

Come Follow Me 2022
2 Kings 14-25



COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT



2 Kings 14-16

2 Kings 14:1-22 - Amaziah Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 14:23-29 - Jeroboam II Reigns in Israel

2 Kings 15:1-7 - Azariah Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 15:8-12 - Zechariah Reigns in Israel

2 Kings 15:13-16 - Shallum Reigns in Israel

2 Kings 15:17-22 - Menahem Reigns in Israel

2 Kings 15:23-26 - Pekahiah Reigns in Israel

2 Kings 15:27-31 - Pekah Reigns in Israel

2 Kings 15:32-38 - Jotham Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 16 - Ahaz Reigns in Judah

Old Testament Seminary Manual - 2 Kings 14-16

These chapters describe the reigns of various rulers of the kingdoms of Judah and Israel. The kings of Israel reigned wickedly. Most of Judah's kings were personally righteous but allowed their people to continue to worship idols. Eventually, a very wicked man named Ahaz became king of Judah. He not only worshipped idols but sacrificed one of his sons to one of these idols, and he completely rejected the counsel of the prophet Isaiah (see Isaiah 7:3-9). He sought an alliance with the kingdom of Assyria, giving the king of Assyria silver and gold from the temple in Jerusalem as a present. He also made unauthorized changes to temple ordinances. The kings of Israel were much like King Ahaz of Judah.

COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT



great altar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meat offering, and the king's burnt sacrifice, and his meat offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their meat offering, and their drink offerings; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brasen altar shall be for me to inquire by.

16 Thus did Urijah the priest, according to all that king Ahaz commanded.

17 ¶ And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the laver from off them; and took down the ^asea from off the brasen oxen that *were* under it, and put it upon a pavement of stones.

18 And the covert for the sabbath that they had built in the house, and the king's entry without, turned he from the ^ahouse of the LORD for the king of Assyria.

19 ¶ 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?

20 And ^aAhaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 17

Hoshea reigns in Israel and is subject to the Assyrians—The Israelites forsake the Lord, worship idols, serve Baal, and reject all that the Lord has given them—The ten tribes are carried away captive by the kings of Assyria—The land of Israel (Samaria) is repopulated by other people—Many forms of false worship are found among the Samaritans.

IN the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel nine years.

2 And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, but not as the kings of Israel that were before him.

3 ¶ Against him came up ^aShalmaneser king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his servant, and gave him presents.

4 And the king of Assyria found ^aconspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as *he had done* year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.

5 ¶ Then the king of ^aAssyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years.

6 ¶ In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took ^aSamaria, and ^bcarried ^cIsrael away into ^dAssyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

7 For so it was, that the children of Israel had ^asinned against the LORD their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,

8 And walked in the statutes of the ^aheathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

9 And the children of Israel did secretly *those things that were* not right against the LORD their God, and they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

10 And they set them up images and ^agroves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

11 And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as *did* the heathen whom the LORD carried away before them; and wrought wicked

The Fall of Israel Hoshea Reigns in Israel Exile Because of Idolatry Assyria Resettles Samaria

things to provoke the LORD to anger:

12 For they served idols, whereof the LORD had said unto them, Ye shall ^anot do this thing.

13 Yet the LORD ^atestified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the ^bprophets, *and by* all the ^cseers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments *and* my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets.

14 Notwithstanding they would ^anot hear, but ^bhardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not ^cbelieve in the LORD their God.

15 And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became ^avain, and went after the heathen that *were* round about them, *concerning* whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them.

16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, *even* two ^acalves, and made a ^bgrove, and worshipped all the ^chost of heaven, and served ^dBaal.

17 And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the ^afire, and used ^bdivination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do ^cevil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and ^aremoved them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of ^bJudah only.

19 Also Judah kept not the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.

20 And the LORD ^arejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight.

21 For he rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin.

22 For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them;

23 Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the ^aprophets. So was ^bIsrael ^ccarried away out of their own ^dland to Assyria unto this day.

24 ¶ And the king of Assyria ^abrought *men* from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed *them* in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

25 And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, *that* they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew *some* of them.

26 Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay

12a Ex. 20:4; Mosiah 13:12 (12–13).
13a Neh. 9:30; 1 Ne. 10:5; Hel. 8:24 (19–24).
TG Preaching.

TG Doubt.
c TG Faith; Unbelief.
15a Rom. 1:21.
16a 1 Kgs. 12:28.
b Deut. 16:21.

b TG Israel, Judah, People of.
20a TG God, Indignation of; Israel, Ten Lost Tribes of.

tar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meat offering, and the king's burnt sacrifice and his meat offering, with burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their meat offerings and their drink offerings; and he poured upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brasen altar was for me to inquire *by*.

