

## **Kings and Prophets of the Old Testament**

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### **THE UNITED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL**

**HISTORY: 1 & 2 SAMUEL; 1 KINGS 1-11; Also 1 CHRONICLES 1- 29, 2 CHRONICLES 1-9**

Poetry: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon

### **THE DIVIDED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom)**

**HISTORY: 1 KINGS 11-22; 2 Kings 1-17; Also 2 CHRONICLES 10-28**

Prophets: Ahijah, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Amos, Hosea

### **THE DIVIDED KINGDOM OF JUDAH (Southern Kingdom)**

**HISTORY: 1 KINGS 11-22; 2 Kings 1-25; Also 2 CHRONICLES 10-36**

Prophets: Obadiah, Joel, Micah, Isaiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Lamentations

### **THE BABYLONIAN EXILE AND RETURN TO JERUSALEM**

**HISTORY: EZRA, NEHEMIAH, ESTHER**

Prophets: Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

## THE UNITED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

**HISTORY: 1 & 2 SAMUEL; 1 KINGS 1-11; Also 1 CHRONICLES 1- 29, 2 CHRONICLES 1-9**

Poetry: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon

1. Samuel, the prophet, 1075-1009 BC (1 Samuel 1-25)
  - Samuel was the last judge and first prophet of Israel. He anointed Saul as Israel's first king. Later he told Saul that the throne would be taken away from him and his family.
2. **King Saul**, 1050-1010 BC (1 Samuel 8-31)
  - Saul was united Israel's first king. He had a heart of selfishness. He hated David and tried to kill him many times. God rejected him as king of Israel.
3. **King David**, 1010-970 BC (1 Samuel 16 – 1 Kings 2; 1 Chronicles 10-29)
  - David was Israel's greatest king. He was anointed at a young age to be the future king. He killed the giant Goliath with a sling. When he became king, he united the nation. He had an affair with Bathsheba and killed her husband to cover it up. Still, he had a heart for God. David wrote approximately half of the **PSALMS**.
4. Nathan, the prophet (2 Samuel 7 – 1 Kings 2; 1 Chronicles 10-29)
  - Nathan was the prophet of Israel during the reign of David. He advised David and confronted him on several occasions.
5. **King Solomon**, 970-930 BC (1 Kings 2-11; 2 Chronicles 1-9)
  - Solomon was united Israel's last king. Solomon wrote **PROVERBS**, a collection of wisdom. Solomon wrote **ECCLESIASTES**, a reflection on life from an older perspective. Solomon wrote **SONG OF SONGS**, a view of romantic love and godly love.

## THE DIVIDED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom)

### **HISTORY: 1 KINGS 11-22; 2 Kings 1-17; Also 2 CHRONICLES 10-28**

Prophets: Ahijah, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Amos, Hosea

1. **Jeroboam I, King of Israel**, 930-909 BC (1 Kings 11-14; 2 Chronicles 10-13)
  - Jeroboam I was the first king of divided Israel, with the capital in Shechem. He was evil and established false religion that kings after him followed.
2. **Ahijah, prophet of Israel**, 934-909 BC (1 Kings 11)
  - Ahijah warned Jeroboam I to remain obedient to God.
3. **Nadab, King of Israel**, 909-908 BC (1 Kings 15)
  - Nadab was Jeroboam's son. He did evil and was assassinated by Baasha.
4. **Baasha, King of Israel**, 908-886 BC (1 Kings 15-16; 2 Chronicles 16)
  - Baasha killed Nadab and all of Jeroboam's family. He did evil. He led the people into idol worship.
5. **Elah, King of Israel**, 886-885 BC (1 Kings 16)
  - Elah was Baasha's son. He was assassinated by Zimri.
6. **Zimri, King of Israel**, 885 BC (1 Kings 16)
  - Zimri killed Elah and all of Baasha's family. He reigned only 7 days.
7. **Tibni, King of Israel**, 885-880 BC (1 Kings 16)
  - Tibni ruled alongside Omri in a power struggle. Omri won.
8. **Omri, King of Israel**, 885-874 BC (1 Kings 16)
  - Omri built the capital city of Samaria. He did much evil.
9. **Ahab, King of Israel**, 874-853 BC (1 Kings 16-22; 2 Chronicles 18)
  - Ahab was a very evil king. He married Jezebel and led the people to worship Baal. Ahab and Jezebel hated the prophet Elijah.

