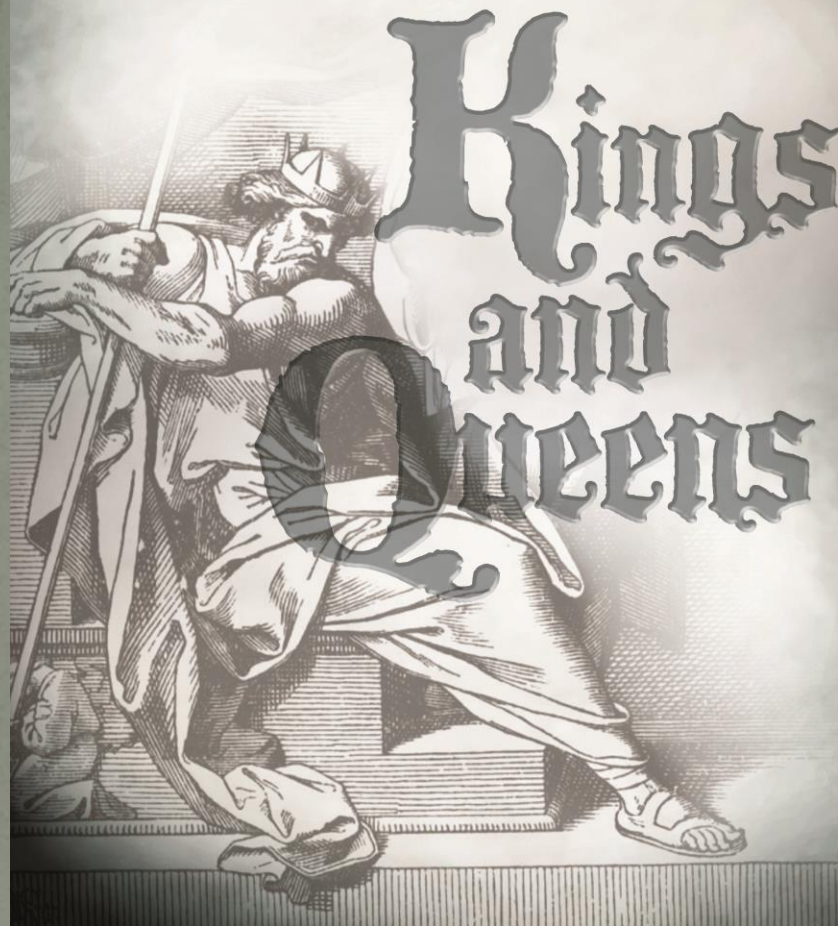


The Rise and Fall of Israel's Monarchs



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# The Kings of Israel

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Selected Scriptures

*“Ephraim surrounds Me with  
lies and the house of Israel  
with deceit; Judah is also  
unruly against God, even  
against the Holy One who is  
faithful.” (Hosea 11:12)*



# The Kings of Israel

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## Introduction:

1. The remainder of I Kings (chapters 15-22), all of II Kings (chapters 1-25), and the remainder of II Chronicles (chapters 13-36) will lay out the succession of kings in both the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah.
2. We are going to divide the remaining two lessons and follow the succession of each king in each of those two kingdoms.
  - First we will look at the succession of kings in the Northern Kingdom of Israel
  - Second we will look at the succession of kings in the Southern Kingdom of Judah

3. I choose to do it this way so that you can see the flow of events associated with each kingdom separately in the hopes that you can better track those events and the kings who reign in each kingdom.
4. In this lesson we are going to look at the Northern Kingdom of Israel and here is a little synopsis of what we will cover:
  - There are 19 kings in all who are all considered evil and wicked
  - The period of the time covered here is 910 B.C. to 722 B.C. (Approx. 188 years)
  - The Northern Kingdom is defeated by the Assyrians in 721 B.C.



