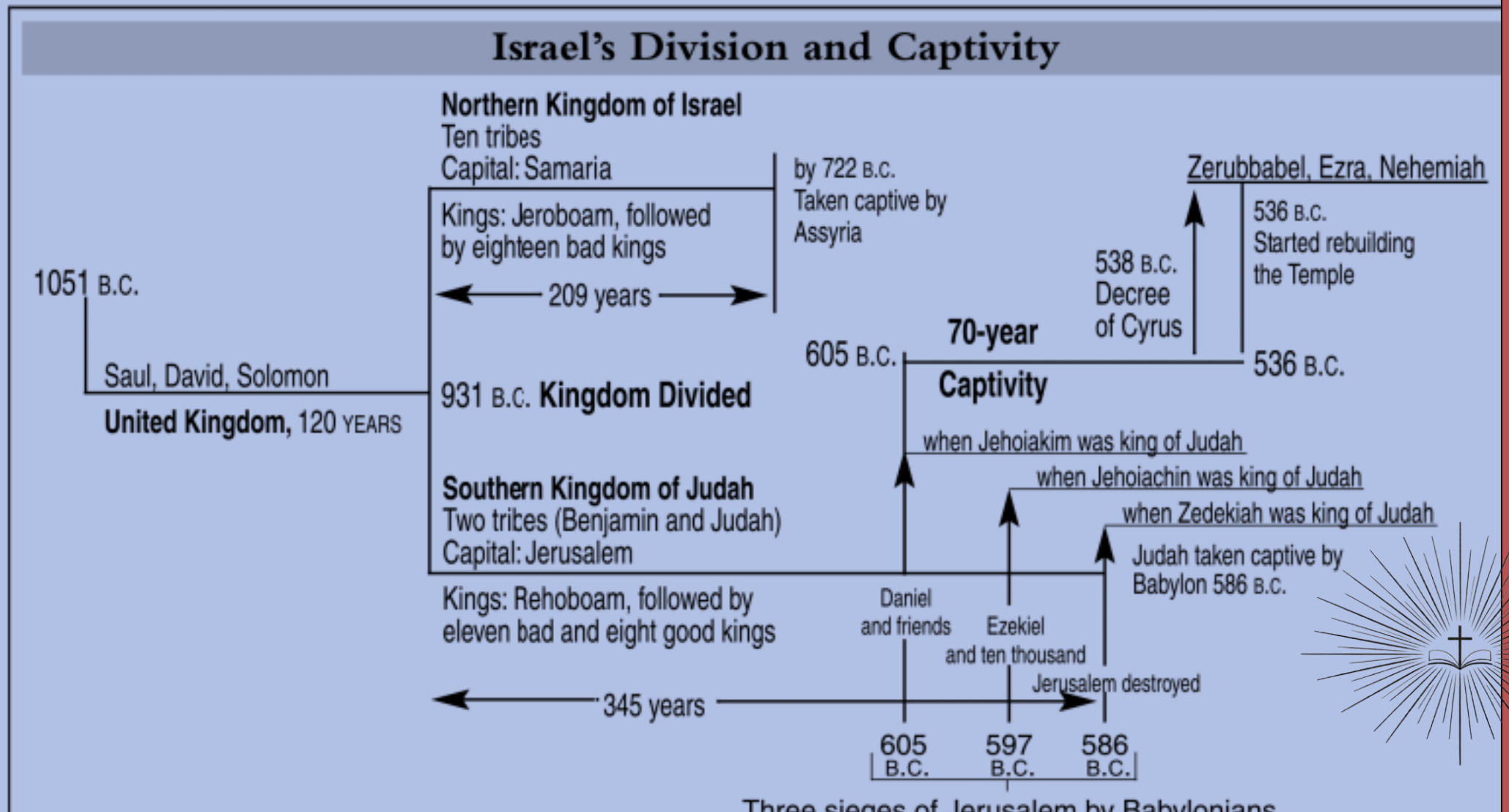


“Oh Lord, thou art my God; I will exalt thee; I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.” - Isaiah 25:1