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Served Idols



Rejected Prophets

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Institute

The statement that “there was none left but the tribe of Judah only” can be understood correctly only if one realizes that at this time Benjamin, Levi, and all other Israelites who had left the nation of Israel and joined Judah were included under the title of Judah. The ten tribes carried into captivity at this time were Reuben, Simeon, Issachar, Zebulun, Gad, Dan, Asher, Naphtali, Ephraim, and Manasseh. The three remaining tribes were Judah, Benjamin, and Levi. Some of the tribe of Levi were still with Israel (the ten tribes), however, and some of Ephraim, Manasseh, and other tribes were with Judah. So, the division is not as clear as a superficial reading might indicate.

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16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, *even* two ^acalves, and made a ^bgrove, and worshipped all the ^chost of heaven, and served ^dBaal.

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them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land.

27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land.

28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Beth-el, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.

29 Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put *them* in the ^ahouses of the high places which the ^bSamaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt.

30 And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

31 And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their ^achildren in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

32 So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.

33 They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

34 Unto this day they do after the former manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named ^aIsrael;

35 With whom the LORD had made a covenant, and charged them, saying, Ye shall not ^afear other ^bgods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them:

36 But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice.

37 And the statutes, and the ^aordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.

38 And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not ^aforget; neither shall ye fear other gods.

39 But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall ^adeliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.

40 Howbeit they did not hearken, but they did after their former manner.

41 So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

CHAPTER 18

Hezekiah reigns in righteousness in Judah—He destroys idolatry and breaks the brazen serpent made by Moses because the children of Israel burn incense to it—Sennacherib, king of Assyria, invades Judah—In a blasphemous speech, Rabshakeh asks Jerusalem to surrender to the Assyrians.

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Some time after the ten tribes of Israel were taken into captivity, Assyria moved some of its own people into the area formerly occupied by the Israelites. When the new residents failed to prosper, the king of Assyria sent an Israelite priest to the area to instruct the people in the worship of Jehovah, though it was liberally mixed with the paganism of Assyria (vv. 28–29). Living as they did in Samaria and its environs, these new occupants of the land became known as Samaritans. Eventually, intermarriage of the Assyrian settlers with those stragglers who had survived the captivity (not all Israelites were removed) caused the Samaritans to claim Israelite covenant blessings. The Jews of later years refused to accept this claim because of the Samaritans' gentile blood and pagan religious tendencies. This refusal led to the increasing hostility between the Jews and Samaritans that was evident in the time of Jesus (see Notes and Commentary on Ezra 4–5). The Jews simply refused to associate with their Samaritan neighbors (see John 4:9).

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28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Beth-el, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.

29 Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put *them* in the ^ahouses of the high places which the ^bSamaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt.

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2 Twenty and five years old was he when he began to ^areign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also *was* Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.

3 And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.

4 ¶ He removed the ^ahigh places,

Hezekiah Reigns in Judah

and brake the ^bimages, and ^ccut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brazen ^aserpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

5 He ^atrusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor *any* that were before him.

6 For he ^aclave to the LORD, *and* departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.

7 And the LORD was with him; *and* he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

8 He smote the Philistines, *even* unto Gaza, and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

9 ¶ And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which *was* the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, *that* Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it.

10 And at the end of three years they took it: *even* in the sixth year of Hezekiah, *that is* the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.

11 And the king of Assyria did carry away ^aIsrael unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes:

12 Because they ^aobeyed not the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed his covenant, *and* all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear *them*, nor do *them*.

13 ¶ Now in the ^afourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fenced cities of Judah, and took them.

14 And Hezekiah king of Judah sent

to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, I have offended; return from me: that which thou puttest on me will I bear. And the king of Assyria appointed unto Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

15 And ^aHezekiah gave *him* all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house.

16 At that time did Hezekiah cut off *the gold from* the doors of the temple of the LORD, and *from* the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

17 ¶ And the king of Assyria ^asent ^bTartan and Rabsaris and Rabshakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a great host against Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the ^cconduit of the upper pool, which *is* in the highway of the fuller's field.

18 And when they had called to the king, there came out to them ^aEliakim the son of Hilkiah, which *was* over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder.

19 And Rabshakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence *is* this wherein thou trustest?

20 Thou sayest, (but *they are but* vain words,) *I have* counsel and strength for the war. Now on whom dost thou trust, that thou rebellest against me?

21 Now, behold, thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised ^areed, *even* upon Egypt, on which if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so *is* Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him.

22 But if ye say unto me, We trust

29a 1 Kgs. 12:31.

b Deut. 7:16 (16–18).

39a 2 Ne. 6:17;

4b Isa. 26:13.

6a Josh. 23:8; Jacob 6:5.

17a 2 Chr. 32:9 (5–26).

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The brass serpent was preserved in Israel and, in time, became an object of adoration and was worshiped by the Israelites much as they worshiped idols. In his zeal to eradicate all forms of idolatry in Judah, King Hezekiah had the brazen serpent destroyed along with the idols.

The word nehushtan comes from the Hebrew and means an object made of brass. The implication may be that Hezekiah was speaking contemptuously of the object being worshiped, saying it was merely a “thing of brass” and nothing more.

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5 He ^atrusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor *any* that were before him.

6 For he ^aclave to the LORD, *and* departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.

7 And the LORD was with him; *and* he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

8 He smote the Philistines, *even* unto Gaza, and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

ut. 7:16 (16–18).
Ordinance.