# The Kings of Israel

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King Nadab

1. He was the son of Jeroboam and he reigned 2 years 910-909 B.C.
2. This is all we are told about King Nadab; “Now Nadab the son of Jeroboam became king over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah, and he reigned over Israel two years. He did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father and in his sin which he made Israel sin.” I Kings 15:25-26)
3. Nadab was actually assassinated by one of his military leaders named Baasha (from the tribe of Issachar) who later became king of Israel. (I Kings 15:27)



# The Kings of Israel

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King Baasha

1. He was one of Jeroboam's captains who murdered Jeroboam and seized the throne and he reigned for 24 years (909-886 B.C.)
2. He had no blood lineage to Jeroboam and in fact he was responsible for killing all of Jeroboam's family which ended Jeroboam's very short dynasty.
  - King Baasha's intended purpose in destroying Jeroboam's family was to remove any threat from them since he was responsible for murdering Jeroboam.
  - These actions by King Baasha were a fulfillment of the judgment that was prophesied by Ahijah in I Kings 14:14 because of Jeroboam's sin. However, the means by which Baasha killed Jeroboam's family was not condoned by the Lord and will bring about the Lord's judgment on him and his family. (I Kings 16:1-5)

3. King Baasha was in continual warfare against King Asa of Judah (I Kings 15:32-33)
4. There are no notable spiritual accomplishments by King Baasha in his 24 year reign.
5. He is noted for continuing in the same sinful behavior as Jeroboam; “Moreover, the word of the Lord through the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani also came against Baasha and his household, both **because of all the evil which he did in the sight of the Lord**, provoking Him to anger with the work of his hands, **in being like the house of Jeroboam**, and because **he struck**.” (I Kings 16:7)



# The Kings of Israel

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King Elah

1. Elah (the son of King Baasha) ruled Israel for 2 years (886-885 B.C.) upon the death of his father.
2. “In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha became king over Israel at Tirzah, and reigned two years.” (I Kings 16:8)
  - He ruled for a very short time and continued with the wicked practices of his father. (I Kings 16:13)
  - His rule over the Northern Kingdom of Israel coincided with King Asa of the Southern Kingdom of Judah.
  - He moved the capital of the Northern Kingdom from Shechem to Tirzah
3. He and his entire family were murdered by one of his military commanders which ended his reign and the dynasty of his father Baasha. (I Kings 16:11-13)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Zimri



1. Zimri was the military commander who murdered King Elah and his entire family.
2. Zimri's reign as king over Israel was the shortest of any king as it lasted just 7 days!
3. "When Zimri saw that the city was taken, he went into the citadel of the king's house and burned the king's house over him with fire, and died, because of his sins which he sinned, doing evil in the sight of the Lord, walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he did, making Israel sin." (I Kings 16:18-19)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Tibni

1. Upon the death of King Zimri the Northern Kingdom had a temporary *split* and half the kingdom followed Tibni and the other half followed Omri.
2. King Tibni's reign last 6 years (885-880 B.C.) and he was in continual warfare with Omri during that time. There is little noted about him in Scripture. (I Kings 16:21-22)



# The Kings of Israel

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King Omri

1. He was the *seventh* king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel and his reign lasted a total of 12 years (885-874 B.C.) – 6 of those years were spent in civil war against King Tibni (who also reigned in the Northern Kingdom from 885-880 B.C.)
2. He too was a military *commander* who gained power by his keen abilities to lead and conquer those who opposed him. His six year battle with King Tibni eventually awarded him full reign of the Northern Kingdom for his remaining 6 years of rule.
3. “But the people who followed Omri prevailed over the people who followed Tibni the son of Ginath. And Tibni died and Omri became king. In the thirty-first year of Asa king of Judah, Omri became king over Israel and reigned twelve years; he reigned six years at Tirzah.” (I Kings 16:22-23)

4. It was during the reign of Omri that the capital of the Northern Kingdom was move from Tirzah to Samaria.
5. Although the Biblical record is mostly silent about Omri, historical documents claim that he was one of the stronger of the Northern Kingdom leaders and some historical documents refer to Israel during this time as “The Land of Omri”.
6. Omri was a wicked king and followed in the footsteps of his predecessors



7. “Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord, and acted more wickedly than all who were before him. For he walked in all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and in his sins which he made Israel sin, provoking the Lord God of Israel with their idols.” (I Kings 16:25-26)
8. King Omri began the 4<sup>th</sup> dynasty of kings in the Northern Kingdom of Israel
9. King Omri’s son and successor to the throne was the notorious and extremely wicked king named Ahab and the Northern Kingdom was spiraling down a very slippery slope of idolatry, witchcraft, and a complete denial of Jehovah.

