

DIVIDED KINGDOM I

JUDAH: REHOBOAM – AHAZIAH

ISRAEL: JEROBOAM - JEHORAM

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Available at www.godlymatters.com

Introduction

This lesson series will survey the first part of the period known as the divided kingdom. It will be impossible to study every event of each lesson in detail but an effective survey relating the Bible story and important applications will enhance our understanding of God's relationship to His Old Covenant people, Israel. We also can appreciate the "goodness and the severity of God" (Romans 11:22).

Suggested Resources to Enhance Your Study

- Good translation of the Bible that is easy for you to read. I would suggest the English Standard Version, Holman Christian Standard Bible, New King James, American Standard, or New American Standard Version. The New International Version would be good for reference as well, however, in my opinion, there are some passages in the scripture that are not translated well by this version.
- Bible Atlas
- Bible Dictionary
- Bible Encyclopedia (for the history of places and nations)
- Bible Concordance (to find verses using specific words)
- Synoptic Harmony of Samuel, Kings and Chronicles

Lesson 1

Text 1 Kings 12; 2 Chronicles 10 – 11

Synopsis After the death of Solomon, the people came to Rehoboam requesting a reduction in their burdens. After a foolish decision, the northern ten tribes of Israel rebelled against Rehoboam and appointed Jeroboam as their king. To solidify the northern kingdom, now known as Israel, Jeroboam developed a new way to worship God.

Est. Date 931-910 B.C.

Questions

1. When the people came to ask for relief from their burdens, with whom did Rehoboam seek counsel? To whom did he listen?
2. **Discussion:** Why do you think Rehoboam was so harsh with them?
3. Why did Judah not fight against Israel to stop the rebellion?
4. Name at least four things that Jeroboam changed in worship.
5. What two groups of people came from Israel to live in Judah after the rebellion?
6. Be ready to identify the locations of the cities mentioned in 2 Chronicles 11:5-10.

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 2

Text 1 Kings 13-14; 2 Chronicles 12

Synopsis God, displeased with the worship introduced by Jeroboam, sent prophets to condemn him. A young prophet sent to condemn Jeroboam met his death when he disobeyed God.

Est. Date 931-910 B.C.

Questions

1. What was the message of the young prophet? What would be the sign of his message?
2. What killed the young prophet? Whose fault was it?
3. Where did the prophet Ahijah first appear? What was his message to Jeroboam this time?
4. What sins did Judah commit? How did God punish them?
5. Be able to identify on a map the territory of the enemies of Judah. What success did Shishak have?
6. How long did Rehoboam reign? Who took his place?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 3

Text 1 Kings 15:1-12; 2 Chronicles 13:1-22

Synopsis Abijah, also known as Abijam, began to rule after his father Rehoboam died. Abijah was wicked like his father, but God did not wipe out his lineage for the sake of David. During his reign, Abijah's fought against Jeroboam, the king of Israel.

Est. Date 913-911 B.C.

Questions

1. How long did Abijah reign over Judah? Describe his heart.
2. How many people were in the armies of Abijah and Jeroboam?
3. Where did Israel and Judah fight? Be ready to identify it on a map.
4. What was wrong with Abijah's retelling of Jeroboam's rebellion against Rehoboam?
5. What was correct about Abijah's message to Jeroboam?
6. How did Israel attack Judah? Whom did God defeat? Be ready to identify on a map the places mentioned in 2 Chronicles 13:19.

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 4

Text 1 Kings 15:9-24; 2 Chronicles 14:1-16:14

Synopsis After Abijah died, his son Asa reigned. Asa was a good king at first. However, towards the latter part of his life he did not depend on the Lord and suffered greatly. When he was obedient to God, Asa put away idols and commanded the people to seek the Lord. When he became faithless, he made foolish decisions and remained stubborn despite the chastening of God.

Est. Date 911-870B.C.

Questions

1. What reforms did Asa make?
2. What were the size of the armies of Asa and Zerah? How did Asa show His faith during this battle? What was the result?
3. What was Azariah's message? How did Asa respond?
4. What did Asa do when Baasha made war with him? What should he have done?
5. What was the message of Hanani? What was the response to his message?
6. What physical ailment plagued Asa? Where did he not seek help?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 5

Text 1 Kings 15:25-16:28

Synopsis After the death of Jeroboam, his son Nadab became the king. During this violent period, most of the kings of Israel were killed in rebellions. The kings, who had low moral character, led the people further into wickedness. In the final part of this lesson, the house of Omri, which would include notorious names like Ahab and Jezebel, was established.

