate multiple wives and concubines

The acts of self-seeking pleasure and self-made treaties with surrounding countries would expose the king to seductive influences away from God (1 Kings 11:1-4).

King should know the law and have quiet time every day.

Israel's king was not to pridefully esteem himself above the law which would cause him to stray from the straight and narrow truth.

Prophet: God's Word to Man
Priest: Man's Mediator to God
King: Exemplary Illustration of God's Man

Israel's king would need to defend Israel's beliefs and submit to the one true God.

Solomon failed to keep this command (1 Kings 10:26-29).



The Wealth of Solomon (1 Kings 10:14-29)

¹⁴ The weight of gold that came to Solomon annually was 25 tons,

¹⁵ besides what came from merchants, traders' merchandise, and all the Arabian kings and governors of the land.

¹⁶ King Solomon made 200 large shields of hammered gold; 15 pounds of gold went into each shield.

¹⁷ He made 300 small shields of hammered gold; about four pounds of gold went into each shield. **The king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.**

¹⁸ The king also made a large ivory throne and overlaid it with fine gold.

¹⁹ The throne had six steps; there was a rounded top at the back of the throne, armrests on either side of the seat, and two lions standing beside the armrests.

²⁰ Twelve lions were standing there on the six steps, one at each end. Nothing like it had ever been made in any other kingdom.

²¹ All of King Solomon's drinking cups were gold, and all the utensils of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. There was no silver, since it was considered as nothing in Solomon's time,

²² for the king had ships of Tarshish at sea with Hiram's fleet, and once every three years the ships of Tarshish would arrive bearing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

²³ King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the world in riches and in wisdom.

²⁴ The whole world wanted an audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom that God had put in his heart.

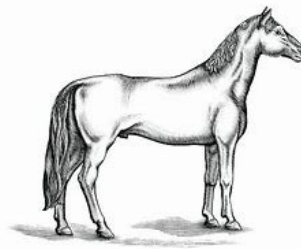
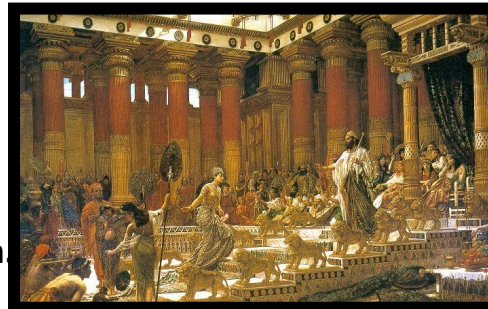
²⁵ Every man would bring his annual tribute: items of silver and gold, clothing, weapons, spices, and horses and mules.

²⁶ Solomon accumulated 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen and stationed them in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.

²⁷ The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedar as abundant as sycamore in the Judean foothills.

²⁸ Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt and Kue. The king's traders bought them from Kue at the going price.

²⁹ A chariot was imported from Egypt for 15 pounds of silver, and a horse for about four pounds. In the same way, they exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and to the kings of Aram through their agents.



The annual weight of gold that Solomon taxed = 666 talents (only other time in Bible is Rev 13:18). This is likened to 25 tons of gold annually. The fact that it came in annually bears the resemblance of a tribute.

This is one of the few times in Scripture that the "number of man" (666) is identified in Scripture (1 Kings 10:14; 2 Chronicles 9:13; Ezra 2:13).

God warned against Kings amassing immense wealth (Deuteronomy 17:17)

One reason for the Queens visit was possible joint-taxation on certain trade routes.

Ivory would symbolize purity (white) while the overlaid gold would have represented glory.

Twelve lions (courage) could represent the twelve tribes.

The annual tribute was accepted by Solomon as the seven offerings are listed: 1.Silver 2.Gold 3.Garments 4.Armor 5.Spices 6.Horses 7.Mules

Egyptian chariots and horses were imported at a cost.

Chariots were only effective as weapons in the lowland plains while most of the Israelites lived in the hill country.

Israel used their supply chain agents to broker the sale of Egyptian chariots to the Hittites and Syria.

Reminder

Curses for Disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:15-44)

Levites Proclaimed Thirty-One Curses (Deuteronomy 28:15-44)

1.	In the City	Deut. 28:16
2.	In the Country	Deut. 28:16
3.	For the Kneading Bowl & Provision	Deut. 28:17 <i>(switched from blessing order)</i>
4.	For the Household/Descendants	Deut. 28:18 <i>(switched from blessing order)</i>
5.	When You Come In	Deut. 28:19
6.	When You Go Out	Deut. 28:19
7.	Curses, Confusion, Rebuke	Deut. 28:20
8.	Plague of Diseases	Deut. 28:21
9.	Drought, blight, mildew plague	Deut. 28:22
10.	Hard sky/ground like bronze/iron	Deut. 28:23
11.	Rain of Dust/Powder	Deut. 28:24
12.	Defeat by Enemies	Deut. 28:25
13.	Carcasses eaten by wild animals	Deut. 28:26
14.	Uncurable Tumors, Sores & the Itch	Deut. 28:27
15.	Madness, Blindness, Confusion	Deut. 28:28
16.	Unsuccessful, Oppressed, Robbed	Deut. 28:29
17.	Another will take new wife/house/vineyard	Deut. 28:30
18.	Herd and cattle will be taken by others	Deut. 28:31
19.	Children given as slaves to another nation	Deut. 28:32
20.	Cruel oppression & loss of harvests	Deut. 28:33
21.	Sights will turn oppressed mad	Deut. 28:34
22.	Uncurable Boils	Deut. 28:35
23.	Nation in Exile	Deut. 28:36
24.	An Object of Ridicule	Deut. 28:37
25.	Locusts will Devour your Field	Deut. 28:38
26.	Worms will ruin wine & grapes	Deut. 28:39
27.	No oil from Olive Trees	Deut. 28:40
28.	Children in Captivity	Deut. 28:41
29.	Locusts will take over trees and crops	Deut. 28:42
30.	Foreign inhabitants will increase	Deut. 28:43
31.	Become the borrower	Deut. 28:44

The first six curses for Disobedience are directly opposite the blessings: city, country, household/descendants, kneading bowl, come in, go out



Confusion is a judgment from the Lord (Isaiah 28:26; 1 Cor 14:33; James 3:16).

One can either be a spiritual citizen of Babylon (confusion) or Jerusalem (peace).

~9 million people have died from the corona virus pandemic

1 in 5 (50-60 Million) Americans suffers from Mental Illness

Adultery and Divorce are around 50%

40 Million are enslaved (human trafficking) worldwide

Over 2 million illegal immigrants crossed southern border of US in 2021

80% of Americans have consumer debt

2 out of 10 Americans use at least 50% of their income to pay back what they owe.

Solomon Seduced into Idolatry (1 Kings 11:1-13)

¹ King Solomon loved many foreign women in addition to Pharaoh's daughter: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women

² from the nations that the LORD had told the Israelites about, "Do not intermarry with them, and they must not intermarry with you, because they will turn you away from Me to their gods." Solomon was deeply attached to these women and loved them.

³ He had 700 wives who were princesses and 300 concubines, and they turned his heart away from the LORD.

⁴ When Solomon was old, his wives seduced him to follow other gods. He was not completely devoted to Yahweh his God, as his father David had been.

⁵ Solomon followed Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians, and Milcom, the detestable idol of the Ammonites.

⁶ Solomon did what was evil in the LORD's sight, and unlike his father David, he did not completely follow Yahweh.

⁷ At that time, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh, the detestable idol of Moab, and for Milcom, the detestable idol of the Ammonites, on the hill across from Jerusalem.

⁸ He did the same for all his foreign wives, who were burning incense and offering sacrifices to their gods.

⁹ The LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from Yahweh, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice.

¹⁰ He had commanded him about this, so that he would not follow other gods, but Solomon did not do what the LORD had commanded.

¹¹ Then the LORD said to Solomon, "Since you have done this and did not keep My covenant and My statutes, which I commanded you, I will tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant.

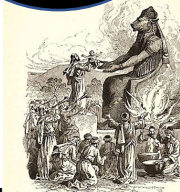
¹² However, I will not do it during your lifetime because of your father David; I will tear it out of your son's hand.

¹³ Yet I will not tear the entire kingdom away from him. I will give one tribe to your son because of my servant David and because of Jerusalem that I chose."

Deuteronomy 7:3-4
2 Corinthians 6:14

High places were used by priests before the Temple was finished (1 Kings 3:2-3) but then misused to worship fertility gods. Jeroboam would install priests at his high places (1 Kings 12:31-32).

Josiah destroyed the high places (2 Kings 23:19)



The Egyptian princess is singled out among the many foreign women that Solomon loved. Egypt is often representative of the pagan world.

Many of these wives may have been political alliances with the world

The Moabites, Ammonites and Edomites were Transjordan kingdoms to the southwest of Israel (all originating with Lot and Esau).

The Sidonians were Phoenicians and possibly from the family of King Hiram of Tyre.

The Hittites were the kingdom in Asian minor that had split the promised land with the Egyptians in 1300 BC.

Rabbinical Jews teach that Solomon wrote Song of Solomon in his youth, Proverbs during mid-life, and Ecclesiastes in his old age.

Ashtoreth was the female fertility and war god; a female god of licentious conquest.

Milcom was a false war god that was likened to Molech (both are a slight corruption of the Hebrew word for "king" ("Melech"))

Ashtoreth began as a Phoenician goddess who was adopted into Canaan because of the acts of the Temple prostitutes.

Isis, Ishtar and "Mother Earth" are all variations of Ashtoreth.

Molech was a fire god of a seated bronze statue with a human body and bull head

The babies of the Temple prostitutes would be used as human sacrifices over blazing fires burning through the arms of Molech (Lev 18:21, 20:5; 2 Kings 23:10).

Chemosh was a false war and sun god (Num 21:29; 2 Kings 23:13).. Solomon built the shrine to Chemosh on the Mt of Olives.

