

# Kings of Judah and Israel

Summary and Main Themes



## BACKGROUND

History and Stats



## DECREE

Decree Given to the Kings by God



## HEART

Desire to obey God's will / decree



## SINS

Failures in following the decree

# God's Plan for Ruling Israel

## Common Types of Government

<b>Monarchy</b>	Rule by one person – king/queen
<b>Oligarchy</b>	Rule by a few - elite
<b>Fascism</b>	Rule through values - cultural
<b>Communism</b>	Rule of the state on behalf of the people
<b>Socialism</b>	Rule of the state to achieve equity for the people
<b>Democracy</b>	Rule of the people
<b>Republic</b>	Indirect rule of the people through representatives

## God's Plan for Israel – Theocracy

### Exodus 19:4-6

**4** 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and **brought you to Myself**.

**5** Now then, if you will indeed **obey My voice and keep My covenant**, then you shall be **My own possession** among all the peoples, for **all the earth is Mine**;

**6** and you shall be **to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation**.'...

### Isaiah 44:6

**6** "Thus says the Lord, **the King of Israel** and his **Redeemer**, the **Lord of hosts**: 'I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me.'

# Reasons for Kings

## The People Wanted It

### 1 Samuel 8:4-5, 20

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah;

5 and they said to him, “Behold, you have grown old, and **your sons do not walk in your ways**. Now appoint a king for us **to judge us like all the nations**.”

20 that we also may **be like all the nations**, that our king may judge us and **fight our battles**.”

## God Allowed It

### 1 Samuel 8:7

7 The Lord said to Samuel, “**Listen to the voice of the people** in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but **they have rejected Me from being king over them**.”

## God Planned for It

### Deuteronomy 17:14-15

14 “**When you enter that land** which the Lord your God gives you, and you possess it and live in it, and you say, ‘I will set a king over me like all the nations who are around me,’

15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the **Lord your God chooses**...

# Time Period

1050

About 450 years

550

**United  
Israel**  
(1040-930)

**Judah (Rehoboam to Zedekiah)**

About 350 years (930-580)

**Israel (Jeroboam to Hoshea)**

About 200 years (930-720)

- ❖ Saul
- ❖ David
- ❖ Ishbosheth
- ❖ Solomon

## Notable Prophets

**During Kings**

Elijah | Elisha | Obadiah | Joel | Jonah | Amos | Hosea | Isaiah | Micah | Nahum | Zephaniah | Jeremiah | Habakkuk

**After Kings**

Daniel | Ezekiel | Zechariah | Haggai | Malachi

# Why United Israel Split

## Solomon's Disobedience

### 1 Kings 11:9-13

**9** Now the Lord was angry with Solomon because **his heart was turned away from the Lord**, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice

**10** and had commanded him concerning this thing, that **he should not go after other gods**; but he did not observe what the Lord had commanded.

**11** So the Lord said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and **you have not kept My covenant and My statutes**, which I have commanded you, I will surely **tear the kingdom from you**, and will give it to your servant

**12** Nevertheless I will not do it in your days for the sake of your father David, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son.

**13** However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but **I will give one tribe to your son** for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen."

He went after other gods  
AND  
Did not keep God's covenant and statutes

Judah given to Rehoboam  
Other tribes given to Jeroboam

# Kings of the Divided Kingdom

Judah	Years
Rehoboam	17
Abijam (Abijah)	3
Asa	41
Jehoshaphat	25
Joram (Jehoram)	8
Ahaziah (Jehoahaz)	1
Athaliah	7
Joash (Jehoash)	40
Amaziah	29
Uzziah (Azariah)	52
Jotham	16
Ahaz	16
Hezekiah	29
Manasseh	55
Amon	2
Josiah	31
Jehoahaz	1 3 months
Jehoiakim	11
Jehoiachin	1 3 months
Zedekiah	11

<1 YEAR

DYNASTY

GOOD

VERY BAD

To Jesus  
Matthew 1:12

Israel	Years
Jeroboam	22
Nadab	2
Baasha	24
Elah	2
Zimri	1 7 days
Tibni	3
Omri	11
Ahab	22
Ahaziah	2
Joram (Jehoram)	12
Jehu	28
Jehoahaz	17
Joash (Jehoash)	16
Jeroboam II	41
Zechariah	1 6 months
Shallum	1 1 month
Menahem	10
Pekahiah	2
Pekah	20
Hoshea	10

