



Provided by the Church of the Lutheran Confession - Board of Missions

Old Testament Survey

Lesson 30 – The Dark Days before the Assyrian Captivity (Second Kings 9-17; Second Chronicles 22-28)

The Promise to David's Family

Even though the descendants of Jehoshaphat fell into gross idolatry, God did not take the promise of an everlasting kingdom away from the family of David. But for a time when Jezebel's daughter Athaliah ruled in Jerusalem, it seemed as though the dynasty of David had been wiped out. But one descendant of David was still alive: the boy Joash. Joash was protected by the high priest Jehoiada and his wife, who herself was a descendant of David. At the appropriate time Joash was revealed as a living royal descendant of David, and the wicked queen Athaliah was deposed and killed. Once again, the rule was in the hands of David's family – the family from which would come **JESUS**, the Son of David.

The Assyrian Empire

There were two empires that competed for power in the early years of the divided kingdom. One was Egypt, which had had many years of great glory even before the days of Joseph. But gradually the Assyrian Empire, centered in Nineveh, gained great strength, and it began its conquest of all the smaller kingdoms next to it. Among the kingdoms threatened by Assyria were the kingdoms of Syria, Israel, and Judah. Syria and Israel were finally defeated. In 722 BC Assyria took what was left of Israel and carried off the Israelites into captivity. Most of these Israelites never returned to their native land, nor did their descendants. God allowed Israel to be defeated because of their continued idolatry over many years. On the other hand, God protected Judah and Jerusalem from the Assyrians, so that the dynasty of David could continue in power for many more years.

A List of Assyrian Emperors

Shamsiudad I (1748-1716 BC) – the founder of the Assyrian Empire

Tiglathpileser I (1114-1076) – won control of all the trade routes of western Asia

Ashurnasirpal II (883-859) – conquered the rich Phoenician cities

Shalmaneser III (859-824) – gained control of the Mediterranean trade routes

Shamsiudad V (823-811)

Semiramis, queen (810)

Adadnirari III (810-783) – the emperors were weak during this time

Shalmaneser IV (782-773)

Ashurdan III (773-755)

Ashurnirari V (755-745)

Tiglathpileser III (745-727) also known as Pul – conquered Syria, subdued Israel, conquered Babylonia

Shalmaneser V (727-722) – besieged Samaria for three years before it was finally taken

Sargon II (722-705) – was also involved in the defeat of Israel in 722 BC

Sennacherib (705-681) – took many cities of Judah, besieged Jerusalem but did not take it

Esarhaddon (681-668)

Ashurbanipal (668-633) also known as Asnapper – the last great Assyrian king, gathered a huge library

Read all the Bible chapters given below. If you have questions, do not hesitate to ask them.

Jehu of Israel (841-814 BC)

1. Elisha commands a son of the prophets to anoint Jehu as king of Israel and to order him to wipe out the dynasty of Omri (2 Kings 9:1-10).
2. Jehu and his men rebel against Jehoram of Israel at Ramoth-Gilead (2 Kings 9:11-14).
3. Jehu drives furiously to Jezreel and kills Jehoram of Israel (2 Kings 9:15-26).
4. Jehu also kills Ahaziah of Judah, who is visiting Jehoram (2 Kings 9:27-29; 2 Chronicles 22:6-9).
5. Jezebel suffers a horrible death, as prophesied by Elijah (2 Kings 9:30-37).
6. Jehu kills the 70 sons of Ahab in Samaria and all his relatives in Jezreel (2 Kings 10:1-11).
7. Jehu kills the 42 brothers of Ahaziah in Judah (2 Kings 10:12-14; 2 Chronicles 22:8).
8. Jehu kills all the members of Omri's dynasty in Samaria (2 Kings 10:15-17).
9. By trickery Jehu kills all the prophets and priests of Baal and ends Baal worship in Israel (2 Kings 10:18-28).
10. Jehu continues in the sins of Jeroboam I (2 Kings 10:29-31).
11. The Syrians keep taking land away from Israel until Jehu's death (2 Kings 10:32-36).

Jehu is pictured in the Black Obelisk, discovered in 1846, as giving tribute to Shalmaneser III of Syria.