Ambitious Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:26-40)

²⁶ Now Solomon's servant, Jeroboam son of Nebat, was an Ephraimite from Zeredah. His widowed mother's name was Zeruah. Jeroboam rebelled against Solomon,

²⁷ and this is the reason he rebelled against the king: Solomon had built the supporting terraces and repaired the opening in the wall of the city of his father David.

²⁸ Now the man Jeroboam was capable, and Solomon noticed the young man because he was getting things done. So he appointed him over the entire labor force of the house of Joseph.

²⁹ During that time, the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite met Jeroboam on the road as Jeroboam came out of Jerusalem. Now Ahijah had wrapped himself with a new cloak, and the two of them were alone in the open field.

³⁰ Then Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he had on, tore it into 12 pieces,

³¹ and said to Jeroboam, "Take 10 pieces for yourself, for this is what the LORD God of Israel says: 'I am about to tear the kingdom out of Solomon's hand. I will give you 10 tribes,

³² but one tribe will remain his because of my servant David and because of Jerusalem, the city I chose out of all the tribes of Israel.

³³ For they have abandoned Me; they have bowed the knee to Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh, the god of Moab, and to Milcom, the god of the Ammonites. They have not walked in My ways to do what is right in My eyes and to carry out My statutes and My judgments as his father David did.

³⁴ "However, I will not take the whole kingdom from his hand but will let him be ruler all the days of his life because of My servant David, whom I chose and who kept My commands and My statutes.

³⁵ I will take 10 tribes of the kingdom from his son's hand and give them to you.

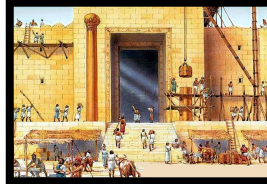
³⁶ I will give one tribe to his son, so that My servant David will always have a lamp before Me in Jerusalem, the city I chose for Myself to put My name there.

³⁷ I will appoint you, and you will reign as king over all you want, and you will be king over Israel.

³⁸ "After that, if you obey all I command you, walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight in order to keep My statutes and My commands as My servant David did, I will be with you. I will build you a lasting dynasty just as I built for David, and I will give you Israel.

³⁹ I will humble David's descendants, because of their unfaithfulness, but not forever."

⁴⁰ Therefore, Solomon tried to kill Jeroboam, but he fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, where he remained until Solomon's death.



Jeroboam ("the one who enlarges") was from Ephraim. Ephraim and Judah struggled to be the most powerful tribes of Israel.

Solomon became abusive to his own people in his building projects with forced labor (1 Kings 5:13; 9:15, 24)

Solomon elevated Jeroboam to an officer above the forced labor as a labor leader over the Ephraim workers.

The prophet Ahijah ("God is my family member") met Jeroboam privately in a field as Jeroboam was leaving Jerusalem. Ahijah was from Shiloh (which was in Ephraim)

Ahijah would ultimately condemn Jeroboam (1 Kings 14:6-11)

Various partial tribes would transfer to Jerusalem under Judah oversight

Benjamin would ultimately join Judah against the northern nations while Simeon would move northward.

The Levites would serve at Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 11:13)

Only Judah remained with Solomon's Lineage

Ephraim would be the strongest tribe of the northern kingdom and used in reference to the entire kingdom.

Reasons the House of Solomon would lose their Kingdom (1 Kings 11:33)	
1.	Israel bowed to Sidonian's Ashtoreth (moon goddess of love and war)
2.	Israel bowed to Moabite's Chemosh (fish-god destroyer – Moab's god of war)
3.	Israel bowed to Ammonite's Milcom (Molech the fire god – pagan sexual fertility goddess)
4.	Israel had not walked in God's ways to do right in God's eyes
5.	Israel did not carry out God's statutes
6.	Israel did not carry out God's judgments

Shishak will raid the Temple. (2 Chron 12:9)

Rehoboam Is ~~Anointed~~ Becomes King

Anointings of the Kings

1.	Saul	Samuel	1 Samuel 9:5	Zuph	“Honeycomb”
2.	Saul	Israel	1 Samuel 10:17	Mizpah	“Watchtower/Lookout”
1.	David	Samuel	1 Samuel 16:1	Bethlehem	“House of Bread”
2.	David	Judah	2 Samuel 2:1	Hebron	“Friendship”
3.	David	Israel	2 Samuel 5:3	Hebron	“Friendship”
1.	Solomon	Zadok	1 Kings 1:33-34	Gihon	“Valley of Grace”
2.	Solomon	Israel	1 Chronicles 28:1, 29:22-25	Jerusalem	“City of Peace”
1.	Rehoboam	Not Anointed	1 Kings 12:1	Shechem	“Shoulder/Strength”



“Solomon rested with his fathers and was buried in the city of his father David. His son Rehoboam became king in his place.”

(1 Kings 11:43)



Israel Rebels Against Rehoboam (1 Kings 12:8-19)

8 But he rejected the advice of the elders who had advised him and consulted with the young men who had grown up with him and served him.

9 He asked them, "What message do you advise that we send back to these people who said to me, 'Lighten the yoke your father put on us'?"

10 Then the young men who had grown up with him told him, "This is what you should say to these people who said to you, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you, make it lighter on us!' This is what you should tell them: 'My little finger is thicker than my father's loins!

11 Although my father burdened you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke; my father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with barbed whips."

12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king had ordered: "Return to me on the third day."

13 Then the king answered the people harshly. He rejected the advice the elders had given him

14 and spoke to them according to the young men's advice: "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with barbed whips."

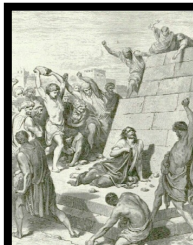
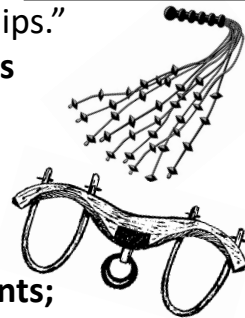
15 The king did not listen to the people, because this turn of events came from the LORD to carry out His word, which the LORD had spoken through Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam son of Nebat.

16 When all Israel saw that the king had not listened to them, the people answered him: What portion do we have in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. Israel, return to your tents; David, now look after your own house! So Israel went to their tents,

17 but Rehoboam reigned over the Israelites living in the cities of Judah.

18 Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was in charge of forced labor, but all Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam managed to get into the chariot and flee to Jerusalem.

19 Israel is in rebellion against the house of David until today.



Rehoboam rejected wise elder advice for ignorant peer prattle.

Unlike his father, Solomon, Rehoboam thought that he was capable to make judgments

Rehoboam was 41 years of age (1 Kings 14:21)

Rehoboam disrespects his father (Solomon) with a crude, juvenile reference.

The manner in which one treats authority could give insight into the inclination of a person towards God.

On the third day, the answer (the truth of Rehoboam's heart) would be revealed.

Rehoboam does not go to the Lord in prayer, but instead goes directly to fellow man.

Jeroboam led the northern kingdom back to Rehoboam on the third day; Jeroboam understood how to lead the people according to the King's command

God used Rehoboam's weaknesses to bring about his downfall while fulfilling His Word (1 Kings 11:31).

This is the first time in Scripture where the term "Israel" is used to define the 10 tribes of the "northern kingdom."

922BC Separation of the Kingdom
722BC Assyrian Exile of the Northern Kingdom
538BC Jerusalem re-established as capital (Post-Babylon Captivity)

The northern kingdom will be called "Israel", "Ephraim", or "Samaria".

Being politically inept, Rehoboam sent the overseer of forced labor instead of a sympathetic ambassador to Israel.
Adoram also served King David in charge of the revenue (2 Samuel 20:24), and may have been in charge of David's forced labor as Adoniram (1 Kings 4:6)

Jeroboam's Idolatry (1 Kings 12:25-33)

25 Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and lived there. From there he went out and built Penuel.

26 Jeroboam said to himself, "The way things are going now, the kingdom might return to the house of David.

27 If these people regularly go to offer sacrifices in the LORD's temple in Jerusalem, the heart of these people will return to their lord, Rehoboam king of Judah.

They will murder me and go back to the king of Judah."

28 So the king sought advice. Then he made two golden calves, and he said to the people, "Going to Jerusalem is too difficult for you. Israel, here is your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt."

29 He set up one in Bethel, and put the other in Dan.

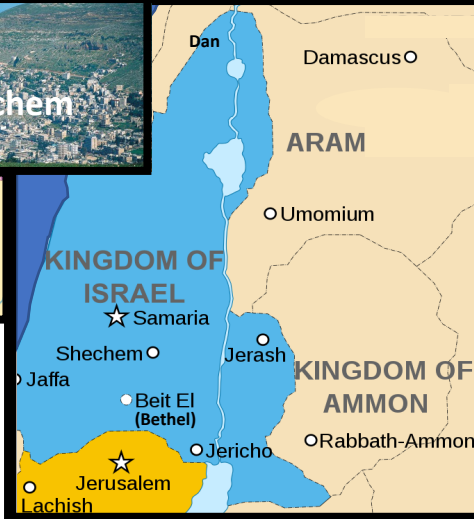
30 This led to sin; the people walked in procession before one of the calves all the way to Dan.

31 Jeroboam also built shrines on the high places and set up priests from every class of people who were not Levites.

32 Jeroboam made a festival in the eighth month on the fifteenth day of the month, like the festival in Judah.

He offered sacrifices on the altar; he made this offering in Bethel to sacrifice to the calves he had set up. He also stationed the priests in Bethel for the high places he had set up.

33 He offered sacrifices on the altar he had set up in Bethel on the fifteenth day of the eighth month. He chose this month on his own. He made a festival for the Israelites, offered sacrifices on the altar, and burned incense.



Jeroboam built his kingdom from the location that Rehoboam had sought to be made king - Shechem.