# Books of the Kings

1 SAMUEL

Saul | David's Early Years

2 SAMUEL

Ishbosheth | David

1 KINGS

Solomon | Kings of Judah | Kings of Israel

2 KINGS

Kings of Judah | Kings of Israel

1 CHRONICLES

Saul (limited) | David

2 CHRONICLES

Solomon | Kings of Judah



# God's Decree to the Kings

Deuteronomy 17:18-20

Deuteronomy 17:16-17

Write the law

Read the law

Obey the law

Do's Don'ts

Multiply horses

Multiply wives

Multiply wealth

D  
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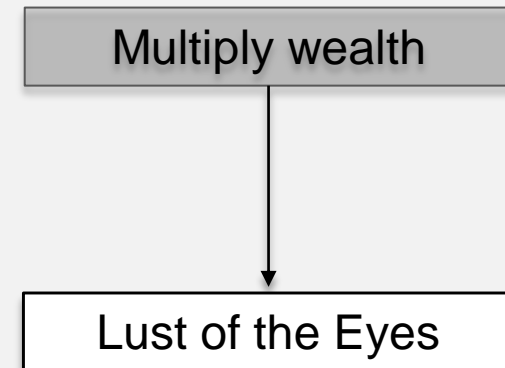
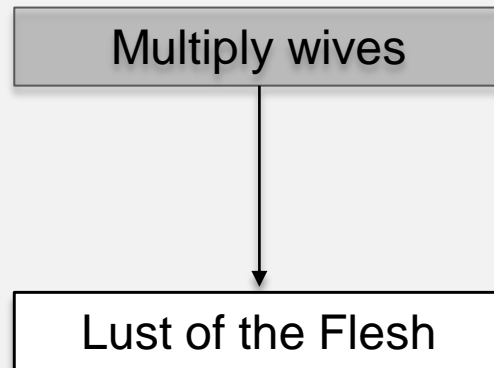
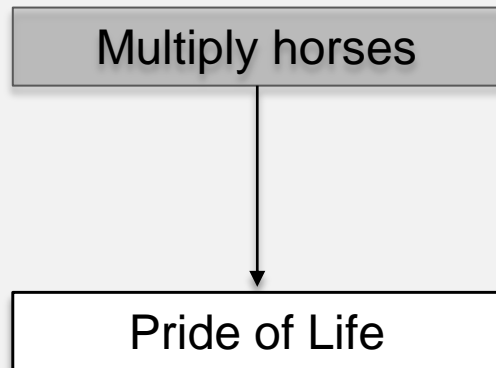
# Don'ts

## Multiply Horses | Wives | Wealth

Deuteronomy 17:16-17

16 Moreover, he shall not **multiply horses** for himself, nor shall he cause the people to return to Egypt to **multiply horses**, since the Lord has said to you, 'You shall never again return that way.'

17 He shall not **multiply wives** for himself, or else his heart will turn away; nor shall he **greatly increase silver and gold** for himself



# Don'ts – Common Theme Through Time

## From Creation

### Genesis 3:3-4, 6

3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or **you will die.**' ”

4 The serpent said to the woman, “**You surely will not die!**”

6 When the woman saw that the tree was **good for food**, and that it was a **delight to the eyes**, and that the tree was **desirable to make one wise**, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.



## To Now

### 1 John 2:15-17

15 Do not love the **world** nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the **world**, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the **world**, the **lust of the flesh** and the **lust of the eyes** and the **boastful pride of life**, **is not from the Father**, but is from the world.