11. **Elijah, prophet of Israel**, 875-848 BC (1 Kings 17 – 2 Kings 2)

- Elijah urged Ahab to turn away from idols and turn back to God. He had an encounter with the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel.

12. **Ahaziah, King of Israel**, 853-852 BC (1 Kings 22; 2 Kings 1; 2 Chronicles 20)

- Ahaziah tried to establish trade with the southern kingdom of Judah. He was Ahab's son. He did evil and worshiped Baal.

13. **Elisha, prophet of Israel**, 848-797 BC (2 Kings 1-13)

- Elisha was the successor to Elijah as prophet of Israel. He was the prophet during the reigns of Joram, Jehu, Jehoahaz, and the beginning of the reign of Jehoash. He did many miracles.

14. **Joram, King of Israel**, 852-841 BC (2 Kings 3-8; 2 Chronicles 22)

- Joram was the son of Ahab and did evil. He saw war and famine during most of his reign.

15. **Jehu, King of Israel**, 841-814 BC (2 Kings 9-10; 2 Chronicles 22)

- Jehu killed Joram, Jezebel, and Ahaziah (the king of Judah). He destroyed the priests and temples of Baal. But he didn't follow God consistently.

16. **Jehoahaz, King of Israel**, 814-798 BC (2 Kings 13)

- Jehoahaz was Jehu's son. He worshiped Asherah and did evil.

17. **Jehoash, King of Israel**, 798-782 BC (2 Kings 13-14; 2 Chronicles 25)

- Jehoash was the son of Jehoahaz. He saw Elisha as a prophet, but did evil.

18. **Jeroboam II, King of Israel**, 793-753 BC (2 Kings 14)

- Jeroboam II was the son of Jehoash and his reign overlapped with his father's. He was powerful, bringing peace, prosperity and expanded boundaries to Israel. But he did evil and led the people into idolatry.

20. Jonah, prophet of Israel, 793-753? BC (2 Kings 14, Book of **JONAH**)

- Jonah was a prophet during the reign of Jeroboam II. Jonah fled from God and was swallowed by a fish. He then warned the hated Assyrians to repent.

21. Amos, prophet of Israel, 760-750 BC (Book of **AMOS**)

- Amos warned the Israelites not to ignore and exploit the needy.

22. **Zechariah, King of Israel**, 753 BC, for six months (2 Kings 15)

- Zechariah was Jeroboam's son. He did evil and was assassinated by Shallum.

23. **Shallum, King of Israel**, 753 BC, for one month (2 Kings 15)

- Shallum ruled only one month. He was assassinated by Menahem.

24. Hosea, prophet of Israel, 753-715 BC (Book of **HOSEA**)

- Hosea was a prophet during the reigns of Israel's last four kings. He married a prostitute as a symbol of Israel's unfaithfulness to God.

25. **Menahem, King of Israel**, 752-742 BC (2 Kings 15)

- Menahem killed Shallum and did evil. He taxed Israel heavily to pay tribute to the king of Assyria.

26. **Pekahiah, King of Israel**, 742-740 BC (2 Kings 15)

- Pekahiah was Menahem's son. He did evil and was assassinated by one of his officers, Pekah.

27. **Pekah, King of Israel**, 740-732 BC (2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 28)

- Pekah did evil. He lost much of Israel's territory and people to Assyria. He was assassinated by Hoshea.

28. **Hoshea, King of Israel**, 732-722 BC (2 Kings 15-17)

- Hoshea was the last king of the northern kingdom of Israel. Assyria conquered Israel and deported many of the people. Assyria resettled Samaria with people from other nations.

## THE DIVIDED KINGDOM OF JUDAH (Southern Kingdom)

### **HISTORY: 1 KINGS 11-22; 2 Kings 1-25; Also 2 CHRONICLES 10-36**

Prophets: Obadiah, Joel, Micah, Isaiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Lamentations