Athaliah (queen) **of Judah** (841-835 BC), the daughter of Ahab of Israel

12. Athaliah kills all the royal family except the infant boy Joash, who is hidden in the Temple by his aunt, the priest's wife (2 Kings 11:1-3; 2 Chronicles 22:10-12).
13. The priest Jehoiada and others rebel against Athaliah and crown the seven-year-old Joash as king (2 Kings 11:4-12; 2 Chronicles 23:1-11).
14. Athaliah is killed by Jehoiada's men (2 Kings 11:13-16; 2 Chronicles 23:12-15).

Joash of Judah (835-796 BC) – also called Jehoash

15. The people renew their covenant with the LORD, abolishing Baal worship (2 Kings 11:17-21; 2 Chronicles 23:16-21).
16. Joash has a godly reign, influenced by Jehoiada (2 Kings 12:1-3; 2 Chronicles 24:1-3).
17. Joash repairs the Temple with money from a chest (2 Kings 12:4-16; 2 Chronicles 24:4-14).

“The priest took a chest, bored a hole in its lid, and set it beside the altar” (_____)

18. Jehoiada dies at age 130; Joash and his princes introduce idolatry again (2 Chronicles 24:15-18).
19. Jehoiada's son Zechariah testifies against this and he is stoned to death (2 Chronicles 24:19-22).
20. Hazael of Syria marches against Jerusalem, wins a great victory, and Joash gives him some Temple treasures (2 Kings 12:17-18; 2 Chronicles 24:23-24).
21. Joash is assassinated in bed by his own servants (2 Kings 12:19-21; 2 Chronicles 24:25-27).

Jehoahaz of Israel (814-798 BC)

22. Jehoahaz continues in the sins of Jeroboam I (2 Kings 13:1-2).
23. Hazael and Benhadad II of Syria oppress Israel greatly (2 Kings 13:3-7).
24. Jehoahaz concludes his reign and dies (2 Kings 13:8-9).

Jehoash of Israel (798-782 BC)

25. Jehoash continues in the sins of Jeroboam I (2 Kings 13:10-11).
26. Jehoash wins a victory over Amaziah of Judah (2 Kings 14:8-15; 2 Chronicles 25:17-24).
27. Elisha prophesies three victories of Jehoash over Syria (2 Kings 13:14-19).

“You should have struck five or six times... now you will strike Syria only three times” (v. ____)

28. Elisha dies; a dead man who touches his bones comes back to life (2 Kings 13:20-21).
29. Jehoash wins three victories over Benhadad II of Syria (2 Kings 13:22-25).
30. Jehoash concludes his reign and dies (2 Kings 13:12-13; 14:15-16).

Amaziah of Judah (796-767 BC)

31. Amaziah has a godly reign. He kills his father’s assassins (2 Kings 14:1-6; 2 Chronicles 25:1-4).
32. Amaziah gathers an army, and hires men from Israel, but **“a man of God”** tells him to send them back home, even though he has already paid them (2 Chronicles 25:5-10, 13).

Amaziah: **“What shall we do about the hundred talents which I have given?”** (v. ____)

The man of God: **“The LORD is able to give you much more than this”** (v. ____)

33. Amaziah wins a victory over the Edomites (2 Kings 14:7; 2 Chronicles 25:11-12).
34. **“A prophet”** rebukes Amaziah for worshiping the idols of Edom (2 Chronicles 25:14-16).

“God has determined to destroy you, because you have done this” (v. ____)

35. Amaziah loses a battle with Jehoash of Israel (2 Kings 14:8-15; 2 Chronicles 25:17-24).
36. Amaziah is killed by assassins in Lachish (2 Kings 14:17-20; 2 Chronicles 25:25-28).

Jeroboam II of Israel (793-753 BC)

37. Jeroboam II continues in the sins of Jeroboam I (2 Kings 14:23-24).
38. Jeroboam II restores the ancient boundaries of Solomon’s kingdom (2 Kings 14:25-29).

It was the prophet Jonah who prophesied Jeroboam’s victories. See the next lesson, Lesson 31.

The reign of Jeroboam II was one of outward prosperity with inward corruption.

Azariah or Uzziah of Judah (790-739 BC)

39. Uzziah has a godly reign in his early years (2 Kings 14:21-22; 15:1-4; 2 Chronicles 26:1-5).
40. Uzziah wins great victories and restores Judah’s prosperity (2 Chronicles 26:6-15).

“He made devices in Jerusalem...to shoot arrows and large stones” (v. ____)

41. In pride Uzziah offers incense in the Temple and is stricken with leprosy until his death (2 Kings 15:5-7; 2 Chronicles 26:16-23).