# The Kings of Israel

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King Ahab

1. King Ahab ruled for 22 years (874-853 B.C.)
  - “Now Ahab the son of Omri became king over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord more than all who were before him.” (I Kings 16:29-30)
    - 1) Ahab ruled from the capital city of Samaria (a strong and almost impenetrable fortress due to its elevated location).
    - 2) Ahab was considered one of if not the most wicked of all the kings of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.



“It came about, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went to serve Baal and worshiped him. So he erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal which he built in Samaria. Ahab also made the Asherah. Thus Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him.”

(I Kings 16:31-33)

- 1) Ahab's marriage to Jezebel was intentional and intended to solidify the collaborative relationship between Israel and the Phoenicians (Sidonians) which will be a significant reason for Israel's future downfall.
- 2) The pagan god of the Sidonians/Tyrians (Baal Melqart) that is mentioned here was very similar to the Canaanite version of a similar name (Baal) that Ahab subscribed to, which was basically their version of the "*lord of heaven*" (the all in one god of fertility, rain, agriculture etc.).
- 3) The reference to Ahab constructing an altar for Baal and also an Asherah shrine/idol indicates his acknowledgement and support of the pagan version of the king (Baal) and queen (Asherah) of heaven. Both of these practices "provoked" the Lord's wrath against Ahab.

It was because of Ahab's wickedness and complete disregard for the Law that he will face the wrath of the Lord which is prophesied by the prophet Elijah:



- “Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.” (I Kings 17:1)

- 1) This was an announcement by Elijah on behalf of the Lord that the land of Israel would face a severe drought and famine which would last 3 years.
- 2) Those who followed Baal and Asherah believed that their gods controlled the wind and the rain (*it's where the idea of Mother Nature came from*) so this prophetic announcement would not have set well with Ahab or Jezebel because their allegiance was to these false gods and their false beliefs.

Elijah became unpopular with the King of Israel (Ahab) and his wife (Jezebel) which resulted in all prophets (especially Elijah) who believed in the One True God (Jehovah) to be hunted down and killed.

- 1) “For **W**hen Jezebel **D**estroyed the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave, and **P**rovided them with bread and water” (I Kings 18:4)
- 2) “Has it not been told to my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, that I hid a hundred prophets of the Lord by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water? And now you are saying, go, say to your master, Behold, Elijah is here; he will then kill me. Elijah said, as the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today. So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. **When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, is this you, you troubler of Israel?** He said, I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father’s house have, **because you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and you have followed the Baal’s.**” (I Kings 18:13-18)



3. This meeting between Elijah and Ahab brings a confrontation in which Elijah will challenge the prophets of Baal and Asherah to match their skills of witchcraft and conjuring against the power of Almighty God. (I Kings 18:19-29)
4. The failure by the prophets (850 in all) of Baal and Asherah to call down fire from their gods (who they claim had the power to do so) was met with a display of the Lord's power in which He sent down fire from heaven and consumed everything on the altar, including the water in the trenches. At the conclusion of these events all of these false prophets were killed. (I Kings 18:30-40)
5. Jezebel (Ahab's wife) became even angrier toward Elijah and made it her personal mission to seek him out and have him killed.

- “Now Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.”