Penuel is a town in the Transjordan area on the Jabbok river where Jacob wrestled with the Lord. (Genesis 32:30)

The (political, media, sports, professional, commercial) activities of this world attempt to sway men's hearts.

Jeroboam made two (witness) golden (royal) calves (young servants) as "graven images" that distracted Israel from worshipping Yahweh.

Jeroboam attempted to create truth by telling Israel that his idols led them out of Egypt, but truth stands apart from man's claims.

Idols established the Southern Border in Bethel (southern tip of Ephraim) and the Northern Border of Dan.

The Tribe of Dan blasphemed the Name (Leviticus 24:10-12, Deuteronomy 29:18-21)

The tribes of Dan & Ephraim are not listed at the end times (Revelation 7:5-8).

Beyond the golden calves and false priests, Jeroboam instituted counterfeit feasts.

The phrase "*which he had made*" is repeated in this passage.

Jeroboam had devised a self-serving, counterfeit religion out of his own selfish heart

Prophecy Against Jeroboam (1 Kings 13:1-10)

¹ A man of God came from Judah to Bethel by a revelation from the LORD while Jeroboam was standing beside the altar to burn incense.

² The man of God cried out against the altar by a revelation from the LORD: "Altar, altar, this is what the LORD says, 'A son will be born to the house of David, named Josiah, and he will sacrifice on you the priests of the high places who are burning incense on you. Human bones will be burned on you.'"

³ He gave a sign that day. He said, "This is the sign that the LORD has spoken: 'The altar will now be ripped apart, and the ashes that are on it will be poured out.'"

⁴ When **the king** heard the word that the man of God had cried out against the altar at Bethel, **Jeroboam** stretched out his hand from the altar and said, "Arrest him!" But the hand he stretched out against him withered, and he could not pull it back to himself.

⁵ The altar was ripped apart, and the ashes poured from the altar, according to the sign that the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

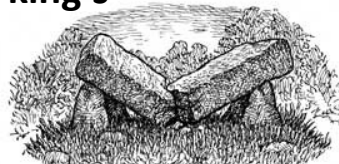
⁶ Then **the king** responded to the man of God, "Plead for the favor of the LORD your God and pray for me so that my hand may be restored to me." So the man of God pleaded for the favor of the LORD, and the king's hand was restored to him and became as it had been at first.

⁷ Then **the king** declared to the man of God, "Come home with me, refresh yourself, and I'll give you a reward."

⁸ But the man of God replied, "If you were to give me half your house, I still wouldn't go with you, and I wouldn't eat bread or drink water in this place,

⁹ for this is what I was commanded by the word of the LORD: 'You must not eat bread or drink water or go back the way you came.'"

¹⁰ So he went another way; he did not go back by the way he had come to Bethel.



The Lord did not use a man of God from the north (there may not have been one), but instead, a man of God came up from Judah.

Bethel was on the border of Ephraim and Benjamin approximately 10 miles north of Jerusalem.

The "man of God" calls the altar twice before prophesying that the good king Josiah would desecrate the altar by sacrificing the remains of the false priests on it (2 Kings 23:19-24; 2 Chronicles 34:33)

Josiah (nearly 300 years later – 630BC) is a type of Jesus who would hold the religious (Pharisees/Sadducees) accountable

Jeroboam had set himself against the house of David, but the man of God foretold a descendant from the house of David that would destroy Jeroboam's personal religion.

Two (witness) immediate signs occurred with the split of the altar and Jeroboam's crippled hand and restoration

In the New Testament, Jesus healed a man with a shriveled hand while the priests contemptuously belittled His Sabbath miracle (Mt 12:10; Mk 3:1; Lk 6:6).

False religion and customs were administered instead of the worship of the true Lord.

Jeroboam is identified as "the king" of the northern kingdom; however, he is called by name when threatening the man of God

Jeroboam requested a restored hand; Jeroboam actually needed a restored heart.

Disobedient Prophet (1 Kings 13:11-24)

11 Now a certain old prophet was living in Bethel. His son came and told him all the deeds that the man of God had done that day in Bethel.

His sons also told their father the words that he had spoken to the king.

12 Then their father said to them, "Which way did he go?" His sons had seen the way taken by the man of God who had come from Judah.

13 Then he said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me."

So they saddled the donkey for him, and he got on it.

14 He followed the man of God and found him sitting under an oak tree. He asked him, "Are you the man of God who came from Judah?" "I am," he said.

15 Then he said to him, "Come home with me and eat bread."

16 But he answered, "I cannot go back with you, eat bread, or drink water with you in this place,

17 for a message came to me by the word of the LORD: 'You must not eat bread or drink water there or go back by the way you came.'"

18 He said to him, "I am also a prophet like you. An angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD: 'Bring him back with you to your house so that he may eat bread and drink water.'" The old prophet deceived him,

19 and the man of God went back with him, ate bread in his house, and drank water.

20 While they were sitting at the table, the word of the LORD came to the prophet who had brought him back,

21 and the prophet cried out to the man of God who had come from Judah, "This is what the LORD says: 'Because you rebelled against the command of the LORD and did not keep the command that the LORD your God commanded you—

22 but you went back and ate bread and drank water in the place that He said to you, "Do not eat bread and do not drink water"— your corpse will never reach the grave of your fathers.'"

23 So after he had eaten bread and after he had drunk, the old prophet saddled the donkey for the prophet he had brought back.

24 When he left, a lion attacked him along the way and killed him. His corpse was thrown on the road, and the donkey was standing beside it; the lion was standing beside the corpse too.



The "Old" Prophet may represent the old covenant of following the law, but the "man of God" should not be misled into entertaining the old covenant (Amos 2:12)

The offspring of the old prophet watched the "way" of the "man of God" & interfered with his obedience instead of following that way (John 14:6; Acts 9:2; 19:9, 23)

The "man of God" rests under the oak (symbolizing strength) as lackadaisical (1 Corinthians 10:12)

It is possible that God had stopped talking with old prophet, and he longed to have fellowship with a "man of God."

It does not appear that the old prophet understood God's judgment on disobedience which may have been the reason that he dwelt in the northern kingdom.

This is a continuation of God's lesson not to change the word of God but to faithfully obey; even godly men can be tricked by false prophets. (1 John 4:1)

The prophet from Bethel was older & required respect from the man of God.

The prophet from Bethel identified with the man of God ("*I too am a prophet as you are*").

The prophet from Bethel claimed a spiritual revelation ("*An angel spoke to me*").

The prophet from Bethel claimed to speak for the Lord ("*By the word of the Lord*").



The term "man of God" was changed to "the prophet."

Judgment on Jeroboam (1 Kings 14:1-14)

¹ At that time Abijah son of Jeroboam became sick.

² Jeroboam said to his wife, "Go disguise yourself, so they won't know that you're Jeroboam's wife, and go to Shiloh. Ahijah the prophet is there; it was he who told about me becoming king over this people."

³ Take with you 10 loaves of bread, some cakes, and a jar of honey, and go to him. He will tell you what will happen to the boy."

⁴ Jeroboam's wife did that: she went to Shiloh and arrived at Ahijah's house. Ahijah could not see; his gaze was fixed due to his age.

⁵ But the LORD had said to Ahijah, "Jeroboam's wife is coming soon to ask you about her son, for he is sick. You are to say such and such to her. When she arrives, she will be disguised."

⁶ When Ahijah heard the sound of her feet entering the door, he said, "Come in, wife of Jeroboam! Why are you disguised? I have bad news for you."

⁷ Go tell Jeroboam, 'This is what the LORD God of Israel says: I raised you up from among the people, appointed you ruler over My people Israel,

⁸ tore the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it to you. But you were not like My servant David, who kept My commands and followed Me with all of his heart, doing only what is right in My eyes.

⁹ You behaved more wickedly than all who were before you. In order to provoke Me, you have proceeded to make for yourself other gods and cast images, but you have flung Me behind your back.

¹⁰ Because of all this, I am about to bring disaster on the house of Jeroboam: I will eliminate all of Jeroboam's males, both slave and free, in Israel; I will sweep away the house of Jeroboam as one sweeps away dung until it is all gone!

¹¹ Anyone who belongs to Jeroboam and dies in the city, the dogs will eat, and anyone who dies in the field, the birds of the sky will eat, for the LORD has said it!

¹² "As for you, get up and go to your house. When your feet enter the city, the boy will die."

¹³ All Israel will mourn for him and bury him. He alone out of Jeroboam's house will be put in the family tomb, because out of the house of Jeroboam the LORD God of Israel found something good only in him.

¹⁴ The LORD will raise up for Himself a king over Israel, who will eliminate the house of Jeroboam. This is the day, yes, even today!

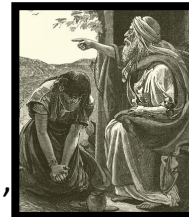
10 Loaves



10 Tribes



The Lord literally says that he is going to "clean house" as if it were filled with excrement.



The child would be spared the downfall of the house of Jeroboam.

God would take the young child's life because God found something in him that pleased the Lord



1 Kings 14 begins with Jeroboam's son (Abijah) becoming deathly sick while it ends with Rehoboam's son (Abijah) ascending to the throne ("Ahijah" & "Abijah" are the same name)

It was tradition to bring a gift to a prophet of God (1 Samuel 9:7; 2 Kings 4:42; 5:5; 8:8)

Ahijah asks a rhetorical question to Jeroboam's unnamed wife

At times, deceivers attempt to mislead God in the same manner:

- False Appearances
- Putting on "Airs"/Identity/Performing
- Generosity/Good Works to be seen by others

Ahijah forewarned Jeroboam to obey the Lord, but Jeroboam had dismissed that counsel (1 Kings 11:29-39); now Jeroboam wanted Ahijah's insight into the fate of his child.

God had torn the kingdom from the house of David; David was the main focus of the Lord (not Solomon or Rehoboam).