17 The **world is passing away**, and also its lusts; but the **one who does the will of God lives forever.**

Good for food

Lust of the Flesh

Delight to the eyes

Lust of the Eyes

Desirable to make wise

Pride of Life

World vs God

Temporary vs Eternal

# Do's

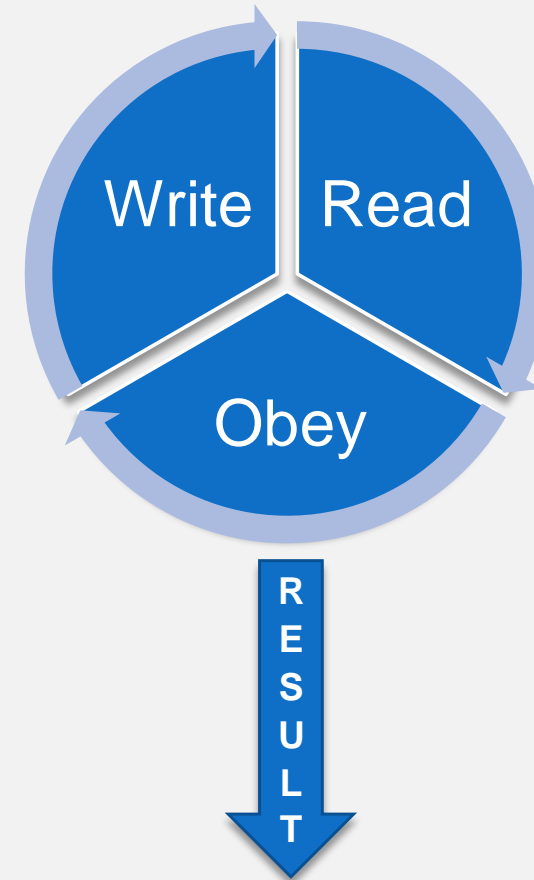
## Write the Law | Read the Law | Obey the Law

### Deuteronomy 17:18-20

**18** “Now it shall come about when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall **write for himself a copy of this law** on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests.

**19** It shall be with him and he shall **read it all the days of his life**, that he may **learn to fear the Lord his God**, by carefully **observing all the words of this law and these statutes**,

**20** that **his heart may not be lifted up** above his countrymen and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, to the right or the left, so that **he and his sons may continue long** in his kingdom in the midst of Israel



Learn to fear God

Have a heart dedicated to God

Blessings from God

# Do's – Psalm 119

## Blessings from God

**1** How **blessed** are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

**2** How **blessed** are those who observe His testimonies, who seek Him with all their heart.

**18** Open my eyes, that I may **behold wonderful things** from Your law.

**24** Your testimonies also are my **delight**; They are my counselors.

**28** My soul weeps because of grief; **strengthen** me according to Your word.

**40** Behold, I long for Your precepts; **revive** me through Your righteousness.

**98** Your commandments make me **wiser** than my enemies, for they are ever mine.

**165** Those who love Your law have **great peace**, and nothing causes them to stumble.

## Learn to fear God

**9** How can a young man keep his way **pure**? By keeping it according to Your word.

**15** I will meditate on Your precepts and **regard Your ways**.

**21** **You rebuke** the arrogant, the cursed, who wander from Your commandments.

**38** Establish Your word to Your servant, as that which produces **reverence** for You.

**59** I considered my ways and **turned** my feet to Your testimonies.

**74** May those who fear You see me and be glad, because I **wait** for Your word.

**80** May my heart be **blameless** in Your statutes, so that I will not be ashamed.

**120** My flesh **trembles** for fear of You, and I am afraid of Your judgments.

## Have a heart dedicated to God

**10** With all my heart I have **sought** You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments.

**11** Your word I have **treasured** in my heart, That I may not sin against You.

**36** **Incline** my heart to Your testimonies and not to dishonest gain.

**58** I have **sought** Your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to Your word.

**69** The arrogant have forged a lie against me; with all my heart I will **observe** your precepts.

**97** O how I **love** Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

**112** I have **inclined** my heart to perform Your statutes; forever, even to the end.

**129** Your testimonies are **wonderful**; therefore my soul observes them.

# Evidences of a Heart Dedicated to God

Doing  
His Will

Matthew 6:21 “for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Truly desiring to do what He wants