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- “Now Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, so may the gods do to me and even more, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.” (I Kings 19:1-2)

- 1) This will cause Elijah to flee to Beersheba out of fear for his life, and the Lord will challenge Elijah to remain **strong** and do the work that He called him to do. (I Kings 19:3-14)
- 2) Elijah was under the **protection** of the Lord and no matter how much evil power rested with Jezebel and her false gods they were no match for the power and strength of Almighty God. (I Kings 19:11-12)



- Elijah had 3 significant tasks to do that directly impacted King Ahab and his wife Jezebel:
  - 1) He was to anoint Hazael as king of the Arameans in Damascus – this king would later serve as a means of judgment by the Lord against the people of Israel which will aid in their eventual fall to the Assyrians. (I Kings 19:15)
  - 2) He was to anoint Jehu as King of Israel who will serve as the Lord's instrument to destroy Ahab and his family because of Ahab's disregard for the Lord and leading the people in Baal worship. (II Kings 9:1-13)
  - 3) He was to anoint Elisha as his successor who in turn would help to bring about the Lord's judgment on the wicked people of Israel. (I Kings 19:19-21)

6. Ahab spends a good portion of his rule doing battle against the Arameans (Modern day Damascus/Syria) for which he gains little advantage and over time those battles bring further loss of life and territory for which he had little concern. (I Kings 20)
7. Ahab's sinful behavior had no boundaries and in addition to breaking the commandments against idol worship and failing to honor the Lord, he breaks another commandment and covets Naboth's vineyard. (I Kings 21:1-10)

- Naboth didn't want to sell his vineyard to Ahab and this caused friction between the two of them and ultimately led to Jezebel arranging to have Naboth murdered breaking another commandment. (I King 21:4-16)
- Elijah pronounced this judgment of the Lord against Ahab and Jezebel for murdering an innocent life as well as all of his sinful acts; "Behold, I will bring evil upon you, and I will utterly sweep you away, and will cut off from Ahab every male, both bond and free in Israel; and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and because you have made Israel sin. Of Jezebel also has the Lord spoken, saying, the dogs will eat Jezebel in the district of Jezreel." ( I Kings 21:21-23)



- Shortly after Elijah makes this prophetic announcement, Ahab shows a repentant heart and the Lord delayed the judgment upon Ahab and his family.
  - 1) “It came about when Ahab heard these words, that he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and fasted, and he lay in sackcloth and went about despondently. Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, do you see how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the evil in his days, but I will bring the evil upon his house in his son’s days.”  
(I Kings 21:27-29)
  - 2) Ahab’s humility gains him several years of peace with the neighboring Arameans and even established a long period of peace with the Southern Kingdom of Judah (approx. 30 years) for those who succeeded him.

In the end (because of their  
sinful behavior in pursuing  
false gods), Ahab and  
Jezebel both died just as  
was prophesied.

(I Kings 22:37-38, II Kings 9:30-37)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Ahaziah



1. Ahaziah was the son of Ahab and Jezebel and upon the death of Ahab he assumed the throne of Israel. (I Kings 22:40)
2. His reign lasted 2 years (853-852 B.C.) and there are very few notable accomplishments other than continuing the peace treaty with Jehoshaphat of the Southern Kingdom of Judah.
3. He followed in the same wicked practices as Ahab and Jezebel; "Ahaziah the son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned two years over Israel. He did evil in the sight of the Lord and ~~w~~alked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin. ~~S~~o he served Baal and worshiped him and provoked the Lord God of Israel to anger, according to all that his father had done" (I Kings 22:51-53)

4. Because he was considered a weak king, he did face a rebellion from the people of the Kingdom of Moab and that rebellion though not very effective at first, it's damage will present itself more fully in the future.



5. King Ahaziah also had a fascination with the god of Ekron known as Baal-zebub and the inquiry/worship of that false god brought about judgment upon him and resulted in his untimely death. (II Kings 1:1-17)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Jehoram (Joram)



1. King **Joram** (Jehoram) was also a son of **Ahab** which would make him Ahaziah's brother, and upon the death of Ahaziah (since Ahaziah had no sons), he became king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.
2. For our purposes we will reference him by the name **Joram** (a variant Hebrew spelling of Jehoram) since the king of Judah (The southern Kingdom) who ruled at the same time was also known as Jehoram. This should help ease the confusion.
3. King Joram ruled for **12** years (852-841 B.C.)