The term for "male" has replaced the more explicit Hebrew translation of "Him who urinates against the wall."

Death is not the worst that can happen to an individual as it is here a gift to the child.

With death, man does not know what a child is saved from (Jeremiah 24:5).

Judah's King Asa (1 Kings 15:9-24)

⁹ In the twentieth year of Israel's King Jeroboam, **Asa became king of Judah**
¹⁰ **and reigned 41 years in Jerusalem.** His grandmother's name was Maacah daughter of Abishalom.
¹¹ **Asa did what was right in the LORD's eyes, as his ancestor David had done.**
¹² **He banished the male cult prostitutes from the land and removed all of the idols that his fathers had made.**
¹³ **He also removed his grandmother Maacah from being queen mother because she had made an obscene image of Asherah. Asa chopped down her obscene image and burned it in the Kidron Valley.**
¹⁴ **The high places were not taken away; but Asa's heart was completely devoted to the LORD his entire life.**
¹⁵ **He brought his father's consecrated gifts and his own consecrated gifts into the LORD's temple: silver, gold, and utensils.**
¹⁶ **There was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel throughout their reigns.**
¹⁷ **Israel's King Baasha went to war against Judah. He built Ramah in order to deny anyone access to Judah's King Asa.**
¹⁸ **So Asa withdrew all the silver and gold that remained in the treasuries of the LORD's temple and the treasuries of the royal palace and put it into the hands of his servants. Then King Asa sent them to Benhadad son of Tabrimmon son of Hezion king of Aram who lived in Damascus, saying,**
¹⁹ **"There is a treaty between me and you, between my father and your father. Look, I have sent you a gift of silver and gold. Go and break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel so that he will withdraw from me."**
²⁰ **Benhadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel. He attacked Ijon, Dan, Abelbethmaacah, all Chinnereth, and the whole land of Naphtali.**
²¹ **When Baasha heard about it, he quit building Ramah and stayed in Tirzah.**
²² **Then King Asa gave a command to everyone without exception in Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and the timbers Baasha had built it with. Then King Asa built Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah with them.**
²³ **The rest of all the events of Asa's reign, along with all his might, all his accomplishments, and the cities he built, are written in the Historical Record of Judah's Kings. But in his old age he developed a disease in his feet.**
²⁴ **Then Asa rested with his fathers and was buried in the city of his ancestor David. His son Jehoshaphat became king in his place.**

Jeroboam continued to lead the Northern Kingdom into the reign of Rehoboam's grandson, Asa.

Asa descended from Absalom's lineage (2 Samuel 3:3; 13:37-38)

Asa ("physician/healer") walked with the Lord as his great-great-grandfather (David) had done and reigned a year longer.

Asa's heart for God was represented by his "cleaning house" spiritually. Getting "right with God" often begins by getting rid of sin.

Baasha built Ramah only 4 miles north of Jerusalem to intercept those traveling to Jerusalem

Asa was so committed to following the Lord, that he even demoted his grandmother (Rehoboam's wife, Maacah – "oppression") from being queen because she made an idol.

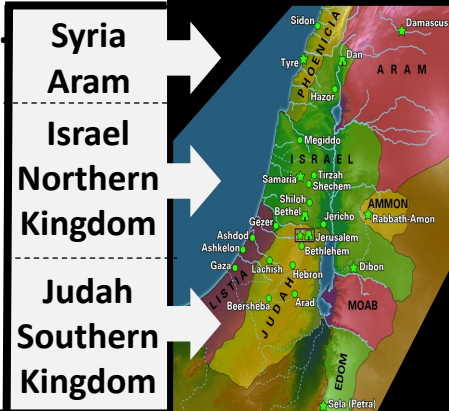
Although, believers are to love and honor family members, the Lord is to be above all.

Asa did not remove the high places of worship and began to trust in worldly alliances later in life (2 Chronicles 16:7-12)

"Ben" means "son of" Hadad ("Thunderer") was a false Syrian/Armenian god of the storm that had power over fertility and destruction (similar to the Canaanite's Baal).

Asa took from the Temple to give to Syria for an alliance

The "feet disease" was symbolic of Asa's spiritual walk away from God (2 Chronicles 15:2)



Israel's King Nadab & Baasha (1 Kings 15:25-34)

²⁵ Nadab son of Jeroboam became king over Israel in the second year of Judah's King Asa; he reigned over Israel two years.

²⁶ Nadab did what was evil in the LORD's sight and followed the example of his father and the sin he had caused Israel to commit.

²⁷ Then Baasha son of Ahijah of the house of Issachar conspired against Nadab, and Baasha struck him down at Gibbethon of the Philistines while Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon.

²⁸ In the third year of Judah's King Asa, Baasha killed Nadab and reigned in his place.

²⁹ When Baasha became king, he struck down the entire house of Jeroboam. He did not leave Jeroboam any survivors but destroyed his family according to the word of the LORD He had spoken through His servant Ahijah the Shilonite.

³⁰ This was because Jeroboam had provoked the LORD God of Israel by the sins he had committed and had caused Israel to commit.

³¹ The rest of the events of Nadab's reign, along with all his accomplishments, are written in the Historical Record of Israel's Kings.

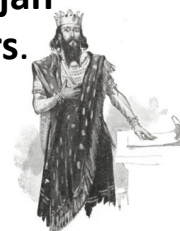
³² There was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel throughout their reigns.

³³ In the third year of Judah's King Asa, Baasha son of Ahijah became king over all Israel and reigned in Tirzah 24 years.

³⁴ He did what was evil in the LORD's sight and followed the example of Jeroboam and the sin he had caused Israel to commit.

1st Usurper of the Northern Kingdom

"I am about to bring disaster on the house of Jeroboam: I will eliminate all of Jeroboam's males, both slave and free, in Israel; I will sweep away the house of Jeroboam as one sweeps away dung until it is all gone!" (1 Kings 14:10)



The death of Jeroboam is not even recorded, but only that Nadab became king of Israel. Asa was a relatively new king for Judah at the time.

While Nadab's armies made a siege in the south against a Philistine city, Baasha assassinated Israel's King Nadab in the Northern Kingdom's capital, Tirzah.

Baasha's son (Elah) would fall victim to the usurper, Zimri (1 Kings 16:12).

The Israeli army would continue to siege (more than 26 years) against the Philistine city of Gibbethon through four kings of Israel (Nadab, Baasha, Zimri, and Omri) – 1 Kings 16:15

The Prophet Ahijah from Shiloh had provided two prophecies to Jeroboam:

If Jeroboam walked with the Lord, God would make his lineage a dynasty (1 Kings 11:29-39)

Since Jeroboam walked against the Lord, God would decimate his lineage (1 Kings 14:6-14)

Nadab continued to promote the false worship of the golden calves that his father, Jeroboam established.

Baasha's attitude can be contrasted to David's respect for God's anointed ruler.

Nothing is innately sacred or holy to the worldly (i.e., marriage, intercourse, elders)

The Northern Kingdom was cursed in idolatry and their chronicles of the kings was not included in Scripture.

Baasha continued to promote the false worship of the golden calves that Nadab's father, Jeroboam established.

Israel's King Elah & Zimri (1 Kings 16:8-19)

⁸ In the twenty-sixth year of Judah's King Asa, Elah son of Baasha became king over Israel and reigned in Tirzah two years.

⁹ His servant Zimri, commander of half his chariots, conspired against him while Elah was in Tirzah getting drunk in the house of Arza, who was in charge of the household at Tirzah.

2nd Usurper of the Northern Kingdom

¹⁰ In the twenty-seventh year of Judah's King Asa, Zimri went in, struck Elah down, killing him. Then Zimri became king in his place.

¹¹ When he became king, as soon as he was seated on his throne, Zimri struck down the entire house of Baasha. He did not leave a single male, including his kinsmen and his friends.

¹² So Zimri destroyed the entire house of Baasha, according to the word of the LORD He had spoken against Baasha through Jehu the prophet.

¹³ This happened because of all the sins of Baasha and those of his son Elah, which they committed and caused Israel to commit, provoking the LORD God of Israel with their worthless idols.

¹⁴ The rest of the events of Elah's reign, along with all his accomplishments, are written in the Historical Record of Israel's Kings.

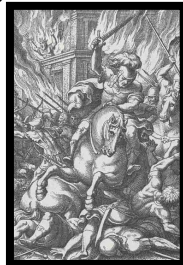
¹⁵ In the twenty-seventh year of Judah's King Asa, Zimri became king for seven days in Tirzah. Now the troops were encamped against Gibbethon of the Philistines.

¹⁶ When these troops heard that Zimri had not only conspired but had also struck down the king, then all Israel made Omri, the army commander, king over Israel that very day in the camp.

¹⁷ Omri along with all Israel marched up from Gibbethon and besieged Tirzah.

¹⁸ When Zimri saw that the city was captured, he entered the citadel of the royal palace and burned it down over himself. He died

¹⁹ because of the sin he committed by doing what was evil in the LORD's sight and by following the example of Jeroboam and the sin he caused Israel to commit.



Elah ("oak") was mindlessly "consuming life" when his destruction occurred (Mt 24:38-39; Lk 17:26-30).

Just as Baasha had killed the entire family of Jeroboam, Zimri would kill the entire family of Baasha (1 Kings 15:29)

The term "male" is translated from the Hebrew phrase "one who urinates against the wall"

"Anyone who belongs to Baasha and dies in the city, the dogs will eat, and anyone who is his and dies in the field, the birds of the sky will eat." (1 Kings 16:4)

Zimri may have been a descendant of King Saul (1 Chronicles 8:36)

Scholars have theorized that the name Zimri is Egyptian or Aramean, & not Semitic (Jewish)

The term "Kinsman" is translated from the term "Goel" as these were possible avengers of blood

While the history of the Southern Kingdom is documented in 1 & 2 Chronicles, the Northern Kingdom records are not included in Scripture.

