

I. Authorship

- Originally 1 and 2 Kings were one book. Jeremiah is the author according to Talmudic tradition **or** it is at least someone who lived at the end of the Kingdom of Judah, who had a prophetic voice, and who had access to the several historical documents which would have covered the 'book of the acts of Solomon' (1 Kings 11:41); the 'book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel' (2 Kings 1:18) and the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah' (2 Kings 12:19)
- It was written before the Babylonian Captivity, except for the last 2 chapters. Those were written by someone else after the Babylonian Captivity.
- Think of the amazing providence for the author to have access to all these documents and for these stories to have been preserved. Ponder how this 'history' fits in with the warnings that God gave earlier as the Jewish people were brought out of a different land of idolatry (Egypt). Contemplate how it fits in with the warnings issued later to the Jewish people and to us about the dangers of idolatry.

II. Overview

Divided Kingdom

- Israel and Judah
- Ahaziah to Hoshea
- Israel Deported to Assyria
- 131 years (853-722 BC)

Surviving Kingdom

- Judah
- Hezekiah to Zedekiah
- Judah Deported to Babylon
- 155 years (715-560 BC)

III. Timeline of Kings, Prophets, and Scripture (see chart)

- Helpful for seeing who could be influencing whom.
- Helpful for understanding who was speaking to whom for God.
- Helpful to see how this history fits with Books of the Bible that we are still to discuss.
 - Overlapping histories

IV. Turnover in leadership—Kings Come and Go

Part of what we are building is Historic literacy so context is important.

Bad influence of their kings:

For Israel, its kings varied in what evil they did, but all were caught up and wouldn't get free from the sin of Jeroboam. (details lower in notes).

For Judah, Its Bad kings usually had some familial relationship with Israel. (Wife, Mother, Grandmother/Grandfather)

With a few exceptions the *whole book can be summed up in* summary discussing last king of Israel Hoshea, 2 Kings 17:13-19

Good influence of their kings:

Hezekiah

- Removed high places of idolatry. 18:4
- Trusted the Lord 18:5
- Sought Godly Counsel in time of peril 18:17-19:20

Jehu

- 'Come see my zeal for the Lord' 10:16
- 'Thus Jehu eradicated Baal out of Israel' 10:28
- The sin of Jeroboam was ultimately based on NOT worshiping God the way he had instructed them in the law, specifically related to the temple. 1 Kings 12:26-31
- Jehu was not careful to walk in the ways of the law of the Lord, the God of Israel, with all his heart.' -2 Kings 10: 29-31

V. Heart Issues

Focus on the good qualities God saw fit to highlight in people of various social standing in the midst of Kings Coming and Going:

Hezekiah

Attentive proclaimer

Elijah, Elisha, and other unnamed prophets

Prophecy proclaimed but not always personally delivered or seen. 1 Kings 19:16; 2 Kings 9:1-10

Attentively listened to God and spoke as directed by God and were often ignored by their audience.

Confident Expecter

2 Kings 4:1-7

'He is a rewarder to those who earnestly seek him.' -Hebrews 11:6

'Therefore the Lord longs to be gracious to you, and therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him.' Isaiah 30:18

Persistent Giver

Shunammite Woman- example of Generosity, Faithfulness, and Persistence -2 Kings 4: 8-37

'Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.' -2 Corinthians 9:7

'For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.' - 2 Corinthians 8:12

'Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.' - Proverbs 11:25

Genuine Believer

Naaman's wife's servant—child-like faith, love for master -2 Kings 5:1-18

'Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.' -Hebrews 11:6

'...for the Lord is not restrained to save by many or by few.' -1 Samuel 14:6

'...for the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.' -2 Chronicles 16:9

'First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.....' 1 Timothy 2:1-6

Divided Kingdom									
Judah					Israel				
Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture	Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture
931 - 913	Rehoboam (Son)	Evil / Evil	Shemaiah	1 Ki 12, 14 2 Ch 10-12	931 - 910	Jeroboam I (servant)	Evil / Evil	Ahijah	1 Ki 12-14 2 Ch 10
913 - 911	Abijah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15 2 Ch 13	910 - 909	Nadab (son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15
911 - 870	Asa (Son)	Good/Good	Hanani	1 Ki 15 2 Ch 14-16	909 - 886	Baasha	Evil / Evil	Jehu	1 Ki 16
					886 - 885	Elah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 16
					885	Zimri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Micaiah	1 Ki 16
885 - 874	Omri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Elijah 1 Ki 17-19 1 Ki 21 2 Ki 1-2	1 Ki 16					
874 - 853	Ahab (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 17 2 Ch 18					
870 - 848	Jehoshaphat (Son)	Good/Good		1 Ki 22 2 Ch 17-20	853 - 852	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 22 2 Ki 1
848 - 841	Jehoram (Son)	Evil / Evil	Obadiah(?)	2 Ki 8 2 Ch 21	852 - 841	Joram (Son of Ahab)	Evil / Evil	Elisha 1 Ki 19 2 Ki 2-9 2 Ki 13	2 Ki 3
841	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 8-9 2 Ch 22	841 - 814	Jehu (Captain)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 9-10
841 - 835	Athaliah (mother)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 11 2 Ch 22-23					
835 - 796	Joash (son of Ahaziah)	Good / Evil	Joel	2 Ki 11-12 2 Ch 23-24	814 - 798	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13
796 - 767	Amaziah (son)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 14 2 Ch 25	798 - 782	Jehoash (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13-14
767 - 740	Uzziah aka Azariah (Son)	Good/Evil	Isaiah Micah	2 Ki 15 2 Ch 26	782 - 753	Jeroboam II (Son)	Evil / Evil	Amos Hosea (2 Kings 14:25; Jonah 1:1) Micah	2 Ki 14
					753 - 752	Zechariah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					752	Shallum	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					752 - 742	Menahem	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					742 - 740	Pekahiah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
748 - 732	Jotham (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 15 2 Ch 27	732 - 722 (sole)	Pekah (Captain)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
732 - 716	Ahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 16 2 Ch 28 Is 7	732 - 722	Hoshea	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 17
716 - 687	Hezekiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 18-20 2 Ch 29-32 Is 36-39	Israel into Assyrian captivity - 722 BC				
687 - 642	Manasseh (Son)	Evil / Good		2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33	Nahum Daniel				
642 - 640	Amon (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33					
640 - 608	Josiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 22-23 2 Ch 34-35					
608	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 23 2 Ch 36					
608 - 597	Jehoiakim (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil	Habakkuk Zephaniah Jeremiah Ezekiel (Lamentations)	2 Ki 23-24 2 Ch 36					
597	Jehoiachin (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36					
597 - 586	Zedekiah (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36					
Judah into Babylonian captivity - 586 BC									
586-450			Jeremiah Haggai Zechariah Malachi						