

From Creation to Salvation: A Journey Through the Hebrew Bible



Session 15 - Kings

The Book of Kings

ספר מלכים – Book of Kings

Key Passages: Deuteronomy 28 &
Leviticus 18:24-30

Overview of Kings

1 Kings 1-11 – King Solomon

1 Kings 12:1-22 – King Rehoboam

(Divided Kingdom)

1 Kings 12:23-16 – Kings from 931-853 BC

1 Kings 17 - 2 Kings 8:15 – Elijah & Elisha

Overview of Kings

2 Kings 8:16 – 17:41 – Kings from 852 to 722 BC

(Fall of Northern Kingdom to Assyria)

2 Kings 18-24 – Judah from 729 to 586 BC

2 Kings 25:1-21 – Fall of Israel

2 Kings 25:22-30 – Jehoiachin in Exile



The "hill which is south of Lower Beth-horon" marks the border between Benjamin, Ephraim and Dan (Josh. 18:13, small triangle on map).

Kedesh - City of Refuge
 0 Mi. 5 10 20
 0 Km. 8 16 32

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The Great Sea (Mediterranean)



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- LEGEND**
- 1 **Bethel** Division of the Kingdom, Jeroboam's Religious Centers
 - Shechem** Jeroboam's (Israel) Political Centers
 - 2 **Azekah** Rehoboam's (Judah) Fortifications
 - 3 **→** Pharaoh Shishak's Campaigns
 - Megiddo** Sites listed in Shishak's Conquest list in Karnak
 - Borders of the Northern Kingdom (Israel)



Shishak Inscription Karnak Temple, Egypt

The Great Sea (Mediterranean)



Kings of Israel (Northern Kingdom)

House of Jeroboam

Jeroboam (922-901 BC)

Nadab (901-900 BC)

House of Baasha

Baasha (900-877 BC)

Elah (877-876 BC)

House of Zimri

Zimri (876 BC)

House of Omri

Omri (876-869 BC)

Ahab (869-850 BC)

Ahaziah (850-849 BC)

Joram (849-842 BC)

House of Jehu

Jehu (842-815 BC)

Jehoahaz (815-801 BC)

Jehoash (801-786 BC)

Jeroboam II (786-746 BC)

Zachariah (746 BC)

House of Shallum

Shallum (745 BC)

House of Menahem

Menahem (745-738 BC)

Pekahiah (738-737 BC)

House of Pekah

Pekah (737-732 BC)

House of Hoshea

Hoshea (732-722 BC)

Kings of Judah (Southern Kingdom)

House of David

Rehoboam (926-910 BC)

Abijah (915-913 BC)

Asa (913-873 BC)

Jehoshaphat (873-849 BC)

Jehoram (849-842 BC)

Ahaziah (842 BC)

Not House of David

Athaliah (842-837 BC)

House of David

Jehoash (837-800 BC)

Amaziah (800-783 BC)

Uzziah (783-742 BC)

Jotham (742-735 BC)

Ahaz (735-715 BC)
Hezekiah (715-687 BC)
Manasseh (687-642 BC)
Amon (642-640 BC)
Josiah (640-609 BC)
Jehoahaz (609 BC)
Jehoiakim (609-598 BC)

Jehoiachin (598 BC)
Zedekiah (597-587 BC)

Divided Kingship "Scorecard"

<i>Israel...</i>	<i>Judah...</i>
20 kings	19 kings, 1 queen
9 ruling dynasties (or families)	2 ruling dynasties (or families)
7 assassinations	5 assassinations
1 suicide	2 "stricken by God"
1 "stricken by God"	3 exiled to foreign lands
All judged "evil" by the Kings historian	8 judged "good" by the Kings historian

Baal (of the Canaanites) vs. Elijah and Elisha (of Yahweh)

Baal, as storm-god, controls the rains.

Elijah commands drought (1 Kings 17:1).

Baal ensures agricultural fertility and bountiful harvests.

Israel experiences famine and drought, yet Elijah and Elisha provide grain and oil miraculously (2 Kings 4:1 – 7, 42 – 44).

Baal controls lightning and fire.

Elijah commands fire from heaven in the name of Yahweh (1 Kings 18:38; 2 Kings 1:10 – 12; 2:11).

Baal controls life and death.

Elijah and Elisha heal and raise the dead in the name of Yahweh (1 Kings 17:7 – 24; 2 Kings 4:8 – 37; 5:1 – 20).

Parallels according to L. Bronner, *The Stories of Elijah and Elisha* (Leiden: Brill, 1968), 50 – 85.