

Old Testament Survey Lesson Fifteen

Review:

- Judges to Samuel
 - Samuel to Saul/David
 - David to Solomon
 - Solomon to Rehoboam (South/Judah)—Jeroboam (North/Israel)
 - Northern Dynasties
1. Jeroboam (22 years) and son/Nadab (2 years)
 2. Baasha (24 years) conspired against Nadab (killed him and all the house of Jeroboam (1 Kings 15:27-ff)
 - a. Elah (his son) for 2 years (drunk in Tirzah—stricken by his servant Zimri)
 - b. Zimri reigned 7 days but killed the family of Baasha (1 Kings 16:8ff)
 3. Omri (Israel made him King then Zimri killed himself—by burning down King's house)—Omri reigned 12 years

NOTE: Brought capital to Samaria

4. Then Ahab

I. The rule of Ahab is Dynasty (874-853)

A. Notes regarding Ahab (1 Kings 16:28-22:40; 1 Chronicles 18:5)

1. Ruled 22 years
2. Worst King in the north
3. Wife Jezebel
4. Formed alliances with south/Judah

B. Ahab's history

1. When he took over (outstanding king of Omride dynasty)
 - a. Favorable policies for surrounding nations
 - b. Ahab expanded political and commercial interests

2. Built and fortified many cities in Israel including Jericho

And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him. 34 In his days Hiel of Bethel built Jericho. He laid its foundation with Abiram his firstborn, and with his youngest son Segub he set up its gates, according to the word of the Lord, which He had spoken through Joshua the son of Nun. 1 Kings 16:33-34 NKJV

(See Joshua 6:27)

Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, the ivory house which he built and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? 1 Kings 22:39 NKJV

3. His daughter Athalia married Jerhoram (son of Jehoshaphat) King of Judah to maintain peace
4. Ahab promoted the worship of Baal

Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord, more than all who were before him. 31 And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him. 32 Then he set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. 33 And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him. 1 Kings 16:30-33 NKJV

NOTE: Elijah—discussed in next lesson was the prophet who called Israel to repentance.

5. When Elijah was sought by Jezebel but could not be found—she killed other prophets of God.
6. Peaceful relations with surrounding nations except Syria attacked (20:1-43) but Ahab fought them off. Ben-Hadad barely escaped with his life.

a. 2nd battle with Syrians

Then the servants of the king of Syria said to him, "Their gods are gods of the hills. Therefore they were stronger than we; but if we fight against them in the plain, surely we will be stronger than they. 24 So do this thing: Dismiss the kings, each from his position, and put captains in their places; 25 and you shall muster an army like the army that you have lost, horse for horse and chariot for chariot. Then we will fight against them in the plain; surely we will be stronger than they." And he listened to their voice and did so. 26 So it was, in the spring of the year, that Ben-Hadad mustered the Syrians and went up to Aphek to fight against Israel. 27 And the children of Israel were mustered and given provisions, and they went against them. Now the children of Israel encamped before them like two little flocks of goats, while the Syrians filled the countryside. 28 Then a man of God came and spoke to the king of Israel, and said, "Thus says the Lord: 'Because the Syrians have said, "The Lord is God of the hills, but He is not God of the valleys," therefore I will deliver all this great multitude into your hand, and you shall know that I am the Lord.'" 29 And they encamped opposite each other for seven days. So it was that on the seventh day the battle was joined; and the children of Israel killed one hundred thousand foot soldiers of the Syrians in one day. 30 But the rest fled to Aphek, into the city; then a wall fell on twenty-seven thousand of the men who were left. And Ben-Hadad fled and went into the city, into an inner chamber. 1 Kings 20:23-30 NKJV

b. Treaty with Ben-Hadad

Then his servants said to him, "Look now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings. Please, let us put sackcloth around our waists and ropes around our heads, and go out to the king of Israel; perhaps he will spare your life." 32 So they wore sackcloth around their waists and put ropes around their heads, and came to the king of Israel and said, "Your servant Ben-Hadad says, 'Please let me live.'" And he said, "Is he still alive? He is my brother." 33 Now the men were watching closely to see whether any sign of mercy would come from him; and they quickly grasped at this word and said, "Your brother Ben-Hadad." So he said, "Go, bring him." Then Ben-Hadad came out to him; and he had him come up into the chariot. 34 So Ben-Hadad said to him, "The cities which my father took from your father I will restore; and you may set up marketplaces for yourself in Damascus, as my father did in Samaria." Then Ahab said, "I will send you away with this treaty." So he made a treaty with him and sent him away. 1 Kings 20:31-34 NKJV