Whole-  
heartedly

Without any  
reservations  
and fully  
satisfied

With  
Humility

Complete  
dependence  
on God

Trusting  
Him

Being directed  
and guided by  
God by  
clinging to  
Him

Seeking  
Him

Desiring to  
know,  
understand,  
and discern  
His ways

# David, A Man After God's Own Heart

## Following God's Commands / Will

### 1 Samuel 13:14

14 ...The Lord has sought out for Himself a **man after His own heart**, and the Lord has appointed him as ruler over His people, because **you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.**"

### Acts 13:22

22 After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, **a man after My heart, who will do all My will.**'

### 1 Kings 15:5

5 because David did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and **had not turned aside from anything that He commanded him** all the days of his life, **except in the case of Uriah the Hittite.**

### Psalms 139:23-24

23 Search me, O God, and **know my heart; try me** and know my anxious thoughts;

24 And see if there be any hurtful way in me, and **lead me in the everlasting way.**

- ❖ Obeying what God has commanded / doing His will
- ❖ Does not mean perfection – but still requires repentance
- ❖ Striving to do everything that God wants – not just the things that come easy
- ❖ Asking God to show you where you are not walking in His ways

# Doing His Will Wholeheartedly

Without any reservations and fully satisfied

## Abijam – 1 Kings 15:3

3 He walked in all the sins of his father which he had committed before him; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God, like the heart of his father David.



Not a Conflicted Heart

## Asa – 2 Chronicles 15:15

15 All Judah rejoiced concerning the oath, for they had sworn with their whole heart...



Joyful Heart

## Jehoshaphat – 2 Chronicles 17:6

6 He took great pride in the ways of the Lord...



Satisfied Heart

## Josiah – 2 Kings 23:25

25 Before him there was no king like him who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; nor did any like him arise after him.



Fully Committed Heart

H  
E  
A  
R  
T



# Doing His Will With Humility

## Complete dependence on God

### Josiah – 2 Kings 22:19

19 because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have torn your clothes and wept before Me, I truly have heard you,” declares the Lord.



Tender Heart

### Zedekiah – 2 Chronicles 36:12-13

12 He did evil in the sight of the Lord his God: he did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet who spoke for the Lord.

13 He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar who had made him swear allegiance by God. But he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the Lord God of Israel.



Versus  
Hardened Heart

### Uzziah – 2 Chronicles 26:16

16 But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the Lord his God, for he entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense.



Versus  
Proud Heart

# Doing His Will by Trusting Him

Being directed and guided by God by clinging to Him

## Hezekiah – 2 Kings 18:5-6

5 He **trusted in the Lord**, the God of Israel; so that after him there was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among those who were before him.

6 For he **clung to the Lord**; he **did not depart from following Him**, but kept his commandments, which the Lord had commanded Moses.



Clung to the Lord

## Ahaziah – 2 Kings 1:16

16 Then he said to him, “Thus says the Lord, ‘Because you have sent messengers to **inquire Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron** – is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? – therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.’”



Trusted in other gods

# Doing His Will by Seeking Him

Desiring to know, understand, and discern His ways

## Jehoshaphat – 2 Chronicles 19:3

3 ...you have set your heart to seek God

## Josiah – 2 Kings 22:11-13

11 When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.

12 Then the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Achbor the son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant saying,

13 Go, inquire of the Lord for me and the people and all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of the Lord that burns against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.”

## Josiah – 2 Chronicles 35:22

22 However, Josiah would not turn away from him, but disguised himself in order to make war with him; nor did he listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, but came to make war on the plain of Megiddo.

# Why Judah and Israel Failed and Were Exiled

Rehoboam

2 Chronicles 12:14

14 He did evil because he did not set his heart to seek the Lord.

- His kingship
- His law / commands
- His prophets
- Unbelief

Rejected God

Sold Themselves

- Feared other gods
- Followed vanity
- Followed other nations

- Idol worship
- Child sacrifice
- Occult Practices

Resulting Sins

# Reasons for the Exile

Rejected God | Sold Themselves | Resulting Sins

## 2 Kings 17:7-14

**7** Now this came about because **the sons of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God**, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and they had feared other gods

**8** and walked in the customs of the nations whom the Lord had driven out before the sons of Israel, and in the customs of the kings of Israel which they had introduced.

**9** The sons of Israel did things secretly which were not right against the Lord their God. Moreover, they built for themselves high places in all their towns, from watchtower to fortified city.