Zimri was only Israel's king for a week in Israel's capital city, Tirzah.

Omri led all of Israel's army away from the 26-year siege against Philistines Gibbethon (1 Kings 15:27), and Israel's army attacked their own capital city of Tirzah.

Zimri burned down the palace of the king around himself.



Israel's King Omri & Ahab (1 Kings 16:21-34)

²¹ At that time the people of Israel were divided: half the people followed Tibni son of Ginath, to make him king, and half followed Omri.

²² However, the people who followed Omri proved stronger than those who followed Tibni son of Ginath. So Tibni died and Omri became king.

²³ In the thirty-first year of Judah's King Asa, Omri became king over Israel and reigned 12 years. He reigned six years in Tirzah,

²⁴ then he bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for 150 pounds of silver, and he built up the hill. He named the city he built Samaria based on the name Shemer, the owner of the hill.

²⁵ Omri did what was evil in the LORD's sight; he did more evil than all who were before him.

²⁶ He followed the example of Jeroboam son of Nebat and in his sins that he caused Israel to commit, provoking the LORD God of Israel with their worthless idols.

²⁷ The rest of the events of Omri's reign, along with his accomplishments and the might he exercised, are written in the Historical Record of Israel's Kings.

²⁸ Omri rested with his fathers and was buried in Samaria.

His son Ahab became king in his place.

²⁹ Ahab son of Omri became king over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Judah's King Asa; Ahab son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria 22 years.

³⁰ But Ahab son of Omri did what was evil in the LORD's sight more than all who were before him.

³¹ Then, as if following the sin of Jeroboam son of Nebat were a trivial matter, he married Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and then proceeded to serve Baal and worship him.

³² He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he had built in Samaria.

³³ Ahab also made an Asherah pole. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

³⁴ During his reign, Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho. At the cost of Abiram his firstborn, he laid its foundation, and at the cost of Segub his youngest, he set up its gates, according to the word of the LORD He had spoken through Joshua son of Nun.

Israel followed their own will without a king anointed by the Lord

Israel had divided allegiance, but the followers of the warrior, Omri ("servant of God/sheaf of corn"), defeated the followers of Tibni ("building of God/straw").

Omri became the sixth king of the northern kingdom.

Josephus records that Omri fought Tibni for 4 years.

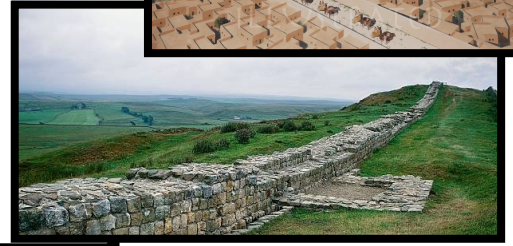
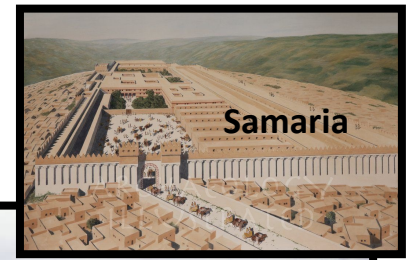
Omri reigned six years in Tirzah before establishing Samaria as the capital of the northern kingdom and ruling in Samaria for six years.

Samaria was a land "peninsula" with a 400-foot drop on three sides of the land, so only one side of the land needed to be defended

Omri was one of the most successful kings of the northern kingdom, and ancient Assyrian documents referred to Israel as the "house of Omri."

The first act of Ahab (Micah 6:16) in Scripture was in marrying Jezebel ("chaste") as queen and followed Baal

Baal ("master/owner" – the sun god of fertility) worship included licentious behavior (temple prostitution) and sacrificing children by fire.

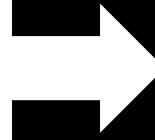


Israel's ancestors had wickedly worshipped Baal centuries prior (Numbers 25:2-3) especially regarding the protection of livestock and harvests.

Construction of Samaria & Jericho (1 Kings 16:34)

“At that time Joshua imposed this curse: The man who undertakes the rebuilding of this city, Jericho, is cursed before the LORD. He will lay its foundation at the cost of his firstborn; he will set up its gates at the cost of his youngest.” (Joshua 6:26)

“During his (Ahab’s) reign, Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho. At the cost of Abiram his firstborn, he laid its foundation, and at the cost of Segub his youngest, he set up its gates, according to the word of the LORD He had spoken through Joshua son of Nun.” (1 Kings 16:34)



Both Ahab & Hiel are said to be builders and both utilize three separate verbs of construction in contrast to Solomon (the great builder):

Ahab "erected" an altar to Baal, "built" a house for Baal in Samaria, and "made" an Asherah (vv. 32-33).

Hiel "built" Jericho, "laid its foundations" and "set up" its gates (v. 34).

Ahab's work (like Hiel's) is a reversal of the conquest, restoring the Baal-worship that had been destroyed under Joshua.

Ahab thinks it a little thing to follow the way of Jeroboam, and goes to Baal worship

Hiel of "Bethel" (the place of Jeroboam's calves) thinks it a little thing to build Bethel, and moves to rebuild Jericho.

The punishment of the two (number of "witness") sons for each

Ahab's later loss of his two sons: The elder, Ahaziah, died, after a short reign, from the effects of an accident (2 Kings 1:17) and was succeeded by his brother Jehoram, who toward the close of his reign of 12 years fled Jehu (Israel's newly anointed King), but an arrow from Jehu's powerful bow shot him through the heart, and he sank dead in his chariot. (2 Kings 9:11-28).

Hiel loses his two sons (Abiram & Segub) while building Jericho

Parallels of Ahab & Hiel

Hiel ("God Lives") rebuilds Jericho (restoring it to its former glory with walls & gates ~500 years after destruction by Joshua/Israel) fulfilling the word of God to Joshua (Joshua 6:26)

Elijah & the Drought (1 Kings 17:1-9)

¹ Now Elijah the Tishbite, from the Gilead settlers, said to Ahab, “As the LORD God of Israel lives, I stand before Him, and there will be no dew or rain during these years except by my command!”

² Then a revelation from the LORD came to him:

³ “Leave here, turn eastward, and hide yourself at the Wadi Cherith where it enters the Jordan.

⁴ You are to drink from the wadi. I have commanded the ravens to provide for you there.”

⁵ So he did what the LORD commanded. Elijah left and lived by the Wadi Cherith where it enters the Jordan.

⁶ The ravens kept bringing him bread and meat in the morning and in the evening, and he drank from the wadi.

⁷ After a while, **the wadi dried up** because there had been no rain in the land.

⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to him:

⁹ “Get up, go to Zarephath that belongs to Sidon and stay there. Look, I have commanded a woman who is a widow to provide for you there.”



Elijah stands in the presence of God

The ancestry of Elijah is not listed, but his birthplace was Tishbi, a place in Upper Galilee,

Elijah had migrated into Gilead (a mountainous region east of Jordan)

Elijah prophesied over the elements of nature that idolatrous Israel credited to their false gods. (Baal of thunder/rain)

The Lord protects Elijah by telling him where to hide at the Brook Cherith (“separation”).

Ravens are unclean birds (Dt 14:14; Lev 11:15), but God would use them to feed Elijah.

The raven is often used in Scripture in conjunction with supernatural provision (Job 38:41; Luke 12:24).

“Who provides the raven’s food when its young cry out to God and wander about for lack of food?” (Job 38:41)



“Consider the ravens: They don’t sow or reap; they don’t have a storeroom or a barn; yet God feeds them. Aren’t you worth much more than the birds?” (Luke 12:24)

“Ravenous” means “extreme hunger”

Elijah is prophesied to come again (Malachi 5:2) before Jesus’ first coming (on the Mt of Transfiguration as well as spiritually in John the Baptist) and physically Jesus’ second coming (literally in Revelation 11).



“Elijah was a man with a nature like ours; yet he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the land. Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land produced its fruit.” (James 5:17-18)

Elijah & the Widow (1 Kings 17:10-24)

¹⁰ So Elijah got up and went to Zarephath. When he arrived at the city gate, there was a widow woman gathering wood. Elijah called to her and said, "Please bring me a little water in a cup and let me drink."



¹¹ As she went to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand."

¹² But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I don't have anything baked—only a handful of flour in the jar and a bit of oil in the jug. Just now, I am gathering a couple of sticks in order to go prepare it for myself and my son so we can eat it and die."

¹³ Then Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid; go and do as you have said. But first make me a small loaf from it and bring it out to me. Afterward, you may make some for yourself and your son,"

¹⁴ for this is what the LORD God of Israel says, 'The flour jar will not become empty and the oil jug will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the surface of the land.'

¹⁵ So she proceeded to do according to the word of Elijah.

Then the woman, Elijah, and her household ate for many days.

¹⁶ The flour jar did not become empty, and the oil jug did not run dry, according to the word of the LORD He had spoken through Elijah.

¹⁷ After this, the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. His illness became very severe until no breath remained in him.

¹⁸ She said to Elijah, "Man of God, what do we have in common? Have you come to remind me of my guilt and to kill my son?"

¹⁹ But Elijah said to her, "Give me your son." So he took him from her arms, brought him up to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed.

²⁰ Then he cried out to the LORD and said, "My LORD God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow I am staying with by killing her son?"

²¹ Then he stretched himself out over the boy three times. He cried out to the LORD and said, "My LORD God, please let this boy's life return to him!"



²² So the LORD listened to Elijah's voice, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived.

²³ Then Elijah took the boy, brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. Elijah said, "Look, your son is alive."

²⁴ Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know you are a man of God and the LORD's word from your mouth is true."

The soul returned to the child.

Jesus' first sermon in a synagogue (Luke 4:14-27) about God sending Elijah to the widow (the Gentiles).