4. It was during the reign of Joram in which Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind; *“As they were going along and talking, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven. Elisha saw it and cried out, My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen! And he saw Elijah no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.”* (II Kings 2:11-12)
5. The prophet Elisha will continue his ministry during the reign of Joram
6. King Joram appears to be slightly less wicked than his father Ahab but he still permitted and participated in the false religious practice of his predecessors.

7. “Now Jehoram the son of Ahab became king over Israel at Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years. He did evil in the sight of the Lord, though not like his father and his mother; for he put away the sacred pillar of Baal which his father had made. Nevertheless, ~~he~~ he clung to the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin; he did not depart from them.” (II Kings 3:1-3)
8. During the reign of King Joram, the Northern Kingdom of Israel faced continued warfare with its neighbors (primarily the Kingdom of Moab but also the kingdom of Aram) and also a very serious famine.
9. King Joram never shows any sign of true obedience to the Lord and is ultimately assassinated by Jehu who will become the next king of Israel. (II Kings 9:14-26)



# The Kings of Israel

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King Jehu

1. King Jehu reigned over the Northern Kingdom of Israel for 28 year (841-814 B.C.)
2. Elijah was initially commissioned to anoint Jehu as King over Israel (I Kings 19:16) but that duty was passed on to Elisha who in turn passed the responsibility to one of the young prophets he was mentoring.

“Now Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets and said to him, gird up your loins, and take this flask of oil in your hand and go to Ramoth-gilead. When you arrive there, search out Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in and bid him arise from among his brothers, and bring him to an inner room. Then take the flask of oil and pour it on his head and say, **thus says the Lord, I have anointed you king over Israel**. Then open the door and flee and do not wait.” (II Kings 9:1-3)



“He arose and went into the house, and he poured the oil on his head and said to him, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, I have anointed you king over the people of the Lord, even over Israel. You shall **strike the house of Ahab** your master, that I may **avenge the blood of My servants the prophets**, and the blood of all the servants of the Lord, at the hand of Jezebel. **For the whole house of Ahab shall perish**, and I will cut off from Ahab every male person **Both** bond and free in Israel. **I** will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. **The dogs shall eat Jezebel in the territory of Jezreel**, and none shall bury her. Then he opened the door and fled.” (II Kings 9:6-10)

3. Jehu a military commander in King Joram's army was give 3 tasks to complete:

- He was to destroy all of Ahab's descendants which included King Joram and his mother Jezebel (I Kings 21:21-23, 29, II Kings 9:7-10, 33-37, 10:1-17)
- He was to execute Ahaziah – King of Judah (II Kings 9:27-29)
- He was to rid the Northern Kingdom of Baal worship (II Kings 10:18-30)

4. Jehu was not fully obedient to the Lord and didn't finish well (II Kings 10:29-36)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Jehoahaz



1. He was the twelfth king of Israel and reigned 17 years (814-798 B.C.)
2. He was the son of King Jehu and thus continued the 5<sup>th</sup> dynasty of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.
3. Just as an item of information – II Kings 11-12 deal with events that are taking place in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. We will cover that in detail in the next lesson.
4. “In the twenty-third year of Joash the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, Jehoahaz the son of Jehu became king over Israel at Samaria, and he reigned seventeen years.” (II Kings 13:1) – skip to #5

5. “He did evil in the sight of the Lord, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, ~~W~~ith which he made Israel sin; he did not turn from them.” (II Kings 13:2)
- His pursuit of the same evil practices as Jeroboam pretty much marked his career as king, although he seemed to have a moment of humility in which he sought the help of the Lord and the people even seemed to repent. (II Kings 13:4-5)
  - These acts of obedience were short lived and the people returned to worshipping false idols apparently with the blessing of Jehoahaz. (II Kings 13:6-9)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Jehoshaphat (Jotham)



1. He reigned 16 years as the King of the Northern Kingdom of Israel (798-782 B.C.) and 11 of those years he co-reigned with his son Jeroboam II.
2. Some translations use the spelling Joash and others use the spelling **Jehoash**. They are one in the same people and for our purposes; so that we don't confuse him with King Joash of the Southern Kingdom of Judah (who reigned at the same time), we will use King **Jehoash** as we discuss this particular king of Israel.