39a 2 Ne. 6:17;
Alma 58:37;

9 ¶ And it came to pass in the

As recorded in the Old Testament, the warring nation of Assyria had at one time succeeded in placing its brutal military paw on much of the Middle East. By 724 B.C., there were no independent states from Assyria to Egypt. The kingdom of Israel had been conquered and carried captive to Assyria, and the kingdom of Judah, along with many other nations, had been forced to pay a burdensome tribute. When Hezekiah, king of Judah, ascended the throne, he rebelled and refused to pay the intolerable tribute to the Assyrians. Enraged at this rebellion, Sennacherib, the powerful king of Assyria, swept into the kingdom of Judah in 701 B.C., besieging and subduing all her fortified cities except Jerusalem. Soon, all of Palestine lay at the feet of his ravaging hordes, and his psychological warfare and vast army machine were at Jerusalem's very doorstep.

In light of this inevitable assault, Hezekiah made preparations for the defense of Jerusalem. He strengthened the city's walls, built a tunnel to bring water into the city, "made darts and shields in abundance" (2 Chronicles 32:5), and in all other ways readied his people for war. But even his ambitious industry and artful maneuvering did nothing to dissuade the mighty Assyrians' attack. King Hezekiah, having "set captains of war over the people" (2 Chronicles 32:6), gathered them together in the street near the gate of the city to speak to them.



HEZEKIAH

“Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:

“With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God to help us, and to fight our battles” (2 Chronicles 32:7–8).

“And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah” (2 Chronicles 32:8). For Hezekiah did “that which was right in the sight of the Lord. . . .

“He trusted in the Lord God of Israel” (2 Kings 18:3, 5), abolishing pagan tyranny and false worship, destroying idolatry, and reenthroning the worship of Jehovah in the kingdom of Judah.

When Sennacherib realized that Jerusalem would not yield, he sent Rab-shakeh, a warrior servant, with a message for King Hezekiah. Brazenly standing before those who were upon the city wall, Rab-shakeh delivered the message in the form of a taunting, blasphemous speech, demanding that Jerusalem surrender to the Assyrians.

RAB-SHAKEH

“Thus saith Sennacherib king of Assyria, Whereon do ye trust, that ye abide in the siege in Jerusalem?

“Doth not Hezekiah persuade you to give over yourselves to die . . . saying, The Lord our God shall deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria? . . .



RAB-SHAKEH

“Know ye not what I and my fathers have done unto all the people of other lands? were the gods of the nations of those lands any ways able to deliver their lands out of mine hand? . . .

“Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither yet believe him: for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of mine hand, and out of the hand of my fathers: how much less shall your God deliver you out of mine hand?” (2 Chronicles 32:10–11, 13, 15).



“But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king’s commandment was, saying, Answer him not” (2 Kings 18:36). Sennacherib continued to rail on the Lord God of Israel, declaring that since the gods of the other nations had not delivered their people out of his hands, neither would Hezekiah’s God rescue his people from Sennacherib’s powerful army (see 2 Chronicles 32:17).

For this cause, Hezekiah sent emissaries to the great prophet Isaiah to seek counsel in behalf of himself and his people. Isaiah sent a message back to King Hezekiah.



ISAIAH

“Thus shall ye say unto your master, Thus saith the Lord, Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

“Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land” (Isaiah 37:6–7).

The emissaries returned to King Hezekiah, carrying with them Isaiah's promise of deliverance and his prophecy of the death of Sennacherib, king of Assyria.

Yet the siege wore on. Sennacherib sent Hezekiah another letter reproaching his God and avowing their imminent destruction and the annihilation of his city and people.

SENNACHERIB

“Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

“Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered?



SENNACHERIB

“Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Thelasar?

“Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah?”

(2 Kings 19:10–13).





HEZEKIAH

“Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered?”

(2 Kings 19:11).

Deeply troubled for the welfare of his people, Hezekiah went to the house of the Lord to offer up his heart to God for Jerusalem's deliverance.

HEZEKIAH



“O Lord God of Israel, . . .

“ . . . bow down thine ear, and hear: open, Lord, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God.

“Of a truth, Lord, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

HEZEKIAH



“And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men’s hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

“Now therefore, O Lord our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the Lord God, even thou only” (2 Kings 19:15–19).

The Lord answered Hezekiah's prayer through the prophet Isaiah, who sent a letter to Hezekiah, prophesying:



**“Thus saith the Lord God of Israel,
That which thou hast prayed to
me against Sennacherib king of
Assyria I have heard.**

**“This is the word that the Lord
hath spoken concerning him....**

**“Whom hast thou reproached and
blasphemed? and against whom
hast thou exalted thy voice, and
lifted up thine eyes on high? even
against the Holy One of Israel....**



ISAIAH

“Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. . . .

“For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David’s sake” (2 Kings 19:20–22, 32, 34).



HEZEKIAH

**“He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. . . .
“For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake” (2 Kings 19:32, 34).**

“And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand” (2 Kings 19:35) and “cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria” (2 Chronicles 32:21).

