1-2 Kings Study Notes

Lesson 6 - 1 Kings 12:1-14:20

Introduction

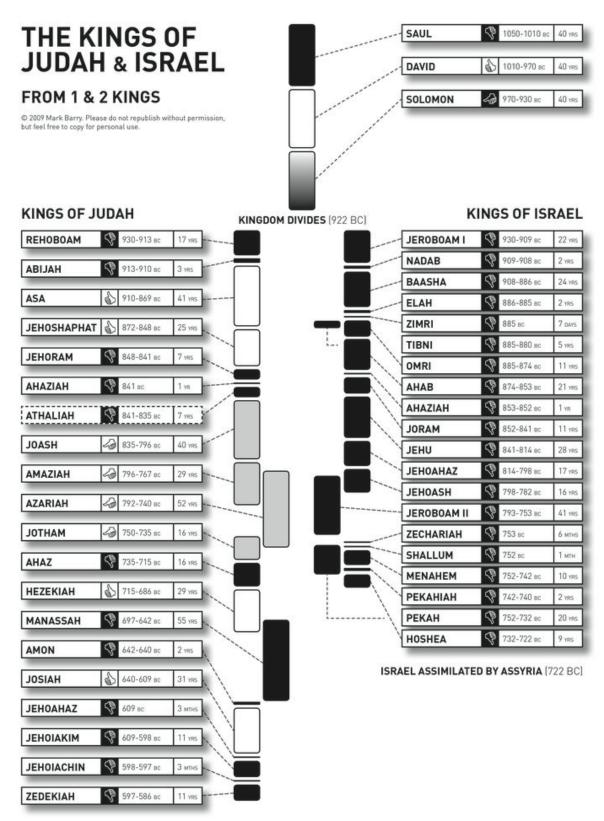
In this section we move into the era of the divided kingdom - Judah in the south and Israel in the north. While many factors go into the cause of this division it is important to recognize the sovereign hand of God who even in such troubled times continues to work to fulfill his purposes for his people and his glory. In this lesson we consider the first two kings of this division, Rehoboam and Jeroboam.

Review

• Based on what we learned in the previous lesson, how would you evaluate the life of Solomon? What actions did he take (or fail to take) that brought about the downfall of Israel?

Study Questions

- **1.** Take a moment to go over the chart below which displays the kings of Israel and Judah and the years they reigned. Keep these facts in mind as you answer the questions.
- **2.** In chapter 12, how would you evaluate and describe Rehoboam's character and personality?
- 3. In what ways does Rehoboam's leadership display a lack of skill and understanding?
- 4. What do the events of chapter 12 reveal about God's sovereignty, his grace and his justice?
- **5.** In 12:25-33, Jeroboam institutes idolatry in the northern kingdom of Israel. What parallels do you see between this story and Aaron's leading the people into idolatry in Exodus 32?
- 6. In chapter 13 what did the "man of God" do right, and what did he do wrong?
- 7. What is chapter 13 meant to teach us about God's standards for his prophets? And what relation do these standards have fo any of God's people today?
- **8.** In chapter 14 the troubled reigns of Rehoboam and Jeroboam come to an end. In what ways do you see the consequences of sin catching up with people in this chapter? How do the events of this chapter cast an ominous cloud over the future of both Israel and Judah?
- **9.** What prophecy concerning Israel's future does Ahijiah speak about in 14:14-16, and what is its significance?
- **10.** Any thoughts as to why God works in such a way as all this? Do we learn anything about his character here? If so, what?



JUDAH EXILED BY BABYLON [586 BC]