c. Ahab condemned

Now a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor by the word of the Lord, "Strike me, please." And the man refused to strike him. 36 Then he said to him, "Because you have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, surely, as soon as you depart from me, a lion shall kill you." And as soon as he left him, a lion found him and killed him. 37 And he found another man, and said, "Strike me, please." So the man struck him, inflicting a wound. 38 Then the prophet departed and waited for the king by the road, and disguised himself with a bandage over his eyes. 39 Now as the king passed by, he cried out to the king and said, "Your servant went out into the midst of the battle; and there, a man came over and brought a man to me, and said, 'Guard this man; if by any means he is missing, your life shall be for his life, or else you shall pay a talent of silver.' 40 While your servant was busy here and there, he was gone." Then the king of Israel said to him, "So shall your judgment be; you yourself have decided it." 41 And he hastened to take the bandage away from his eyes; and the king of Israel recognized him as one of the prophets. 42 Then he said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Because you have let slip out of your hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore your life shall go for his life, and your people for his people.'" 43 So the king of Israel went to his house sullen and displeased, and came to Samaria. 1 Kings 20:35-43 NKJV

7. Naboth's vineyard (1 Kings 21)
 - a. Vineyard Ahab wanted
 - b. Refused because it was inheritance
 - c. Scheme of Jezebel—false witness
 - d. Naboth stoned—took vineyard
 - e. Promise of prophet
 - f. Ahab's pseudo repentance

But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up. 26 And he behaved very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel. 27 So it was, when Ahab heard those words, that he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his body, and fasted and lay in sackcloth, and went about mourning. 1 Kings 21:25-28 NKJV

- g. Alliance with Jehoshaphat and death

So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead. 30 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle; but you put on your robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle. 31 Now the king of Syria had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, saying, "Fight with no one small or great, but only with the king of Israel." 32 So it was, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said,

"Surely it is the king of Israel!" Therefore they turned aside to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out. 33 And it happened, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him. 34 Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of his armor. So he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am wounded." 35 The battle increased that day; and the king was propped up in his chariot, facing the Syrians, and died at evening. The blood ran out from the wound onto the floor of the chariot. 36 Then, as the sun was going down, a shout went throughout the army, saying, "Every man to his city, and every man to his own country!" 37 So the king died, and was brought to Samaria. And they buried the king in Samaria. 38 Then someone washed the chariot at a pool in Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood while the harlots bathed, according to the word of the Lord which He had spoken. 39 Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, the ivory house which he built and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? 40 So Ahab rested with his fathers. Then Ahaziah his son reigned in his place. 1 Kings 22:29-40 NKJV

C. Ahab succeeded by Ahaziah (1-2 years)

Ahaziah the son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel. 52 He did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin; 53 for he served Baal and worshiped him, and provoked the Lord God of Israel to anger, according to all that his father had done. 1 Kings 22:51-52 NKJV

1. Failed in reclaiming Moab (2 Kings 3:5)
2. Failed naval expedition with Jehoshaphat

After this Jehoshaphat king of Judah allied himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who acted very wickedly. 36 And he allied himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish, and they made the ships in Ezion Geber. 37 But Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, "Because you have allied yourself with Ahaziah, the Lord has destroyed your works." Then the ships were wrecked, so that they were not able to go to Tarshish. 2 Chronicles 20:35-37 NKJV

3. Jehoshaphat refused a second offer to join together

Jehoshaphat made merchant ships to go to Ophir for gold; but they never sailed, for the ships were wrecked at Ezion Geber. 49 Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships." But Jehoshaphat would not. 1 Kings 22:48-49 NKJV

4. Warned by the prophet and died

So Ahaziah died according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken. Because he had no son, Jehoram became king in his place, in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah. 18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? 2 Kings 1:17-18 NKJV

- D. Joram—reigned 12 years (852 BC)

- 2 Kings 3
- 2 Kings 9

1. Elisha associated with him
2. Rebellion of Moab was a problem (2 Kings 3)
3. Syrians blinded by God (READ: 2 Kings 6:8-23)

II. The Rule of Jehu's Dynasty

- A. Jehu (2 Kings 9:1-10:36)

1. Anointed by Elisha
2. Given charge of avenging blood of prophets

Then he arose and went into the house. And he poured the oil on his head, and said to him, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'I have anointed you king over the people of the Lord, over Israel. 7 You shall strike down 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. 8 For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; and I will cut off from Ahab all the males in Israel, both bond and free. 9 So 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. 10 The dogs shall eat Jezebel on the plot of ground at Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her.'" And he opened the door and fled. 11 Then Jehu came out to the servants of his master, and one said to him, "Is all well? Why did this madman come to you?" And he said to them, "You know the man and his babble." 12 And they said, "A lie! Tell us now." So he said, "Thus and thus he spoke to me, saying, 'Thus says the Lord: "I have anointed you king over Israel."'" 13 Then each man hastened to take his garment and put it under him on the top of the steps; and they blew trumpets, saying, "Jehu is king!" 2 Kings 9:6-13 NKJV