**10** They set for themselves sacred pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree,

**11** and there they burned incense on all the high places as the nations did which the Lord has carried away to exile before them; and they did evil things provoking the Lord.

**12** They served idols, concerning which the Lord had said to them, “You shall not do this thing.”

**13** Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, “Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets.”

**14** However, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck like their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God.

# Reasons for the Exile

Rejected God | Sold Themselves | Resulting Sins

## 2 Kings 17:15-22

15 They rejected His statutes and His covenant which He made with their fathers and His warnings with which He warned them. And they followed vanity and became vain, and went after the nations which surrounded them, concerning which the Lord had commanded them not to do like them.

16 They forsook all the commandments of the Lord their God and made for themselves molten images, even two calves, and made an Asherah and worshipped all the host of heaven and served Baal.

17 Then they made their sons and their daughters pass through the fire, and practiced divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking Him.

18 So the Lord was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight; none was left except the tribe of Judah.

19 Also Judah did not keep the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the customs which Israel had introduced.

20 The Lord rejected all the descendants of Israel and afflicted them and gave them into the hand of plunderers, until He had cast them out of His sight.

21 When He had torn Israel from the house of David, they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king. Then Jeroboam drove Israel away from following the Lord and made them commit a great sin.

22 The sons of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them

# Jeroboam's Great Sin Continued

King of Israel	Reference to Jeroboam's Sin	
Nadab	1 Kings 15:26	"...walked in the way of his father and in his sin which he made Israel sin."
Baasha	1 Kings 16:2	"...you have walked in the way of Jeroboam and have made My people Israel sin..."
Zimri	1 Kings 16:19	"...walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he did, making Israel sin."
Omri	1 Kings 16:26	"...he walked in all the way of Jeroboam...and in his sins which he made Israel sin."
Ahab	1 Kings 16:31	"...a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam..."
Ahaziah	1 Kings 22:52	"...walked in the way of his father...his mother and in the way of Jeroboam..."
Joram	2 Kings 3:3	"...he clung to the sins of Jeroboam...which he made Israel sin..."
Jehu	2 Kings 10:31	"...he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, which he made Israel sin."
Jehoahaz	2 Kings 13:2	"...followed the sins of Jeroboam...with which he made Israel sin;..."
Joash	2 Kings 13:11	"...did not turn away from all the sins of Jeroboam...but walked in them."
Jeroboam 2	2 Kings 14:24	"...did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam...which he made Israel sin."
Zechariah	2 Kings 15:9	"...did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam...which he made Israel sin."
Menahem	2 Kings 15:18	"...did not depart all his days from the sins of Jeroboam...which he made Israel sin."
Pekahiah	2 Kings 15:24	"...did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam...which he made Israel sin."
Pekah	2 Kings 15:28	"...did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam...which he made Israel sin."

# Jeroboam's Great Sin

## Drove Israel away from following God through false worship

### 1 Kings 12:26-33

**26** Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the kingdom will return to the house of David.

**27** If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, then **the heart of this people will return to their lord**, even to Rehoboam king of Judah."

**28** So the king consulted, and made two golden calves, and he said to them, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem; **behold your gods, O Israel, that brought you up from the land of Egypt.**"

**29** He set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan.

**30** Now **this thing became a sin, for the people went up to worship** before the one as far as Dan.

**31** And **he made houses on high places**, and **made priests from among all the people** who were not of the sons of Levi.

**32** Jeroboam instituted a **feast in the 8<sup>th</sup> month on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, like the feast which was in Judah**, and **he went up to the altar**; thus he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves **which he had made**. And he stationed in Bethel the priests of the high places **which he had made**.

**33** Then he went up to the altar **which he had made** in Bethel on the 15<sup>th</sup> day in the 8<sup>th</sup> month, even **in the month which he had devised in his own heart**; and he instituted a feast for the sons of Israel and went up to the altar to burn incense.

Did not trust God's promise through Ahijah the prophet

Made the true God to be two gods in the form of calves

Jeroboam devised how God should be worshipped

- ❖ Wrong Place
- ❖ Wrong People
- ❖ Wrong Time