Elijah was ordered over to Phoenicia; Jezebel was from Sidon in Phoenicia. (1 Kings 16:31)

Focus on God's will first because He is the Giver of life (Genesis 1:30; Deuteronomy 32:39; Job 33:4)

The entire household is blessed by the faithfulness of the head of the house (Jn 4:53; Acts 11:14).

Three "desperate" times in the Old Testament when sticks were collected.			
1.	Numbers 15:32	The Desperation of Breaking the Sabbath	The Law
2.	Exodus 5:7	The Desperation of Egypt (Captivity)	Sin's Captivity
3.	1 Kings 17:10	The Desperation of Starvation	Death

The only New Testament person who gathered sticks was Paul who had escaped from a shipwreck (Acts 27). While gathering sticks a poisonous snake bit him, but he would not die although "no doubt he was a murderer." All men are murderers in the law of sin & death because mankind jointly killed Christ because of the sin of mankind. However, like Paul, we too can shake off the serpent (Satan).

Flour represents Christ's body that was broken (Lk 22:19) and now the church has become the "body" of Christ (Ephesians 5:23; Col 1:18, 24).

The oil represents the Spirit (Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38). The rain would represent millennium (Revelations 20:4-6) when God will abundantly bestow

The son was the first in Scripture to return to life after being dead

The widow sees the truth of God by the testimony of one who is dead receiving life (John 5:21; Romans 4:17)



Elisha does this same process (2 Kings 4:34) as does Paul (Acts 20:1) to resuscitate someone to die again at a later time.

Priests of Baal on Mt Carmel (1 Kings 18:17-29)

17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is that you, you destroyer of Israel?"

18 He replied, "I have not destroyed Israel, but you and your father's house have, because you have abandoned the LORD's commands and followed the Baals.

19 Now summon all Israel to meet me at Mount Carmel, along with the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah who eat at Jezebel's table."

20 So Ahab summoned all the Israelites and gathered the prophets at Mount Carmel.

21 Then Elijah approached all the people and said, "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If Yahweh is God, follow Him. But if Baal, follow him." But the people didn't answer him a word.

22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I am the only remaining prophet of the LORD, but Baal's prophets are 450 men.

23 Let two bulls be given to us. They are to choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and place it on the wood but not light the fire. I will prepare the other bull and place it on the wood but not light the fire.

24 Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of Yahweh. The God who answers with fire, He is God." All the people answered, "That sounds good."

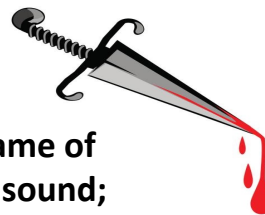
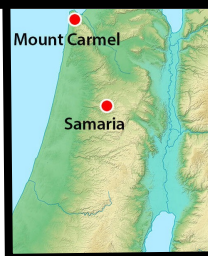
25 Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Since you are so numerous, choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first. Then call on the name of your god but don't light the fire."

26 So they took the bull that he gave them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "Baal, answer us!" But there was no sound; no one answered. Then they danced, hobbling around the altar they had made.

27 At noon Elijah mocked them. He said, "Shout loudly, for he's a god! Maybe he's thinking it over; maybe he has wandered away; or maybe he's on the road. Perhaps he's sleeping and will wake up!"

28 They shouted loudly, and cut themselves with knives and spears, according to their custom, until blood gushed over them.

29 All afternoon they kept on raving until the offering of the evening sacrifice, but there was no sound; no one answered, no one paid attention.



People often blame God for the calamity that is caused by their own sin

Elijah tells Ahab to summon all of Israel to Mt Carmel ("the garden"), and Ahab obeys.

The 450 prophets of Baal arrived on Mt. Carmel (to their demise); however, the 400 prophets of Asherah did not.

Every person should make the choice to wholeheartedly submit to the Lord or reject Him; if God is real, He should be the very center of one's existence (Joshua 24:15).

Believers often deny the Lord in various degrees through lack of belief (Rev 3:15-16; James 1:8, 4:8).

The prophets hidden by Obadiah may have survived, but Elijah did not admit other prophets survived (1 Kings 18:3-4, 13)

Sincerity is not the same as truth; truth exists apart from man to be revealed by the Lord alone.

The power of Elijah's testimony was that he stood alone with God

Instead of "power in numbers," there is power in God



Elijah on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:30-38)



There had been a pre-existing altar on the mountain which Elijah repaired that day; the altar had been destroyed or gone unused.

God also calls to His people to "Come near Me"

Although Jacob's name was changed to Israel, Elijah acted in the name of Yahweh

The "12 Stone Altar" represents the 12 Tribes of Israel that God had poured His Word into.

Fire represents judgment.

Although of the 12 water pots (Tribes) had attempted to quench the flame (Spirit) of God – none could...

"4" symbolizes "Testing"
"3" symbolizes "Revelation"
"12" symbolizes "Organizational Witness"

Elijah referred to God as the God of "Abraham, Isaac, and ISRAEL" (instead of "Jacob")

Elijah may have been attempting to show that Yahweh was the God of Israel (the northern kingdom) and not only of Judah (the southern kingdom).

God's fire consumed all five elements of the sacrifice:
1. Burnt Offering 2. Wood
3. Stones 4. Dust 5. Water

Divine Fire Consumed the Sacrifice a Number of Times		
1.	Aaron	Leviticus 9:24
2.	Gideon	Judges 6:21
3.	Elijah	1 Kings 18:38
4.	David	1 Chronicles 21:26
5.	Solomon	2 Chronicles 7:1

God Directed This Miracle

3:00PM

³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near me." So all the people approached him. Then he repaired the LORD's altar that had been torn down:

³¹ Elijah took 12 stones—according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Israel will be your name"—

³² and he built an altar with the stones in the name of Yahweh. Then he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold about four gallons.

³³ Next, he arranged the wood, cut up the bull, and placed it on the wood. He said, "Fill four water pots with water and pour it on the offering to be burned and on the wood."

³⁴ Then he said, "A second time!" and they did it a second time. And then he said, "A third time!" and they did it a third time.

³⁵ So the water ran all around the altar; he even filled the trench with water.

³⁶ At the time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet approached the altar and said, "Yahweh, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, today let it be known that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that at Your word I have done all these things."

³⁷ Answer me, LORD! Answer me so that this people will know that You, Yahweh, are God and that You have turned their hearts back."

³⁸ Then Yahweh's fire fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.

Rain on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:39-46)

³⁹ When all the people saw it, they fell facedown and said, “Yahweh, He is God! Yahweh, He is God!”

⁴⁰ Then Elijah ordered them, “Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let even one of them escape.” So they seized them, and Elijah brought them down to the Wadi Kishon and slaughtered them there.

⁴¹ Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a rainstorm.”

⁴² So Ahab went to eat and drink, but Elijah went up to the summit of Carmel. He bowed down on the ground and put his face between his knees.

⁴³ Then he said to his servant, “Go up and look toward the sea.” So he went up, looked, and said, “There’s nothing.” Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.”

⁴⁴ On the seventh time, he reported, “There’s a cloud as small as a man’s hand coming from the sea.” Then Elijah said, “Go and tell Ahab, ‘Get your chariot ready and go down so the rain doesn’t stop you.’”

⁴⁵ In a little while, the sky grew dark with clouds and wind, and there was a downpour. So Ahab got in his chariot and went to Jezreel.

⁴⁶ The power of the LORD was on Elijah, and he tucked his mantle under his belt and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.



The people exclaimed the “Yahweh is God” (twice as a “witness”)

God had revealed His personal, covenantal name to Moses. (Exodus 3:14)

“God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’” He is the ever-existing, only living God.

The name “Yahweh” is called the “Tetragrammaton” which is Greek for “Four Letters.”

YHVH (Hebrew, Yod Heh Vau Heh, read right to left), or in the Latin version, IHVH

Jewish Rabbi’s refer to the Tetragrammaton as “HaShem” (“The Name”) or “Shem Hameforash” (“The Special Name”).

The name of “Yahweh” is also called “Jehovah.”

Instead of using the term “Yahweh” (“LORD”), Israel would use the term “Adonai” (“Lord”) out of respect for His name.

The Judge Deborah had defeated Sisera at the River Kishon (Judges 4:7) because God sent torrential rain that sunk his iron chariots. (Judges 5:4, 21)

The false prophets received capital punishment at Wadi Kishon (“winding”) which empties into the Mediterranean.

False prophets – especially those who lured to idolatry – were to be put to death (Deut 13:1-11)

The position of Elijah with his face between his knees could be one of humility or even birthing as the Spirit begins to move (Genesis 1:2).



The Kishon River 43 mile-long stream through the Jezreel Valley from the Gilboa mountains in central Israel to the Mediterranean Sea.

The palace of Ahab was located at Jezreel; Ancient Assyrian texts refer to the king as “Ahab of Jezreel”



The distance to Jezreel (“God Soweth”) was approximately 17 miles.

Miracles are encouraging; however....

Elijah Flees to Horeb (1 Kings 19:1-13)

¹ Ahab told Jezebel everything that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

² So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "May the gods punish me and do so severely if I don't make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow!"

³ Then Elijah became afraid and immediately ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba that belonged to Judah, he left his servant there,

⁴ but he went on a day's journey into the wilderness. He sat down under a broom tree and prayed that he might die. He said, "I have had enough! LORD, take my life, for I'm no better than my fathers."

⁵ Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. Suddenly, an angel touched him. The angel told him, "Get up and eat."

⁶ Then he looked, and there at his head was a loaf of bread baked over hot stones, and a jug of water. So he ate and drank and lay down again.

⁷ Then the angel of the LORD returned for a second time and touched him. He said, "Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you."

⁸ So he got up, ate, and drank. Then on the strength from that food, he walked 40 days and 40 nights to Horeb, the mountain of God.

⁹ He entered a cave there and spent the night. Then the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰ He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of Hosts, but the Israelites have abandoned Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are looking for me to take my life."