Est. Date 910-870 B.C.

Questions

1. Why did God destroy the house of Jeroboam? Who killed him?
2. What prophecy was made against Baasha? Who fulfilled this prophecy?
3. What was Elah doing when he died? What can we learn from this?
4. How did Zimri die? Whom did the people follow then?
5. Describe Omri's moral character. What city did he buy? Be able to identify it on a map.
6. What evil things did Ahab do to provoke the Lord? Find the prophecy referenced in 1 Kings 16:34.

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 6

Text 1 Kings 16:29-19:18

Synopsis Even during the most wicked times in Israel there were those who served God. Elijah, one of the greatest characters in the Bible, began to prophesy during the reign of Ahab. Although Elijah boldly defended the Lord, he still had personal struggles. This lesson contains the great contest between Elijah and God against Baal and his followers.

Est. Date 874-853 B.C.

Questions

1. Where did Elijah come from? Be able to identify it on a map.
2. What event caused Elijah to live by the brook Cherith? How did God care for him there?
3. How did God take care of Elijah in Zarephath? What two things did he do for a widow? Be able to identify Zarephath on a map.
4. Who was Obadiah? What did he do for the Lord? What had Ahab done to find Elijah?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

5. Whom does Ahab blame for the troubles in Israel? Whom should he blame? Why?
6. Find Mount Carmel on a map. Describe the event that took place there. Contrast the methods and results of Elijah and the prophets of Baal.

Lesson 7

Text 1 Kings 19:19-21:29

Synopsis King Ahab had several struggles with Ben-hadad, the king of Syria. Despite Ahab's wickedness, God gave victory to Ahab. However, Ahab dealt foolishly with Ben-hadad and a prophet of God rebuked him. Ahab, influenced by his evil wife Jezebel, conspired to get Naboth's vineyard. God saw their evil and promised retribution for their treachery.

Est. Date 874 – 853 B.C.

Questions

1. Whom did God appoint to replace Elijah?
2. What do you think response of Ahab in 1 Kings 20:11 means?
3. How did the servants Ben-hadad account for Israel's success in battle? What did they propose?
4. How were the armies of the Israelites and Syrians compared in the second battle? What was the result?
5. What happened to Ahab as he returned from the battle?
6. What happened to Naboth? Why? What was the punishment for this wickedness?
7. How was the evil of Ahab described in 1 Kings 21

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 8

Text 1 Kings 22:1-40; 2 Chronicles 17:1-18:34

Synopsis King Jehoshaphat did many great things to guide Judah towards God. He also made some foolish alliances that were detrimental to him and ultimately to Judah. God was with Jehoshaphat and gave him success in battle. It is one of the brighter parts of Judah's history for there is a king who would serve God.

Est. Date 873 - 853 B.C.

Questions

1. What things did Jehoshaphat do to lead Judah spiritually? What poor decisions did he make?
2. With whom did Ahab want to fight? Why?
3. Why did Ahab not like Micaiah? How can people be like that today?
4. How did the messenger want Micaiah to prophesy? What was Micaiah's first message?
5. What was Micaiah's true prophecy? How did Zedekiah react? How as Micaiah treated?
6. How did Ahab try to escape the prophecy of Micaiah? Did it work?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 9

Text 1 Kings 22:41-50; 2 Chronicles 19:1-21:1

Synopsis Jehoshaphat made additional reforms in Judah, but the people did not set their hearts to serve the Lord completely. There was some hope when the people humbled themselves before God who defeated a host of enemies that came against them. God was displeased with Jehoshaphat's alliance with Ahab. The evil influence would influence him and his children.

Est. Date 853 – 848B.C.

Questions

1. What command did Jehoshaphat give the judges?
2. Who came to fight Jehoshaphat? How did Jehoshaphat react?
3. What was the prayer of Jehoshaphat?
4. What was Jahaziel's message? Why did Jahaziel tell the people to "believe in the Lord your God and his prophets?"
5. What was the result of the battle?
6. How did God punish Jehoshaphat for his alliance with Ahab's house?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 10

Text 1 Kings 22:51-2 Kings 3:27

Synopsis Ahaziah and Jehoram, the next two kings of Israel, followed the evil example of Ahab. They were faithless men who listened to false prophets instead of the living God. However, God still showed His great power over man and nations by helping Israel.