3. *“In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz became king over Israel in Samaria, and reigned sixteen years.” (II Kings 13:10)*

- One interesting notation is that during the reign of King Jehoash the Prophet **Elisha's ministry** was coming to a close and in fact Elisha suffered from a rather serious illness during this time and he would die during Jehoash's reign.
- Although we are told in the verses that follow that King Jehoash walked in the ways of Jeroboam, he did apparently show some evidence of a reverence toward the Lord as well as trust in His guidance which resulted in special favor and blessing from the Lord. (II Kings 13:15-17)

- 1) Apparently King Jehoash didn't fully follow Elisha's instructions which were based on full trust in the Lord's guidance. This will result in several temporary victories over the Kingdom of Aram, although had he shown complete obedience the results would have been better. (II Kings 13:22-25)
- 2) Toward the end of his reign, Jehoash went to war with Amaziah, king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah which fueled tensions between both kingdoms.



4. *“He did evil in the sight of the Lord; he did not turn away from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel sin, but he walked in ~~the~~ them.” (II Kings 13:11)*

- Jehoash as with most of the Kings of Israel was more **bad** than he was good
- Jehoash was succeeded by his son Jeroboam II who co-reigned with him 11 years

# The Kings of Israel

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King Jeroboam II

1. He reigned for 41 years, eleven of those years he co-reigned with his father Jehoash (793-753 B.C.)
2. Three prophets spoke to the Northern Kingdom of Israel during his reign as king:
  - Hosea (Hosea 1:1)
  - Amos (Amos 1:1)
  - Jonah (II Kings 14:25)
3. The two prophets who spoke to the Southern Kingdom of Judah during his reign were
  - Micah
  - Isaiah



4. *“In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel became king in Samaria, and reigned forty-one years. He did evil in the sight of the Lord; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin.”*  
*(II Kings 14:23-24)*

5. King Jeroboam II, with such a long reign, accomplished nothing of spiritual value

6. All of Jeroboam II's accomplishments were in the political realm
  - He restored the boundaries of the Northern Kingdom of Israel back to what was controlled during the height of the reign of Solomon.
  - Jeroboam II's expansion into Damascus (Kingdom of Aram) helped to ease some of the oppression that the people of Israel had faced from them in the recent past.
7. Jeroboam II was an evil king and his reign was evidenced by a continual spiral downward for not just him but the entire Northern Kingdom of Israel. (Hosea 4-5, Hosea 7-8, Amos 2:6-16, Amos 3-8)

# The Kings of Israel

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King Zechariah



1. “In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah, Zechariah the son of Jeroboam became king over Israel in Samaria for six months.” (II Kings 15:8)
  - He was the last king from the lineage of King Jehu and this ended the Northern Kingdom of Israel’s fifth dynasty. (II Kings 15:12)
  - His reign lasted **6 months** and he was assassinated by Shallum who then took over as King of Israel. (753-752 B.C.)

2. “He did evil in the sight of the Lord, as his fathers had done; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin.” (II Kings 15:9)

- There are no significant spiritual or political accomplishments to his reign
- As with the rest of the Kings of Israel he is noted for doing evil

# King Shallum

1. “Shallum son of Jabesh became king in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah king of Judah, and he reigned one month in Samaria” (II Kings 15:13)
2. His was a very short 1 month reign (second shortest in Israel’s history), with no reputable claim to the throne, no military authority, and no notable accomplishments.