¹¹ Then He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the LORD's presence." At that moment, the LORD passed by. A great and mighty wind was tearing at the mountains and was shattering cliffs before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

¹² After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was a voice, a soft whisper.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Suddenly, a voice came to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Ahab's focus wasn't on the things God had done; Ahab told Jezebel what Elijah had done before executing the false prophets.

Jezebel threatened Elijah by making a vow about her false gods (polytheistic); however, her vow wasn't fulfilled and Yahweh would punish her sin.



An accurate translation is that Elijah came to "the cave" (hammā'ārāh הַמְעָרָה) instead of "a cave;" this may be the cleft of the rock where Moses stood behind as the Lord's presence passed (Exodus 33:21-22).

Elijah fled from Israel in the north to the southernmost tip of Judah in Beersheba which is 95 miles south of Mt. Carmel.

The servant that traveled with Elijah had watched for the cloud on Mount Carmel while Elijah prayed for rain (1 Kings 18:43)

Elijah is the only prophet who prayed for God to kill him and was the only prophet not to die.

Elijah felt like a defeated witness just like the godly men who had failed to revive Israel before him.

Elijah was fed by the ravens, a widow & an angel

It is ironic that Elijah was fleeing from Jezebel for his life and then he requests death from God

Those two meals provided Elijah the strength to go without food for 40 days to Mt Sinai.

Jesus (Matthew 4:2) & Moses (Exodus 34:28) also went 40 days without food

Horeb is the Hebrew name for the mountain range that includes Mt. Sinai

God was not in the radical acts of nature – instead, God was in a quiet time of listening for Him.



Horeb is approximately 250 miles south of Beersheba.

"The Word became flesh..." (John 1:14)

Quiet Time

Remedy to Elijah's Depression 1 Kings 19		
1.	Get Rest	1 Kings 19:5-7
2.	Take Care of Yourself (Eat/Drink)	1 Kings 19:7-8
3.	Spend Time with God	1 Kings 19:8-14

God Directs Elijah (1 Kings 19:14-21)

14 “I have been very zealous for the LORD God of Hosts,” he replied, “but the Israelites have abandoned Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they’re looking for me to take my life.”

15 Then the LORD said to him, “Go and return by the way you came to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you arrive, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

16 You are to anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abelmeholah as prophet in your place.

17 Then Jehu will put to death whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death whoever escapes the sword of Jehu.

18 But I will leave 7,000 in Israel—every knee that has not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

19 Elijah left there and found Elisha son of Shaphat as he was plowing. Twelve teams of oxen were in front of him, and he was with the twelfth team. Elijah walked by him and threw his mantle over him.



20 Elisha left the oxen, ran to follow Elijah, and said, “Please let me kiss my father and mother, and then I will follow you.” “Go on back,” he replied, “for what have I done to you?”

21 So he turned back from following him, took the team of oxen, and slaughtered them. With the oxen’s wooden yoke and plow, he cooked the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he left, followed Elijah, and served him.

The sins of Israel grew to aggressive violence against God & His People

Damascus (meaning “Sack of Blood”) was the capital of Syria and is the oldest continually inhabited city (Gen 15:2) 150 miles north of Jerusalem

God tells Elijah to anoint Jehu as the new king of Israel, and then to anoint Elisha as prophet in his place.

Although Elijah places his mantle on Elisha, it would be Elisha who anoints the two kings:
Hazael (2 Kings 8:7-15)
Jehu (2 Kings 9:1-13)

This is the only time in Scripture where a prophet is anointed, and Elijah would now have a companion in Elisha to walk through the trials of the world.

God had saved 7,000 men in Israel who had never worshipped Baal.

Elisha pleaded for Elijah to let him bid farewell to his parents; instead, Elijah questions why Elisha would feel the need to ask him since the call was from God (not Elijah)



God called on Elijah to go past Judah and Israel to Syria (another nation), and anoint Hazael King of Syria.

These three powerful men would kill those who tried to escape judgment:
The King of Syria/Aram – Hazael
The King of Israel – Jehu
The Prophet of Israel - Elisha

God’s people should not make excuses to each other when the call is from the Lord.

"The one I love had a vineyard on a very fertile hill..." (Isaiah 5:1)

Naboth's Field (1 Kings 21:1-16)

1 Some time passed after these events. Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard; it was in Jezreel next to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

2 So Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard so I can have it for a vegetable garden, since it is right next to my palace. I will give you a better vineyard in its place, or if you prefer, I will give you its value in silver."

3 But Naboth said to Ahab, "I will never give my fathers' inheritance to you."

4 So Ahab went to his palace resentful and angry because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had told him. He had said, "I will not give you my fathers' inheritance." He lay down on his bed, turned his face away, and didn't eat any food.

5 Then his wife Jezebel came to him and said to him, "Why are you so upset that you refuse to eat?"

6 "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite," he replied. "I told him: Give me your vineyard for silver, or if you wish, I will give you a vineyard in its place. But he said, 'I won't give you my vineyard!'"

7 Then his wife Jezebel said to him, "Now, exercise your royal power over Israel. Get up, eat some food, and be happy. For I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal. She sent the letters to the elders and nobles who lived with Naboth in his city.

9 In the letters, she wrote: Proclaim a fast and seat Naboth at the head of the people.

10 Then seat two wicked men opposite him and have them testify against him, saying, "You have cursed God and the king!" Then take him out and stone him to death.

11 The men of his city, the elders and nobles who lived in his city, did as Jezebel had commanded them, as was written in the letters she had sent them.

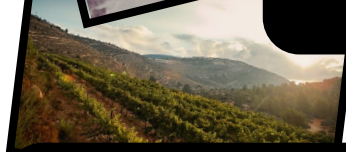
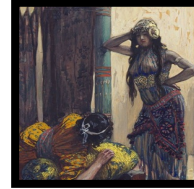
12 They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the people.

13 The two wicked men came in and sat opposite him. Then the wicked men testified against Naboth in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth has cursed God and the king!" So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death with stones.

14 Then they sent word to Jezebel, "Naboth has been stoned to death."

15 When Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, "Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite who refused to give it to you for silver, since Naboth isn't alive, but dead."

16 When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he got up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite to take possession of it.



Naboth was killed outside of the city after claims by false witnesses – just like Christ (Heb 13:12; Lev 4:21)



"I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, Do not covet." (Romans 7:7)

Be careful where you are; Proximity can result in envy, covetousness and death.

All of the land of the earth belongs to God, and Naboth was treating it as holy instead of a commercial investment (Lev 25:23; Num 36:7).

God had directed His people to keep their land within their families and tribes throughout the generations.

Ahab did not explain the reason behind the rejection to Jezebel, but instead only focused on the denial.

Jezebel served her husband with wicked intent; instead of correcting his covetousness. Jezebel supported and multiplied his sin.

Supporting one's spouse or family includes correction as an act of sincere love.

The murder of Naboth is surrounded by religious pageantry with the fast and the lie about the curse.

Jezebel acknowledges the false witnesses as "wicked" as she pulled the elders into her sin

Jezebel mis-applied the law to kill an innocent man

Jehu would avenge this death by killing Ahab's son, Joram on this exact property (2 Kings 9:21).

Judgment on Ahab (1 Kings 21:17-29)

¹⁷ Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite:
¹⁸ "Get up and go to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria. You'll find him in Naboth's vineyard, where he has gone to take possession of it.

¹⁹ Tell him, 'This is what the LORD says: Have you murdered and also taken possession?' Then tell him, 'This is what the LORD says: In the place where the dogs licked Naboth's blood, the dogs will also lick your blood!'"

²⁰ Ahab said to Elijah, "So, you have caught me, my enemy." He replied, "I have caught you because you devoted yourself to do what is evil in the LORD's sight.

²¹ This is what the LORD says: 'I am about to bring disaster on you and will sweep away your descendants: I will eliminate all of Ahab's males, both slave and free, in Israel;

²² I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have provoked My anger and caused Israel to sin.

²³ The LORD also speaks of Jezebel: The dogs will eat Jezebel in the plot of land at Jezreel:

²⁴ He who belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, the dogs will eat, and he who dies in the field, the birds of the sky will eat."

²⁵ Still, there was no one like Ahab, who devoted himself to do what was evil in the LORD's sight, **because his wife Jezebel incited him.**

²⁶ He committed the most detestable acts by going after idols as the Amorites had, whom the LORD had dispossessed before the Israelites.

²⁷ When Ahab heard these words, he tore his clothes, put sackcloth over his body, and fasted. He lay down in sackcloth and walked around subdued.

²⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite:

²⁹ "Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? I will not bring the disaster during his lifetime, because he has humbled himself before Me. I will bring the disaster on his house during his son's lifetime."



Believers should not follow their "loved one" into sin

God recognizes Naboth as the rightful owner of the vineyards although Ahab is making claim to them.

Ahab's greeting to Elijah reveals that he knew that he was wrong

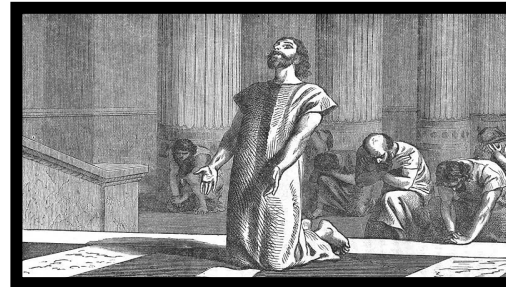
Elijah prophesies against Ahab in the presence of Jehu and Bidkar (two witnesses), which would later be fulfilled (2 Kings 9:24-26, 10:10).

Just as Jeroboam had taken the kingship from the Davidic line and Baasha had taken the Israelite kingship from Jeroboam's son, Nadab. Ahab had also taken command over what was not his.

Although Ahab did not personally murder Naboth, he was the instigator of the murderous plot that his wife, Jezebel, derived.