During the divided kingdom, the office of the prophet became more prominent. However, some of the prophets suffered greatly for the truth. As Israel and Judah departed further from God, the message of repentance preached by the prophets became stronger.

Est. Date 853 - 835B.C.

Questions

1. What god did Ahaziah seek when he was sick? Whom did his messengers speak to? What was the message for Ahaziah?
2. What was the description of the appearance of Elijah (2 Kings 1:8)? What New Testament character appears this way (Matthew 3)? Why is this significant?
3. What happened when Elijah tried to leave Elisha behind? How many times did this happen?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

4. What was the message of the prophets to Elisha? What was his response? Why did Elisha want to see Elijah depart?
5. How did Elisha answer the messengers of Jehoram?
6. How did the battle with the Moabites end?

Lesson 11

Text 2 Kings 4:1-6:7

Synopsis In this lesson, we read of the interaction between Elisha and the people of the land and even foreigners. God cared for others through the work of Elisha. In this story, God rewards a foreign woman for helping Elisha. The great miracles of Elijah were similar to the miracles of Moses and Jesus.

Est. Date 840 – 742 B.C.

Questions

1. How did God take care of a widow of one of the prophets? Was it by the grace of God? Did she still have to do something?
2. Who showed hospitality to Elisha in Shunem? What things did she do to show hospitality to him? What did Elisha do for her?
3. What good things were said about Naaman? What was his problem?
4. What was the initial reaction of the king of Israel? Why do you think he reacts this way? Why does Elisha tell him to let Naaman come?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

5. Did Elisha come out to see Naaman? What was Naaman expecting? What made him obey?
6. What happened to Gehazi? Why?

Lesson 12

Text 2 Kings 6:8-8:15

Synopsis Although Elisha helped Naaman, the Syrian, there was no peace between Syria and Israel. Once again, the two nations were at war. Elisha had been helping Israel and frustrating the king of Syria. Through Elisha's intervention, Syria left Israel alone for a time. Eventually Syria came back against Israel but Israel would not seek God. Elisha taught the king to respect both God and His prophets.

Est. Date 853 – 841 B.C.

Questions

1. What did the king of Syria suspect about his army? What was the truth?

2. What happened to the Syrian army when they came to Elisha? Where were they led? Who led them?

3. Why was there a famine in Samaria? How bad did it get?

4. What was Elisha prophesy to the king? Who doubted him? How was the prophecy fulfilled?

5. Why was the property of the Shunammite woman restored?

6. What is the meaning of the prophecy in 2 Kings 8:10? What would Hazael do to Israel?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>

Lesson 13

Text 2 Kings 8:16-29; 2 Chronicles 21:1-22:6

Synopsis Jehoram, or Joram, began to reign in Judah and behaved very wickedly. Because of his sins, the enemies of Judah had success in battle against him. He also suffered personally for his wickedness and when he died no one missed him. His son, Ahaziah, influenced by the house of Ahab, was also wicked. This is the last lesson in the Divided Kingdom I series.

Est. Date 852 - 841B.C.

Questions

1. How did Jehoram treat his family when he ascended to the throne?
2. Why did God not destroy Jehoram? Why is the promise important?
3. What nations rebelled against Judah? Be able to identify them on a map.
4. What did Elisha prophesy against Jehoram? How was he treated when he died?
5. What is the connection between Genesis 27:40 and 2 Chronicles 21:10?
6. What was the spiritual condition of Ahaziah? What was his family relationship to the kings of Israel? How did they influence him?

Judah	Israel
Rehoboam	Jeroboam I
Abijah	<u>Nadab</u>
Asa	Baasha
Jehoshaphat	<u>Elah</u>
Jehoram	Zimri
Ahaziah	<u>Tibni</u>
Athaliah	Omri
Joash	Ahab
Amaziah	Ahaziah
Azariah	<u>Jehoram</u>
Jotham	Jehu
Ahaz	Jehoahaz
Hezekiah	Jehoash
Manasseh	Jeroboam II
Amon	<u>Zechariah</u>
Josiah	<u>Shallum</u>
Jehoahaz	Menahem
Jehoiakim	<u>Pekahiah</u>
Jehoiachin	<u>Pekah</u>
Zedekiah	<u>Hoshea</u>