And when Hezekiah and his people “arose early in the morning, behold, [the Assyrian warriors] were all dead corpses” (2 Kings 19:35). So, in fulfillment of prophecy, Sennacherib “returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of his own bowels [his own two sons] slew him there with the sword” (2 Chronicles 32:21).

“Thus the Lord saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all other, and guided them on every side” (2 Chronicles 32:22).

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every man of his own vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his cistern:

32 Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, The LORD will deliver us.

33 Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered at all his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

34 Where are the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? have they delivered Samaria out of mine hand?

35 Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of mine hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand?

36 But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not.

37 Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

CHAPTER 19

Hezekiah seeks counsel from Isaiah to save Jerusalem—Isaiah prophesies the defeat of the Assyrians and the death of Sennacherib—Hezekiah prays for deliverance—Sennacherib sends a blasphemous letter—Isaiah prophesies that the Assyrians will be destroyed and that a remnant of Judah will flourish—An angel slays 185,000 Assyrians—Sennacherib is slain by his sons.

AND it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

Isaiah Reassures Hezekiah

Sennacherib Defies the Lord

2 And he sent Eliakim, which was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

3 And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.

4 It may be the LORD thy God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God; and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that are left.

5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

7 Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.

8 So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah: for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish.

9 And when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, Behold, he is come out to fight against thee: he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying,

10 Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

11 Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered?

12 Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Thelasar?

13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah?

14 And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.

16 LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God.

17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

18 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.

20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, That which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard.

21 This is the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning him; The virgin the daughter of Zion hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee.

22 Whom hast thou reproached

Hezekiah's Prayer

Isaiah Prophesies Sennacherib's Fall

and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel.

23 By thy messengers thou hast reproached the Lord, and hast said, With the multitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees thereof, and the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the lodgings of his borders, and into the forest of his Carmel.

24 I have digged and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of besieged places.

25 Hast thou not heard long ago how I have done it, and of ancient times that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldst be to lay waste fenced cities into ruinous heaps.

26 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded; they were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb, as the grass on the housetops, and as corn blasted before it be grown up.

27 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

28 Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

29 And this shall be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof.

30 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

31 For out of Jerusalem forth a remnant, and shall escape out of mount Zion of the LORD of hosts shall be.

32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, he shall not shoot an arrow there, he shall not come against it, he shall not be against it.

33 By the way that he shall come into this city, shall he come, and he shall be there, and he shall be there, and he shall be there.

34 For I will defend Jerusalem, I will save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

35 And it came to pass that the angel of the LORD smote in the night the Assyrians an hundred and five thousand: and they were all dead, and they were all dead.

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went away, and dwelt at Nineveh.

37 And it came to pass that he worshipped in the temple of his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 20

Hezekiah is told he will die within five years—The shadow on the sundial goes back ten degrees—Isaiah prophesies the Babylonian captivity.

IN those days was Hezekiah told unto death. And he said unto Isaiah the son of Amoz, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die, and thou shalt be buried.

2 Then he turned back, and he prayed unto the LORD, saying,

2a TG Scribe.

4a TG Prayer.

b TG Israel, Remnant of

10a Enos 1:6;

Ether 3:12.

15a Ex. 25:22

c TG Jesus Christ, Creator.

20a TG Prayer.

21a Lam. 2:13

23a Isa. 10:13 (12, 14)

34a Hosea 1:7

37:3



Spring

Pool

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and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted *thy* voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? *even* against the Holy *One* of Israel.

23 By thy messengers thou hast reproached the Lord, and hast said, With the ^amultitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees thereof, *and* the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the lodgings of his borders, *and into* the forest of his Carmel.

24 I have digged and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of besieged places.

25 Hast thou not heard long ago *how* I have done it, *and* of ancient times that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste fenced cities *into* ruinous heaps.

26 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded; they were *as* the ^agrass of the field, and *as* the green herb, *as* the grass on the housetops, and *as* corn blasted before it be grown up.

27 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

28 Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

29 And this *shall be* a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof.

30 And the ^aremnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

31 For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the ^azeal of the LORD of *hosts* shall do this.

32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it.

33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

34 For I will ^adefend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

35 ¶ And it came to pass that night, that the ^aangel of the LORD went out, and ^bsmote in the camp of the ^cAssyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they *were* all dead corpses.

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 20

Hezekiah is told he will die and pleads with the Lord; his life is lengthened fifteen years—The shadow goes back ten degrees on the sundial of Ahaz—Isaiah prophesies the Babylonian captivity of Judah.

IN those days was ^aHezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt ^bdie, and not live.

2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,

Hezekiah's Illness and Recovery

3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will ^aheal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

6 And I will add unto thy ^adays fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

7 And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered.

8 ¶ And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What *shall be* the ^asign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?

9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the ^ashadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the ^ashadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees ^abackward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

12 ¶ At that time ^aBerodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present

unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

13 And Hezekiah hearkened unto them, and shewed them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and *all* the house of his armour, and all that was found in his ^atreasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

14 ¶ Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country, *even* from Babylon.