Only the priests were permitted to enter the Holy Place of the Temple.

Zechariah of Israel (753-752 BC) – the last king of the dynasty of Jehu

42. Zachariah continues in the sins of Jeroboam I and is slain (2 Kings 15:8-12).

Shallum of Israel (752 BC)

43. Shallum reigns only one month before he is killed (2 Kings 15:13-15).

Menahem of Israel (752-742 BC)

44. Menahem is wicked and continues in the sins of Jeroboam I (2 Kings 15:16-18).

45. Menahem gives Assyrian king Tiglathpileser III money (2 Kings 15:19-22).

Tiglathpileser’s official records say: “As for Menahem, I overwhelmed him like a snowstorm and he fled like a bird, alone, and bowed to my feet.”

Pekahiah of Israel (742-740 BC)

46. Pekahiah continues in Jeroboam’s sin and is killed by his captain (2 Kings 15:23-26).

Pekah of Israel (752-732 BC)

47. Pekah continues in the sins of Jeroboam I (2 Kings 15:27-28).

48. Pekah joins with Rezin of Syria against Jotham and Ahaz of Judah (Isaiah 7).

49. Tiglathpileser III of Assyria carries much of Israel into captivity (2 Kings 15:29).

Hoshea of Israel (732-722 BC)

50. Hoshea rebels against Pekah and kills him (2 Kings 15:30-31; 17:1-2).

51. Shalmaneser V and Sargon II of Assyria besiege Samaria for 3 years (2 Kings 17:3-5).

Sargon’s records: “I besieged and conquered Samaria, led away 27 290 inhabitants.”

52. Israel is carried off into **THE ASSYRIAN CAPTIVITY** in 722 BC (2 Kings 17:6-23).

“**The LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight**” (v. ____)

53. The Israelites are replaced by the Samaritans, who worship the LORD along with their own idols (2 Kings 17:24-41).

Jotham of Judah (750-735 BC)

54. Jotham has a godly and prosperous reign (2 Kings 15:32-38; 2 Chronicles 27:1-9).

A Table of Prophets and Kings

Prophets	Kings of Israel	Kings of Judah	2 Chron.	2 Kings
Obadiah	(6) Jehu (841-814)	Athaliah (841-835)	23-24	9-11
Elisha		<u>Joash/Jehoash</u> (835-796)		11-13
Jehoiada (priest)				
Zechariah, his son				
Joel	(6) Jehoahaz			
a man of God	(6) Jehoash	<u>Amaziah</u> (796-767)	25	13-14
Zechariah	(6) Jeroboam II (793-753)	<u>Azariah/Uzziah</u> (790-739)	26	14-15
Jonah				
Amos				
Hosea		(6) Zachariah (753-752)		
	(7) Shallum (752)			
Isaiah	(8) Menahem (752-742)			
Micah	(8) Pekahiah (742-740)	<u>Jotham</u> (750-736)	27	15-16
Oded	(9) Pekah (752-732)	<u>Ahaz</u> (743-728)	28	
	(10) Hoshea (732-722)			17
	ASSYRIAN CAPTIVITY (722 BC)	<u>Hezekiah</u> (728-686)	29-32	17-20

Note: The numbers besides the kings of Israel refer to their various dynasties. The underlined kings of

Judah (Joash/Jehoash, Amaziah, Azariah/Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah) are those who are described in the Bible as God-fearing kings. They were far from perfect in their loyalty to God, but it seems that they trusted in God's promises concerning the coming Christ (**JESUS**) and tried to walk in the ways of the Lord. The **Bold** prophets are those who wrote their prophesies in a book found in the Bible.

Questions

1. How did Jehoshaphat's unionism lead to disaster in the days of his sons?
2. How did Jehu serve as a representative of God?
3. In what way did Jehu continue in rebellion against God?
4. Why does the Bible present the death of Jezebel in such a graphic manner?
5. How did God ensure that the royal family of David was not wiped out?
6. What is the God-pleasing way in which funds were raised for Temple repair?
7. How long did King Joash have a God-pleasing reign as king?
8. Why did the prophet Elisha find fault with the three arrow strikes of Jehoash?
9. What did the man of God tell Amaziah about his loss of money paid to the troops from Israel?
10. How did Uzziah acquire the disease of leprosy?
11. Why did God cause the kingdom of Israel to fail and fall?