- a. Joram fatally wounded thrown on plot of ground Ahab stole from Naboth (READ: Kings 9:14-26)
- b. Ahaziah tried to flee—mortally wounded
- c. Jezebel made a plea but also killed. Her body eaten by dogs.
- d. 2 Kings 10—all of Ahab's family killed fulfilling the promised judgment of house of Omri

- e. Worshippers of Baal killed
- f. Jehu's report card

However Jehu did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin, that is, from the golden calves that were at Bethel and Dan. 30 And the Lord said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in doing what is right in My sight, and have done to the house of Ahab all that was in My heart, your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." 31 But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin. 32 In those days the Lord began to cut off parts of Israel; and Hazael conquered them in all the territory of Israel 33 from the Jordan eastward: all the land of Gilead — Gad, Reuben, and Manasseh — from Aroer, which is by the River Arnon, including Gilead and Bashan. 34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, all that he did, and all his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? 35 So Jehu rested with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria. Then Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place. 36 And the period that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty-eight years. 2 Kings 10:29-36 NKJV

- g. His dynasty—longest standing (nearly a century)

B. Jehoahaz (2 Kings 13:1-9)

1. Reigned (814-798)
2. Delivered into the hand of Hazael and Benhadad, Kings of Israel
3. Gradually absorbed Israel's territory

C. Jehoash (2 Kings 13:10-25; 14:8-16) 2 Chronicles 25:17-24

1. Was able to build a stronger fighting force
2. Took back some territory
3. Won a battle against Judah
4. Saddened by Elisha's death
5. Still did wickedly

D. Jerobam II (2 Kings 14:23-29)

1. 41 years (793-753)
2. 12 years co-reigned with father
3. Restored Israel's territory
4. Amos and Hosea reflect this period of prophecy
5. Prosperous time

E. Zechariah (2 Kings 15:8-12)

1. Ruled 6 months
2. Murdered by brother Shallum

III. The Reign of Shallum

Shallum the son of Jabesh became king in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned a full month in Samaria. 14 For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, came to Samaria, and struck Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria and killed him; and he reigned in his place. 15 Now the rest of the acts of Shallum, and the conspiracy which he led, indeed they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel. 16 Then from Tirzah, Menahem attacked Tiphsah, all who were there, and its territory. Because they did not surrender, therefore he attacked it. All the women there who were with child he ripped open. 2 Kings 15:13-16 NKJV

- A. Shortest reign in Northern Kingdom excepting Zimri's 7-day rule
- B. Assassinated Zechariah, seized throne then ruled one month before he was assassinated

IV. Dynasty of Menahem

752-741 BC

- A. Menahem (2 Kings 15:16-22)
 - 1. Ruled a decade
 - 2. Continued in idoltry
 - 3. Assyrian aggression (745 TP III)
 - a. Took conquered people to distant lands
 - b. Held off rebellion
 - c. Created Samaritan issue
 - d. Paid tribute to Assyrians
- B. Pekahiah (2 Kings 15:23-26) 741-739
 - 1. 2-year reign
 - 2. Did evil
 - 3. Conspired against by servants son-Pekah
- C. Pekah (2 Kings 15:27-31; 2 Chronicles 28:5-8)
 - 1. 8 year reign
 - 2. Also did evil
 - 3. Syria tried to assert itself under the new King Rezin so allied with King Pekah built strong western allowance to resist Assyrian invasion
 - 4. Actually attacked the Southern Kingdom together but forces withdrew

- a. Syria ended up falling to TP III of Assyria
- b. The weakened Israel
- c. Hoshea conspired against him—Hoshea reigned

D. Hoshea—Israel's last King (2 Kings 17:1-41) 731-722

1. TP III boasted of placing Hoshea on throne in Samaria
2. 9 year reign—did evil in God's sight
3. His domain confined to hill country of Ephraim

NOTE: Galilee and east of Jordan already under Assyrian control

4. 727 TP III died
5. 725 Shalmaneser besieged strongly fortified Samaria
6. 3 years Hoshea withstood Assyrians
7. 722 surrendered

Conclusion: Final fall of the north

1. Assyrian policy of deportation
2. Israelites taken into Persia
3. Colonists from Babylonia were settled in Samaria
4. North became an Assyrian province
5. For two centuries Israel continued in idolatry
6. Refused to listen to prophets
7. Finally, they fell