15 And he said, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, *All the things* that *are* in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.

16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.

17 Behold, the days come, that all that *is* in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be ^acarried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.

18 And of thy ^asons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be ^beunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

19 Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. And he said, *Is it* not *good*, if peace and truth be in my days?

20 ¶ And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a ^apool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

5a TG Heal.

6a TG Time.

8a Gen. 15:8 (7-9)

11a Josh. 10:12 (12-14).

12a Isa. 39:1.

13a TG Treasure

Dan. 1:3 (1-3).

b OR officers.

20a 2 Chr. 32:30.

Institute

Ahaz was the father of King Hezekiah. In his lifetime he invented a special mechanism for telling time. The instrument appears to have consisted of a series of graduated lines, or steps, over which a column towered. As the earth moved, the sun would cast a shadow at a certain angle and thus measure the passing of the hours.

figs. And they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered

8 ¶ And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What *shall be* the ^asign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?

9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the ^ashadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the ^ashadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

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16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD

17 Behold, the days come, that all that *is* in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be ^acarried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.

18 And of thy ^asons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be ^beunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

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21 And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 21

Manasseh turns Judah to idolatry, even sacrificing a son to a heathen god—Prophets foretell the destruction of Judah and Jerusalem—Wickedness continues under Amon.

^aMANASSEH was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah.

2 And he did *that which was* ^aevil in the sight of the LORD, after the ^babominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

3 For he built up again the ^ahigh places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a ^bgrove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the ^chost of heaven, and served them.

4 And he built ^aaltars in the ^bhouse of the LORD, of which the LORD said, In Jerusalem will I put my ^cname.

5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two ^acourts of the house of the LORD.

6 And he made his son pass through the ^afire, and observed times, and used ^benchantments, and dealt with ^cfamiliar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke *him* to anger.

7 And he set a graven ^aimage of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all

tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

8 Neither will I make the feet of Israel move any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them.

9 But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more ^aevil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.

10 ¶ And the LORD spake by his servants the prophets, saying,

11 Because ^aManasseh king of Judah hath done these ^babominations, *and* hath done ^cwickedly above all that the Amorites did, which *were* before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols:

12 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I *am* bringing *such* evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall ^atingle.

13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe Jerusalem as *a man* wipeth a dish, wiping *it*, and turning *it* upside down.

14 And I will forsake the remnant of mine inheritance, and ^adeliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies;

15 Because they have done *that which was* evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day.

16 Moreover Manasseh ^ashed innocent ^bblood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he

Manasseh's Idolatry Denounced

Amon Reigns in Judah

made Judah to sin, in doing *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD.

17 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of ^aManasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

18 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 reigned in his stead.

19 ¶ ^aAmon was twenty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

20 And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh did.

21 And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them:

22 And he forsook the LORD God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the LORD.

23 ¶ And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and slew the king in his own house.

24 And the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made ^aJosiah his son king in his stead.

25 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?

26 And he was buried in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzza: and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 22

Josiah reigns in righteousness in Judah—Hilkiah repairs the temple and finds the book of the law—Josiah sorrows because of the wickedness of his

fathers—Huldah prophesies wrath upon the people but blessings upon Josiah.

^aJOSIAH was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.

2 And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

3 ¶ And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, *that* the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying,

4 Go up to ^aHilkiah the high priest, that he may sum the ^bsilver which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the people:

5 And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it to the doers of the work which *is* in the house of the LORD, to repair the ^abreaches of the house,

6 Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

7 Howbeit there was no ^areckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

8 ¶ And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the ^abook of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

9 And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.

21 1a 2 Chr. 33:1 (1–20).

2a TG Sin.

b TG Apostasy of Israel.

3a 2 Kgs. 18:4.

b 1 Kgs. 16:33 (32–33).

c 1 Kgs. 8:29; 9:3 (1–4).

5a 1 Kgs. 6:36; 7:12.

6a Lev. 18:21;

2 Chr. 28:3; 33:6;

Ezek. 20:26.

7a TG Idolatry.

9a TG Tyranny.

11a Jer. 15:4.

b 2 Kgs. 24:3 (3–4).

c 1 Kgs. 21:26; 2 Kgs. 23:26.

17a 2 Chr. 33:18 (11–19).

4a 1 Chr. 6:13;

7a 2 Kgs. 12:15.

of Judah and Jerusalem. Wickedness continues under Amon.

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2 And he did *that which was* ^aevil in the sight of the LORD, after the ^babominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

3 For he built up again the ^ahigh places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a ^bgrove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the ^chost of heaven, and served them.

4 And he built ^aaltars in the ^bhouse of the LORD, of which the LORD said, In Jerusalem will I put my ^cname.

5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two ^acourts of the house of the LORD.

6 And he made his son pass through

9 But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more ^aevil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.