A formal burial would not take place whether the offenders died in the city or in the country

God had foretold Abram that the Amorites would be eradicated from the Promised Land because of their idolatry (Genesis 15:16), but now Ahab had adopted the same idolatrous practices.



The Canaanites were a general term associated with the dwellers of the low lands while the Amorites were associated with the inhabitants of the high lands.

Ahab understood his failures and believed the prophetic judgment of the Lord; Ahab physically repented in sackcloth and fasting.

Sin does not bring long-term joy, but instead it results in judgment. Naboth's death did not bring happiness to King Ahab. (1 Kings 21:4)

"The tender mercy of our God..." (Luke 1:78)

Micaiah means "Who is like God?"

Aram's False Prophets (1 Kings 22:1-12)

¹ There was a lull of three years without war between Aram and Israel.

² However, in the third year, Jehoshaphat king of Judah went to visit the king of Israel.

Ahab

³ The king of Israel had said to his servants, "Don't you know that Ramoth-gilead is ours, but we have failed to take it from the hand of the king of Aram?"

⁴ So he asked Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to fight Ramoth-gilead?"

Jehoshaphat replied to the king of Israel, "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."

⁵ But Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "First, please ask what the LORD's will is."

⁶ So the king of Israel gathered the prophets, about 400 men, and asked them, "Should I go against Ramoth-gilead for war or should I refrain?"

They replied, "March up, and the Lord will hand it over to the king."

⁷ But Jehoshaphat asked, "Isn't there a prophet of Yahweh here anymore? Let's ask him."

⁸ The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one man who can ask Yahweh, but I hate him because he never prophesies good about me, but only disaster. He is Micaiah son of Imlah."

"The king shouldn't say that!" Jehoshaphat replied.

⁹ So the king of Israel called an officer and said, "Hurry and get Micaiah son of Imlah!"

¹⁰ Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah, clothed in royal attire, were each sitting on his own throne.

They were on the threshing floor at the entrance to Samaria's gate, and all the prophets were prophesying in front of them.

¹¹ Then Zedekiah son of Chenaanah made iron horns and said, "This is what the LORD says: 'You will gore the Arameans with these until they are finished off.'"

¹² And all the prophets were prophesying the same: "March up to Ramoth-gilead and succeed, for the LORD will hand it over to the king."

The number "3" often symbolizes "Revelation"

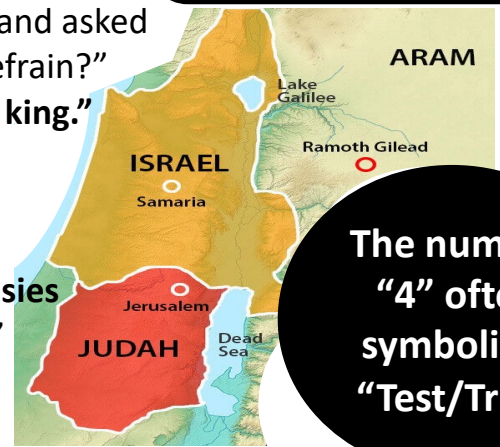
Although Syria had assisted the Southern Kingdom (Judah) against the Northern Kingdom in the past (1 Kings 15:16-22), Judah would now be pulled into an alliance with the Northern Kingdom against Syria.

The king of the Southern Kingdom spoke of the similarities with the Northern Kingdom instead of the distinction between a nation following God contrasted to an idolatrous nation.

Syria would eventually join the Northern Kingdom against the Southern Kingdom.

In the time of Elijah, Jezebel had 400 prophets of Asherah (1 Kings 18:19)

Before joining his worldly friend in war, Jehoshaphat wanted to ask of the Lord (Matthew 6:33)



The number "4" often symbolizes "Test/Trial"

Ramoth-Gilead ("Heights of Gilead") had been a city of refuge (Dt 4:43; Joshua 20:8, 21:38) on the east side of the Jordan River in the territory of Gad.

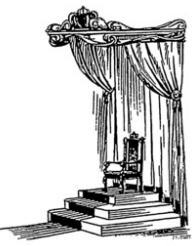
Ramoth-gilead was 20 miles east of the Jordan River

"Do not be unevenly yoked with unbelievers" (2 Corinthians 6:14)

The threshing floor which often represents a place of judgment

The King focuses on the messenger instead of the message

Unlike Jehoshaphat, the King of Israel (Ahab) is not named in the passage



Horns and iron symbolize strength, but Zedekiah made this symbol of his own will without the direction of the Lord.

Micaiah the Prophet (1 Kings 22:13-28)

¹³ The messenger who went to call Micaiah instructed him, "Look, the words of the prophets are unanimously favorable for the king. So let your words be like theirs, and speak favorably."

¹⁴ But Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, I will say whatever the LORD says to me."

¹⁵ So he went to the king, and the king asked him, "Micaiah, should we go to Ramoth-gilead for war, or should we refrain?" Micaiah told him, "March up and succeed. Yahweh will hand it over to the king."

¹⁶ But the king said to him, "How many times must I make you swear not to tell me anything but the truth in the name of Yahweh?"

¹⁷ So Micaiah said: "I saw all Israel scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd. And the LORD said, "They have no master; let everyone return home in peace."



¹⁸ So the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Didn't I tell you he never prophesies good about me, but only disaster?"



¹⁹ Then Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and the whole heavenly host was standing by Him at His right hand and at His left hand."

²⁰ And the LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab to march up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' So one was saying this and another was saying that."

²¹ "Then a spirit came forward, stood before the LORD, and said, 'I will entice him.'

²² "The LORD asked him, 'How?' "He said, 'I will go and become a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' "Then He said, 'You will certainly entice him and prevail. Go and do that.'

²³ "You see, the LORD has put a lying spirit into the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the LORD has pronounced disaster against you."



²⁴ Then Zedekiah son of Chenaanah came up, hit Micaiah in the face, and demanded, "Did the Spirit of the LORD leave me to speak to you?"

²⁵ Micaiah replied, "You will soon see when you go to hide yourself in an inner chamber on that day."

²⁶ Then the king of Israel ordered, "Take Micaiah and return him to Amon, the governor of the city, and to Joash, the king's son,

²⁷ and say, 'This is what the king says: Put this guy in prison and feed him only bread and water until I come back safely.'"

²⁸ But Micaiah said, "If you ever return safely, the LORD has not spoken through me." Then he said, "Listen, all you people!"

The messenger attempts to influence the true prophecy by Micaiah with the favorable and positive false prophets.

Micaiah commits to speaking only what the Lord has laid on his heart.

King Ahab includes King Jehoshaphat in the plural pronouns of "we" – "should we go up?"

Micaiah quoted the false prophets, but he doesn't specify which king the Lord would make victorious.

Micaiah's prophecy is not about Israel's King per se, but it is about Israel's people who are scattered like sheep without a shepherd

In this entire passage concerning Jehoshaphat, Ahab's name is only recorded in the heavenly discussion (1 Kings 22:20).

Ahab is designated as the "king of Israel" to call out the difference of the two.

God enjoys interacting with His creation and watching them work to perform His will (Job 1:6, 2:1)

The world often physically persecutes God's messengers

Micaiah does not physically retaliate against Zedekiah, but leaves revenge in the hands of the Lord

The Lord put lying spirits (Judges 9:23) into the false prophets (Ezekiel 14:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12)

The Death of Ahab (1 Kings 22:29-38)

29 Then the king of Israel and Judah's King Jehoshaphat went up to Ramoth-gilead.

30 But the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you wear your royal attire."

So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle.

31 Now the king of Aram had ordered his 32 chariot commanders,

"Do not fight with anyone at all except the king of Israel."

32 When the chariot commanders saw Jehoshaphat, they shouted, "He must be the king of Israel!" So they turned to fight against him, but Jehoshaphat cried out.

33 When the chariot commanders saw that he was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.

34 But a man drew his bow without taking special aim and struck the king of Israel through the joints of his armor. So he said to his charioteer, "Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am badly wounded!"

35 The battle raged throughout that day, and the king was propped up in his chariot facing the Arameans. He died that evening, and blood from his wound flowed into the bottom of the chariot.

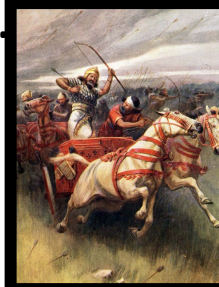
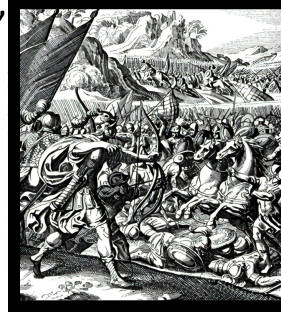
36 Then the cry rang out in the army as the sun set, declaring: Each man to his own city, and each man to his own land!

37 So the king died and was brought to Samaria.

They buried the king in Samaria.

38 Then someone washed the chariot at the pool of Samaria.

The dogs licked up his blood, and the prostitutes bathed in it, according to the word of the LORD that He had spoken.



In this entire passage concerning Jehoshaphat, Ahab's name is only recorded in the heavenly discussion (1 Kings 22:20).

Jehoshaphat does not seem to realize that Ahab was setting him up to be the target

The 32 Syrian chariot commanders reminiscent of the 32 drunken kings assisting Syria against Ahab's 232 young leaders (1 Kings 20:15-16)

Jehoshaphat cried out (possibly to God – Aram would not have cried out to God);

It may have been Syria's recognition of Jehoshaphat's voice or by sight, but Syria turned back from chasing him

Ahab was inadvertently struck by an arrow. There is no such thing as coincidence, and God guided that arrow through the small gap in Ahab's armor.



Although Ahab was pierced by an arrow, he remained propped up in the chariot as a show of strength against the Arameans, but he died that evening.

When the armies of Israel & Judah realized that Ahab had died, each army fled.

Elijah's prophecy (1 Kings 21:24) and Micaiah's prophecy (1 Kings 22:17) are fulfilled