# King Menahem

1. He reigned for 10 years alongside of his son Pekahiah (752-742 B.C.)
2. “He did evil in the sight of the Lord; he did not depart all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin” (II Kings 15:18)
3. He was an evil king and responsible for conspiring with the Assyrian leaders which lead to a weakening of the power and might of the Northern Kingdom. This also led to their eventual destruction by the Assyrian empire. (II Kings 15:20)

# King Pekahiah

1. “In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekahiah son of Menahem became king over Israel in Samaria, and reigned two years.” (II Kings 15:17)
  - In addition to co-reigning with his father for 10 years he reigned an additional 2 years over the Northern Kingdom of Israel
  - He was the 18<sup>th</sup> King of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

# King Pekahiah

2. “He did evil in the sight of the Lord; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin.” (II Kings 15:18)
  - There are no notable spiritual or political accomplishments by this king
  - He was assassinated by Pekah – a military officer and the next king of Israel



# King Pekah

1. “In the fifty-second year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekah son of Remaliah became king over Israel in Samaria, and reigned twenty years.” (II Kings 15:27)
  - Pekah had already set up a rival government on the east side of the Jordan River during the reign of King Menahem because he did not accept Menahem’s legitimate control of the throne of Israel.
  - Although the Scriptures state that he reigned for 20 years, 12 of those years overlapped the reign of King Menahem and King Pekahiah. (752-732 B.C.)

# King Pekah

2. “He did evil in the sight of the Lord; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin.” (II Kings 15:28)
- King Pekah attempted to ally himself with the Arameans to defeat the Assyrians
- The alliance failed, things were unraveling in the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the first deportation of Israelites to Assyria took place in 733 B.C. under Pekah’s reign as king.

# The Kings of Israel

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King Hoshea



1. “In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah became king over Israel in Samaria, and reigned nine years.” (II Kings 17:1)
  - Hoshea conspired against Pekah, killed him, and took control of the throne as the last and final king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.
  - Hoshea reigned for 9 years as King (732-722 B.C.)

2. “He did evil in the sight of the Lord, only not as the kings of Israel who were before him.” (II Kings 17:2)

- It states here that King Hoshea did evil in the sight of the Lord but doesn't have the reference that he followed the sins of Jeroboam by promoting idol worship.
- According to some Jewish tradition and folklore, he gave permission to the Israelites to go to Jerusalem to worship the Lord....though unconfirmed in any Biblical manuscripts.

3. “Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against him, and Hoshea became his servant and paid him tribute. But the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea, who had sent messengers to So king of Egypt and had offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year; so the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison. Then the king of Assyria invaded the whole land and went up to Samaria and besieged it three years.” (II Kings 17:3-5)



- Hoshea had failed to pay the annual tribute to the Assyrian king Shalmaneser and it put him in serious trouble.
- Hoshea attempted an alliance with the Egyptian King but it failed and those decisions caused further harm in the relationship between the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Assyrians:
  - 1) King Hoshea was put in prison
  - 2) The Northern Kingdom of Israel was crushed by the Assyrians in 721 B.C.

# The Kings of Israel

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## Israel's Captivity

*(II Kings 17:7-41)*

1. The Northern Kingdom of Israel that once had such promise was now completely non-existent.
  - A total of 20 kings ruled, 7 of them were assassinated, and every one of them was acknowledged as evil.
  - The Northern Kingdom of Israel lasted just over 2 centuries (931-722 B.C.)



2. The failure of the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel are noted in these verses:

- “Now this came about because the sons of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and they had feared other gods and walked in the customs of the nations whom the Lord had driven out before the sons of Israel, and in the customs of the kings of Israel which they had introduced.” (II Kings 17:7-8)

2. The failure of the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel are noted in these verses:

- “They served idols, concerning which the Lord had said to them, you shall not do this thing. Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets. However, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck like their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God.” (II Kings 17:12-14)

2. The failure of the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel are noted in these verses:

- They rejected His statutes and His covenant which He made with their fathers and His warnings with which He warned them. And they followed vanity and became vain, and went after the nations which surrounded them, concerning which the Lord had commanded them not to do like them. They forsook all the commandments of the Lord their God and made for themselves molten images, even two calves, and made an Asherah and worshiped all the host of heaven and served Baal.” (II Kings 17:15-16)



The Northern Kingdom of Israel and its capital city of Samaria was no more and the promises of the Lord to the people of the covenant (the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob) would be fulfilled through the Southern Kingdom of Judah.