10 ¶ And the LORD spake by his servants the prophets, saying,

11 Because ^aManasseh king of Judah hath done these ^babominations, *and* hath done ^cwickedly above all that the Amorites did, which *were* before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols:

12 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I *am* bringing *such* evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall ^atingle.

13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe Jerusalem as *a man* wipeth a dish, wiping *it*, and turning *it* upside down.

14 And I will forsake the remnant of mine inheritance, and ^adeliver

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6 And he made his son pass through the ^afire, and observed times, and used ^benchantments, and dealt with ^cfamiliar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke *him* to anger.

7 And he set a graven ^aimage of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all

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14 And I will forsake the remnant of mine inheritance, and ^adeliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies;

15 Because they have done *that which was* evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day.

16 Moreover Manasseh ^ashed innocent ^bblood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he

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21 And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 21

Manasseh turns Judah to idolatry, even sacrificing a son to a heathen god—Prophets foretell the destruction of Judah and Jerusalem—Wickedness continues under Amon.

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3 For he built up again the ^ahigh places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a ^bgrove,

tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

8 Neither will I make the feet of Israel move any more out of the land which I gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them.

9 But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more ^aevil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.

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13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe Jerusalem as *a man* wipeth a dish, wiping *it*, and turning *it* upside down.

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Manasseh's Idolatry Denounced

Amon Reigns in Judah

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17 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of ^aManasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

18 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 reigned in his stead.

19 ¶ ^aAmon was twenty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

20 And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh did.

21 And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them:

22 And he forsook the LORD God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the LORD.

23 ¶ And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and slew the king in his own house.

24 And the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made ^aJosiah his son king in his stead.

25 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?

26 And he was buried in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzza: and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

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5 And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it to the doers of the work which *is* in the house of the LORD, to repair the ^abreaches of the house,

6 Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

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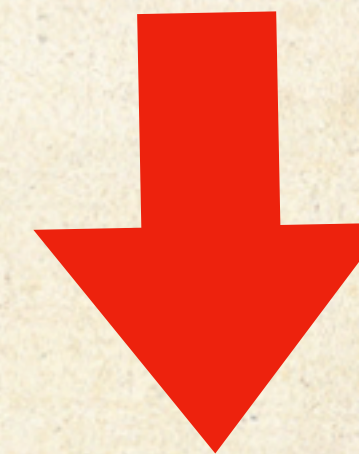
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The Kings and Prophets of the Divided Kingdom



650 BC



Jeremiah

Zephaniah

Nahum

Amon

Manasseh

Josiah

650 BC

Jeh

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6 Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

7 Howbeit there was no ^areckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

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Josiah Reigns in Judah

Josiah Repairs the Temple

Hilkiah Finds the Book of the Law

10 And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

11 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the ^awords of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes.

12 And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, and ^aAhikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king's, saying,

13 Go ye, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the ^awrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to ^bdo according unto all that which is written concerning us.

14 So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the ^acollege;) and they communed with her.

15 ¶ And she said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell the man that sent you to me,

16 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, *even* all the words of the ^abook which the king of Judah hath read:

17 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might ^aprovoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

18 But to the king of Judah which sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall ye say to him, Thus saith the

LORD God of Israel, *As touching* the words which thou hast heard;

19 Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast ^ahumbled thyself before the LORD, when thou heardest what I spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become a ^bdesolation and a ^ccurse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before me; I also have heard *thee*, saith the LORD.

20 Behold therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in ^apeace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word again.

CHAPTER 23

Josiah reads the book of the covenant to the people—They covenant to keep the commandments—Josiah overturns the worship of false gods, removes the sodomites, and puts down idolatry—Idolatrous priests are slain—Judah holds a solemn Passover—Egypt subjects the land of Judah.

AND the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

2 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he ^aread in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.

3 ¶ And the king stood by a ^apillar, and made a ^bcovenant before the LORD, to ^cwalk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all *their* heart and all *their* soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

17 ¶ Now the rest of the acts of ^aManasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

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20 And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh did.

21 And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and

gained prophets—*False prophecies which upon the people but blessings upon Josiah.*

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4 Go up to ^aHilkiah the high priest, that he may sum the ^bsilver which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the people:

5 And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house

of the LORD: and let them give it to the doers of the work which is in the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of the house,

6 Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

7 Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

8 ¶ And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

9 And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.





10 And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, Hilkiyah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

11 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the ^awords of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes.

12 And the king commanded Hilkiyah the priest, and ^aAhikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king's, saying,

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son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the ^acollege;) and they communed with her.

15 ¶ And she said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell the man that sent you to me,

16 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, *even* all the words of the ^abook which the king of Judah hath read:

17 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might ^aprovoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

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AND the king sent, and they gathered together to him the men of Judah.

2 And the king said unto them, the house of Judah, and the men of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the people, ^aread the book of the law of the LORD, and found it written.

3 ¶ And the king said unto the LORD, to keep the testimony, all that is written in the book, that ye may prosper, and that all the words which are written in the book may be fulfilled.



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20 Behold therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in ^apeace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word again.