1. **Rehoboam, King of Judah**, 930-913 BC (1 Kings 11-14; 2 Chronicles 9-12)
  - Rehoboam was the son of Solomon and the first king of the divided southern kingdom of Judah. He strengthened Judah and paid tribute to Egypt. He followed God three years, then set up idols and shrines to false gods.
2. **Abijah, King of Judah**, 913-910 BC (1 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 13-14)
  - Abijah was the son of Rehoboam. He did evil like his father.
3. **Asa, King of Judah**, 910-869 BC (1 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 14-16)
  - Asa was the son of Abijah. He did right. He destroyed the pagan altars and rebuilt the altar of God. He was greatly loved by the people. During his reign, there were foreign victories and domestic peace.
4. **Jehoshaphat, King of Judah**, 872-848 BC (1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 17-21)
  - Jehoshaphat was the son of Asa. He did right. He destroyed idols and worshiped God. During his reign, the military, education, and courts were strong.
5. **Jehoram, King of Judah**, 848-841 BC (1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 21)
  - Jehoram was the son of Jehoshaphat. He did evil. He died of a bowel disease to no one's regret. He was also known as Joram.
6. **Ahaziah, King of Judah**, 841 BC (2 Kings 8-9; 2 Chronicles 22)
  - Ahaziah was the son of Jehoram and Athaliah. He did evil. He was a friend of Joram, king of Israel in the north, which led to his death.
7. **Athaliah, Queen of Judah**, 841-835 BC (2 Kings 11; 2 Chronicles 22-23)
  - Athaliah was the mother of Ahaziah. She murdered her own grandchildren to keep power. Joash was her only grandson who was hidden from her. She was killed by Jehoiada the priest.

8. Obadiah, prophet of Judah, 855-840? BC (Book of **OBADIAH**)
  - Obadiah prophesied that God would judge Edom for taking advantage of the people of Judah. This book was possibly written much later during the time of Jeremiah.
  
9. **Joash, King of Judah, 835-796 BC (2 Kings 11-12; 2 Chronicles 22-24)**
  - Joash became king at age seven when Athaliah was killed. He did right. He destroyed the altars of Baal and repaired the altar of God. Later in his life, he abandoned God. He was also known as Jehoash.
  
10. Joel, prophet of Judah, 835-796? BC (Book of **JOEL**)
  - Joel warned the people of Judah to turn back to God.
  
11. **Amaziah, King of Judah, 796-767 BC (2 Kings 14; 2 Chronicles 25)**
  - Amaziah was the son of Joash. He did right when he was young, but failed to completely destroy idol worship. During his reign the military of Judah was strong.
  
12. **Uzziah (Azariah), King of Judah, 792-740 BC (2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 26)**
  - Uzziah was the son of Amaziah, and his reign overlapped with his father's. He did right. During his reign, Judah's military and agriculture were strong.
  
13. **Jotham, King of Judah, 750-732 BC (2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 27)**
  - Jotham was the son of Uzziah, and his reign overlapped with his father's. He did right. He rebuilt the temple and built towns, forts, and towers.
  
14. Micah, prophet of Judah, 742-687 BC (Book of **MICAH**)
  - Micah was a prophet during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. He prophesied the fall of both the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah as God's discipline for His people.
  
15. Isaiah, prophet of Judah, 740-681 BC (Book of **ISAIAH**)
  - Isaiah was a prophet during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, and Manasseh. He called the people to return to God, and prophesied that God's judgment would come through other nations.

17. **Ahaz, King of Judah**, 735-715 BC (2 Kings 16; 2 Chronicles 28)

- Ahaz was the son of Jotham, and his reign overlapped with his father's. He did evil. He nailed shut the doors of the temple. He sacrificed his own son to false gods.

18. **Hezekiah, King of Judah**, 715-686 BC (2 Kings 18-20; 2 Chronicles 29-32)

- Hezekiah was the son of Ahaz. He did right. He was a devoted follower of God. He restored temple worship and destroyed idol worship.

19. **Manasseh, King of Judah**, 697-642 BC (2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33)

- Manasseh was the son of Hezekiah. He did evil. He encouraged pagan shrines, idol worship, and sorcery. He murdered many of his own people and sacrificed one of his own sons. He was taken into captivity by the Assyrians, then repented.

20. **Nahum, prophet of Judah**, 663-654 BC (Book of **NAHUM**)

- Nahum was a prophet during the reign of Manasseh. He prophesied that oppressive Assyria would soon be defeated.

21. **Amon, King of Judah**, 642-640 BC (2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33)

- Amon was the son of Manasseh. He did evil. He worshiped and offered sacrifices to idols. He was assassinated by his officials.

22. **Josiah, King of Judah**, 640-609 BC (2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chronicles 34-35)

- Josiah was the son of Amon. He began his reign when he was eight. He did right. He was a devoted follower of God. He restored temple worship and found the lost scroll of the Law. He destroyed idol worship and was greatly loved by his people. He was killed in battle with Egypt.