Israel's Divided Kingdom



From False Security to the True Cornerstone: A Study in Isaiah 28–31

FOUNDATION

Isaiah 28 — Jesus Our Cornerstone

WARNING

Isaiah 29 — All Talk but No Walk

PROMISE

Isaiah 30–31 — God is Waiting for You

Rebellion, Judgment, and Divine Discipline

Historical Context (c. 732 BC)

Northern Kingdom (Ephraim): Prideful Samaria facing Assyrian judgment due to rebellion.

Southern Kingdom (Judah): False sense of security while brothers got spanked.

Prophetic Warning: Isaiah warns Judah: *"Your turn is coming."*

Purpose of Discipline

God's love will never allow us to stay on a reckless, destructive path.

"No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on... it produces a harvest of righteousness." — Heb 12:11

Isaiah 28:16 — Prophecy of the Cornerstone – 1 Peter 2:4-6



Tested Stone
Tried through betrayal & cross — faithful to God's purpose without retaliation.

Precious Cornerstone
Rare (virgin birth), perfect quality (sinless), inestimable worth (no equal).

Sure Foundation
The alignment stone for all of life; prevents structure collapse.

Is Jesus the Cornerstone or Just Another Brick?

"Remove a brick, the wall remains. Remove the cornerstone, everything crumbles."



Marriage & Dating

Honoring Christ in shared values and purity.



Work & Business

Integrity, strong ethic, going the extra mile.



Finances

Tithing, stewardship, freedom from debt.



Media & Mind

Feeds and thought life captive to Christ.

Isaiah 29:13 — All Talk but No Walk



"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

— Isaiah 29:13 / Quoted in Mark 7:6

Greek Definition: *Hupokrites* — A play-actor hiding behind a mask. External ritual over heart relationship.

Evaluating the Sin of Hypocrisy

1

Toward Self

Saying one thing and doing another (e.g., Peter separating from Gentiles in Galatians 2).

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2

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Overjudging others while blind to the plank in our own eye (Matthew 7:1–5 order & purpose).