CHAPTER 23

Josiah reads the book of the covenant to the people—They covenant to keep the com-

COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT



2 Kings 23-25

2 Kings 23:1-20 - Josiah's Reforms

2 Kings 23:1-4

- 1 And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.**
- 2 And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the Lord.**
- 3 ¶ And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.**
- 4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Beth-el.**

2 Kings 23:1-20 - Josiah's Reforms

2 Kings 23:21-27 - Josiah Restores the Passover

2 Kings 23:21-23

21 ¶ And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the Lord your God, as it is written in the book of this covenant.

22 Surely there was not holden such a passover from the days of the judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

23 But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, wherein this passover was holden to the Lord in Jerusalem.

25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him.

2 Kings 23:1-20 - Josiah's Reforms

2 Kings 23:21-27 - Josiah Restores the Passover

2 Kings 23:28-30 - Josiah's Death in Battle

2 Kings 23:31-35 - Jehoahaz's Reign and Captivity

2 Kings 23:36-37; 24:1-7 - Jehoiakim Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 24:8-9 - Jehoiachin Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 24:10-17 - Jerusalem Captured

2 Kings 24:9-11

9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done.

10 ¶ At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.

11 And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants did besiege it.

2 Kings 24:8-9 - Jehoiachin Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 24:10-17 - Jerusalem Captured

2 Kings 24:13-16

13 And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the Lord, as the Lord had said.

14 And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land.

15 And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his officers, and the mighty of the land, those carried he into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

16 And all the men of might, even seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths a thousand, all that were strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