23. **Zephaniah, prophet of Judah**, 640-621 BC (Book of **ZEPHANIAH**)

- Zephaniah was a prophet during the reign of Josiah. He prophesied that God would judge all nations, then show mercy to His people.

24. **Habakkuk, prophet of Judah**, 612-589 BC (Book of **HABAKKUK**)

- Habakkuk was a prophet during the reign of Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah. He wondered why wickedness went unpunished. Then he realized that faith in God is the answer.



26. Jeremiah, prophet of Judah, 627-586 BC (Book of **JEREMIAH**)

- Jeremiah was a prophet during the reign of Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah right up to the time when the southern kingdom of Judah was conquered by Babylon. He prophesied that if the people repented, God's judgment through Babylon would be delayed.
- Jeremiah also wrote **LAMENTATIONS**, as he wept for the suffering that came for disobedience.

27. **Jehoahaz, King of Judah**, 609 BC, for 3 months (2 Kings 23; 2 Chronicles 36)

- Jehoahaz was the son of Josiah. He was deposed by King Neco and carried off to Egypt only three months into his reign. Neco made his brother king.

28. **Jehoiakim, King of Judah**, 609-598 BC (2 Kings 23-24; 2 Chronicles 36)

- Jehoiakim was the brother of Jehoahaz. He was a puppet king of Judah for King Neco of Egypt. He did evil. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacked Jerusalem, stole articles from the temple, and took Jehoiakim away to Babylon.

29. **Jehoiachin, King of Judah**, 598 BC, for 3 months (2 Kings 24; 2 Chronicles 36)

- Jehoiachin was the son of Jehoiakim. He did evil. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon stole more articles from the temple and took Jehoiachin away in the second exile to Babylon.

30. **Zedekiah, King of Judah**, 597-586 BC (2 Kings 24-25; 2 Chronicles 36)

- Zedekiah was the uncle of Jehoiachin. He did evil. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon destroyed Jerusalem, burned the temple, broke down the wall, killed many people, tortured Zedekiah, and took many others as servants to Babylon. This was the end of the southern kingdom of Judah.

## THE BABYLONIAN EXILE AND RETURN TO JERUSALEM

### HISTORY: EZRA, NEHEMIAH, ESTHER

Prophets: Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

1. Ezekiel, prophet of Israel in Exile, 593-571 BC (Book of **EZEKIEL**)
  - Ezekiel was a prophet during the time when Judah was destroyed and people were taken as captives to Babylon. Ezekiel was among the exiles deported to Babylon. He warned about God's judgment before the fall of Jerusalem. Then he challenged people to return to God and follow Him.
2. Daniel, prophet of Israel in Exile, 605-536 BC (Book of **DANIEL**)
  - Daniel was a prophet during the time when Judah was destroyed and people were taken as captives to Babylon. Daniel was among the exiles deported to Babylon. He described God's power in both near and distant future events.
3. **Zerubbabel, Returned to Rebuild Temple**, 538-516 BC (Ezra 1-6)
  - Zerubbabel was a Jew living in captivity when Babylon was overthrown by Persia. He was sent by Persian King Cyrus with the first remnant of 50,000 people to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. It took twenty years to complete after many delays.
4. Haggai, prophet of Israel in Jerusalem, 520 BC (Book of **HAGGAI**)
  - Haggai was a prophet during the time when the first remnant returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. He encouraged the people to complete the task.
5. Zechariah, prophet of Israel in Jerusalem, 520-480 BC (Book of **ZECHARIAH**)
  - Zechariah was a prophet during the time when the first remnant returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. He encouraged the people to complete the temple and prophesied about the future Messiah.

7. **Esther, Rescuer of Israel in Exile**, 479-474 BC (Esther 1-10)
  - Esther was a Jew living in exile who became the queen of Persia. She interceded for her people with the king, rescuing them from genocide.
  
8. **Ezra, Returned to Rebuild Spiritual Lives**, 458 BC (Ezra 7-10)
  - Ezra was sent by Persian King Artaxerxes with the second remnant of 2,000 men and their families to confront spiritual disobedience and establish temple worship in Jerusalem.
  
9. **Nehemiah, Returned to Rebuild the Wall**, 445-432 BC (Nehemiah 1-13)
  - Nehemiah was sent by Persian King Artaxerxes with the third remnant to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem.
  
10. **Malachi, prophet of Israel in Jerusalem**, 430 BC (Book of **MALACHI**)
  - Malachi is the last writing of the Old Testament. He was a prophet who told people of blessings for following God and judgments for not following God.