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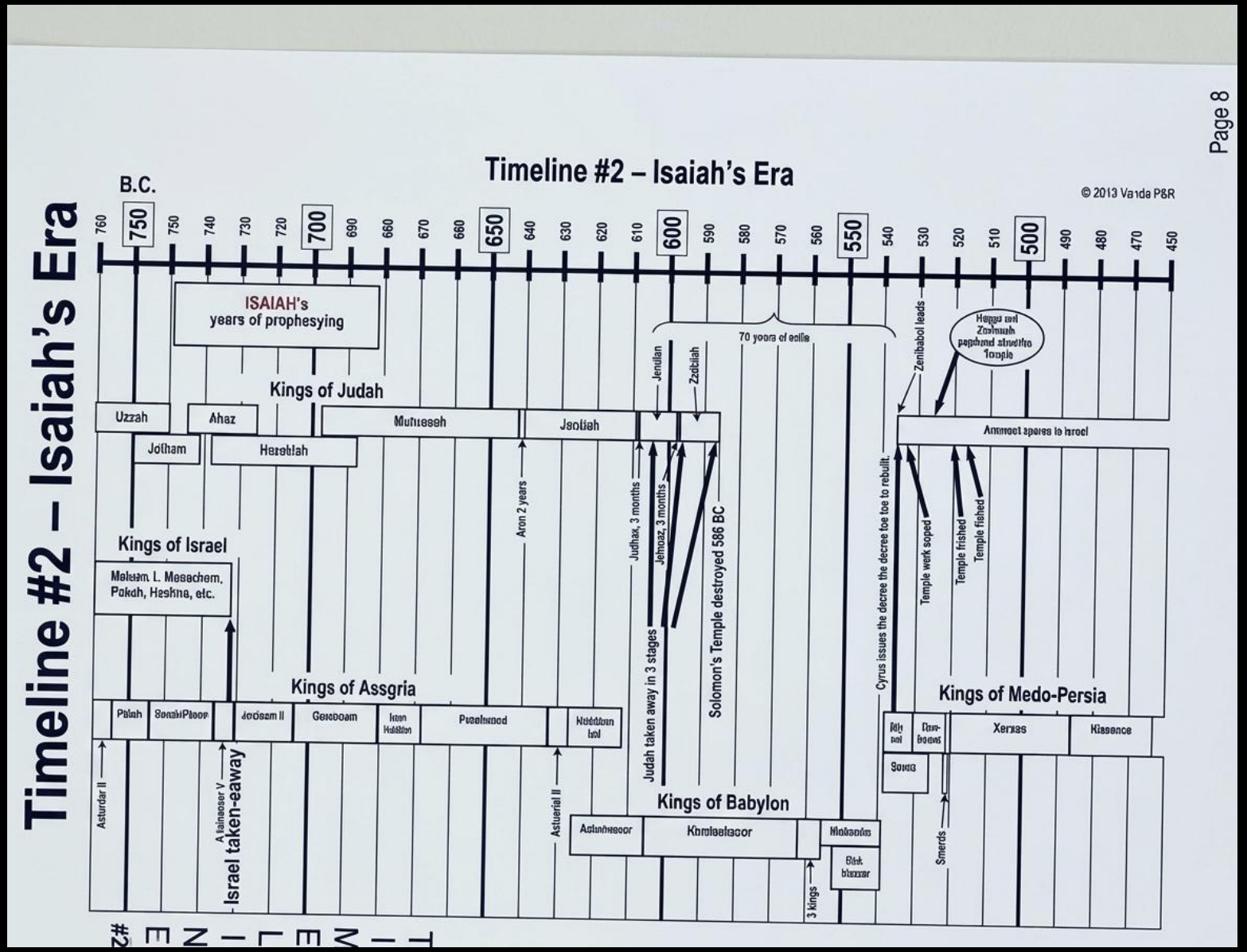
Overjudging others while blind to the plank in our own eye (Matthew 7:1–5 order & purpose).

3

Toward God

Going through motions without emotion; lip service without wholehearted devotion.

- Isaiah's Era


Timeline #2 – Isaiah's Era
B.C.
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ISAIAH's years of prophesying
Kings of Judah
Uzzah
Jotham
Ahaz
Hezekiah
Manasseh
Josiah
Jehoiakim
Zedekiah
Kings of Israel
Menahem, Pekah, Hoshea, etc.
Kings of Assyria
Kings of Babylon
Kings of Medo-Persia
Xerxes
Esther
Israel taken away
Judah taken away in 3 stages
Solomon's Temple destroyed 586 BC
70 years of exile
Cyrus issues the decree the decree toe toe to rebuilt.
Zerubbabel leads
Temple work soped
Temple finished
Temple fished
Smerds
3 kings

Isaiah 30–31: Turning to Egypt Instead of God



Folly of False Security

Sought Egypt for chariots instead of God. Egypt proved *"utterly useless"* (Isa 30:7).

Exhausting Our Own Means

Stripped $35–40M in temple gold to appease Assyria — human compromise failed completely.

The Divine Pattern

God removes false supports underneath us until we rely on Him as deliverer.

Isaiah 30:18 — The Eager Heart of God

"Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion."

When we reach the end of ourselves, God does not shame us or say, *"I told you so."* He simply says: **"I've been waiting for you."**

CONCLUSION

Aligning Our Lives to the Cornerstone

"Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart..."

— Psalm 86:11

1. EXAMINE
Is Jesus foundational or peripheral?

2. REPENT
Turn away from pretense and human security.

3. RECEIVE
Rest in His gracious, open-armed compassion.