2 Kings 24:8-9 - Jehoiachin Reigns in Judah

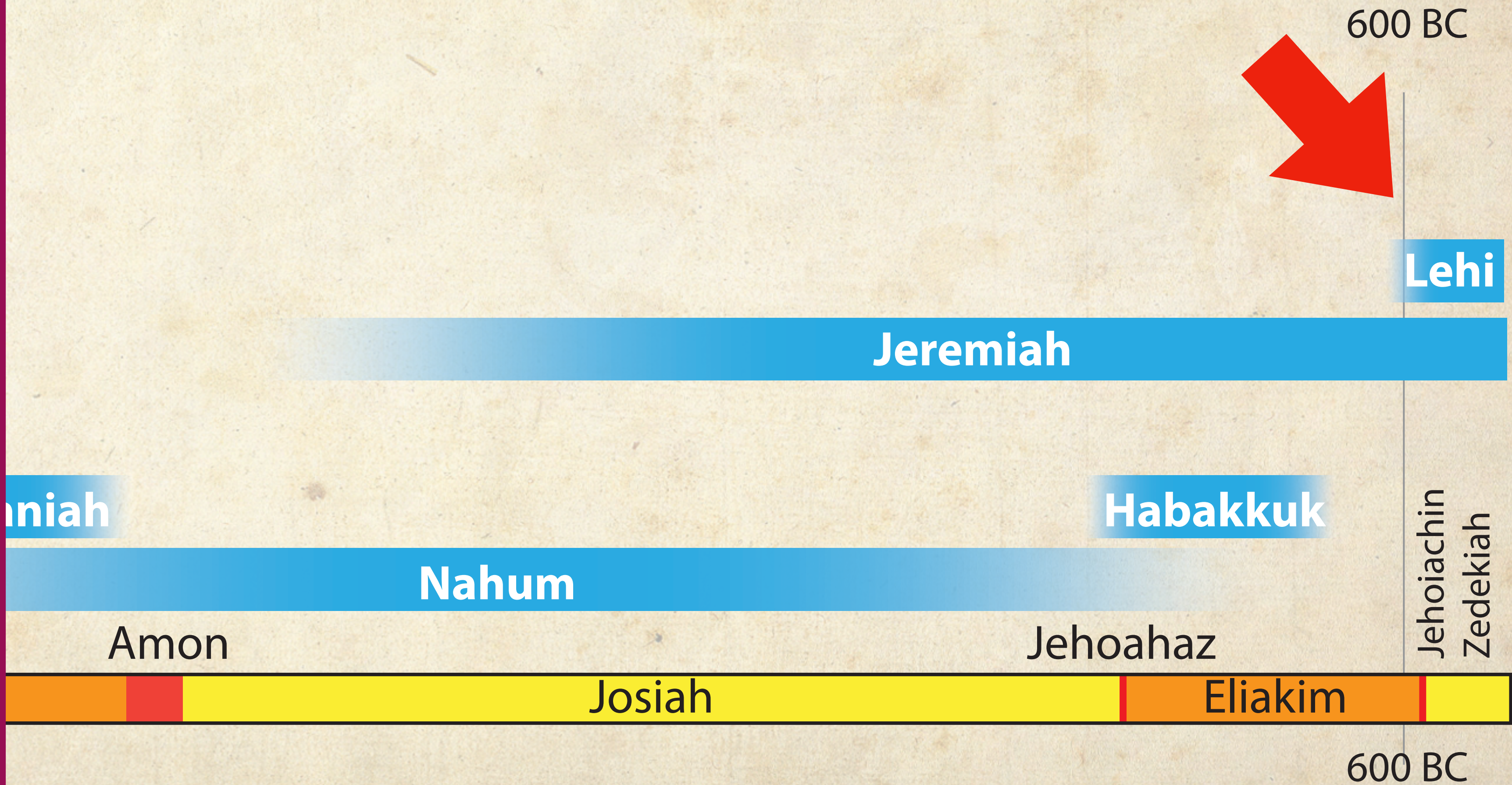
2 Kings 24:10-17 - Jerusalem Captured

2 Kings 24:18-20 - Zedekiah Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 24:19

19 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

The Kings and Prophets of the Divided Kingdom



2 Kings 25:1-21 - Fall and Captivity of Judah

2 Kings 25:6-12

6 So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they gave judgment upon him.

7 And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon.

8 ¶ And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzar-adan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem:

9 And he burnt the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

10 And all the army of the Chaldees, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about.

11 Now the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard carry away.

12 But the captain of the guard left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen.

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Josephus recorded an interesting story about Zedekiah and hearkening to the prophets: “Now as to Zedekiah himself, while he heard the prophet [Jeremiah] speak, he believed him, and agreed to every thing as true, and supposed it was for his advantage; but then his friends perverted him, and dissuaded him from what the prophet advised, and obliged him to do what they pleased. Ezekiel also foretold in Babylon what calamities were coming upon the people, which when he heard, he sent accounts of them unto Jerusalem.

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But Zedekiah did not believe their prophecies, for the reason following: It happened that the two prophets agreed with one another in what they said as in all other things, that the city should be taken, and Zedekiah himself should be taken captive; but Ezekiel disagreed with him [Jeremiah], and said that Zedekiah should not see Babylon [see Ezekiel 12:13], while Jeremiah said to him, that the king of Babylon should carry him away thither in bonds [see Jeremiah 34:3]; and because they did not both say the same thing as to this circumstance, he disbelieved what they both appeared to agree in, and condemned them as not speaking truth therein, although all the things foretold him did come to pass according to their prophecies, as we shall show upon a fitter opportunity.” (Antiquities, bk. 10, chap. 7, par. 2.)

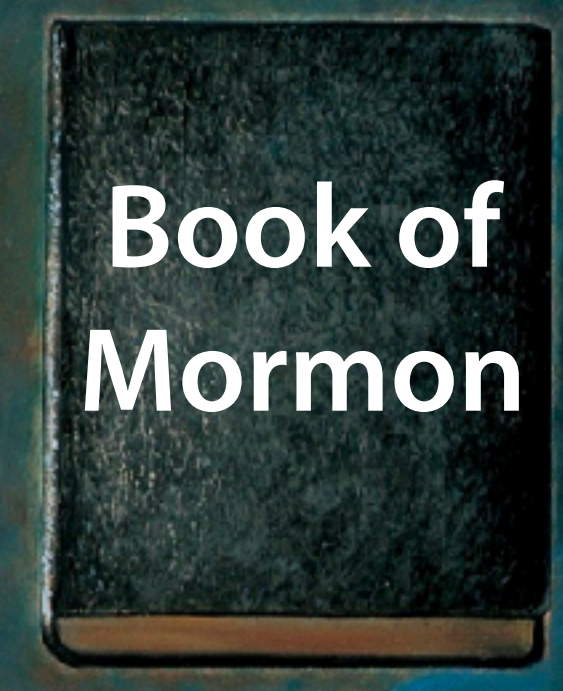
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As recorded in 2 Kings 25:7, both prophets were vindicated by subsequent events. After chastising Zedekiah for his unfaithfulness and treachery, Nebuchadnezzar “commanded his sons and his friends to be slain, while Zedekiah and the rest of the captains looked on; after which he put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him, and carried him to Babylon. And these things happened to him, as Jeremiah and Ezekiel had foretold to him, that he should be caught, and brought before the king of Babylon, and should speak to him face to face, and should see his eyes with his own eyes; and thus far did Jeremiah prophesy. But he was also made blind, and brought to Babylon, but did not see it, according to the prediction of Ezekiel.” (Antiquities, bk. 10, chap. 8, par. 2.)



Bible

The Book of Mormon tells us that one of Zedekiah's sons, named Mulek, escaped the destruction of Jerusalem. The Lord directed Mulek and others to the promised land in the Americas sometime after Lehi and his family left Jerusalem. Some of Lehi's descendants found the descendants of Mulek and joined with them in Zarahemla. (See Omni 1:12–19; Mosiah 25:2; Helaman 8:21.)



**Book of
Mormon**

2 Kings 24:8-9 - Jehoiachin Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 24:10-17 - Jerusalem Captured

2 Kings 24:18-20 - Zedekiah Reigns in Judah

2 Kings 25:1-21 - Fall and Captivity of Judah

2 Kings 25:22-26 - Gedaliah Made Governor of Judah

2 Kings 25:27-30 - Jehoiachin Released from Prison



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The Assyrian Conquest and the Lost Tribes (enrichment D)

Babylonia and the Conquest of Judah (enrichment G)