

## OT Term2: Week 8

The Divided Kingdoms of Judah and Israel, including the time of the prophets, Elijah and Elisha.

1 Kings 12-22, 2 Kings 1-10, 2 Chronicles 10-22:9, Psalms 82,83

REHOBOAM, son of Solomon (931-913) of Judah.

1 Kings 12:1-24

1 At an assembly at Shechem to appoint him king the people, with Jeroboam just returned from Egypt, asked for a lighter load. Contrary to the advice of the elders and following that of his younger peers, he instead increased their dues.

16 The ten tribes of Israel rebelled; they stoned Adoram, the overseer of forced labour, and Rehoboam fled to Jerusalem.

21 Judah and Benjamin stayed with him. They prepared to fight Israel to bring them back to loyalty behind the house of David but through Shemaiah, the prophet, God prevented it, sending the troops home. // 2 Chronicles 11:1-4.

2 Chronicles 11:5-23

5 Rehoboam fortified the towns on the east, west and south of his kingdom, thought to be particularly as defence against the Egyptian attacks.

13 The priests and Levites in Israel moved to Judah because of Jeroboam's religious practices.

18 His family; he, like Solomon had a large harem.

1 Kings 14:21-31

1 Rehoboam was 41 years old when he became king and he reigned for 17 years in Jerusalem. His rule was marked by turning from God; building of high places, sacred stones, Asherah poles and male prostitution - practices detestable to God.

25 In the fifth year of his reign, Shishak, king of Egypt, invaded Judah and Jerusalem, carrying away temple treasures.

2 Chronicles 12:1-15 makes clear through Shemaiah, the prophet that this happened because of their disobedience to the Lord.

There was continuous war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam.

JEROBOAM, son of Nebat (931-910) I Dynasty of Israel.

1 Kings 12:20

20 The assembly of Israel made him king at Shechem after they rebelled against Rehoboam.

1 Kings 12:25-33

25 He established Shechem as his capital; later he moved to Penuel.

26 For political reasons, he set up his own religious system.

Fearing the unifying effect of worship in Jerusalem, he established two centers of worship in Israel - one in Dan and the other in Bethel, centered on two golden calves. He made high places, set up his own priesthood, and instituted festivals. He also burnt incense and offered sacrifices.

1 Kings 13:1-34

1 As a result of his idolatry, a man of God from Judah warned Jeroboam of impending disaster. His word was tested by another prophet who, after the man from Judah was killed by a lion for disobeying God and eating in Israel, declared it to be true.

33 Jeroboam, however, continued to appoint priests. This constituted the "sin of Jeroboam" and caused the downfall of his house.

1 Kings 14: 1-20

1 In Shiloh, Ahijah prophesied to Jeroboam's wife disaster against Jeroboam and his house because of his idolatry. His son died as prophesied.

19 He reigned for 22 years.

ABIJAH of Judah, son of Rehoboam (913-911)

1 Kings 15:1-7

1 He reigned 3 years

3 He continued the religious traditions of his father, his heart was not devoted to the Lord, but for the sake of his forefather, David, the Lord gave him a son as successor and strengthened Jerusalem.

7 The war with Israel continued.

2 Chronicles 13:1-22 gives more detail of his war with Jeroboam.

13 Abijah prepared his men for the battle and spoke to Jeroboam and the Israelite army of their idolatry.

13 Judah won the battle, capturing several Israelite towns and weakening Jeroboam. He became powerful and had a large family.

ASA, son of Abijah (911-870) of Judah

1 Kings 15:9-14

9 He reigned 41 years.

11 He loved the Lord and cleaned out the idolatry, except for the high places.

2 Chronicles 14:1-15

1 he had peace for 10 years

2 He called the people back to worship the Lord, fortified cities and built up the army of men from Judah and Benjamin.

9 He battled against Zerah, the Ethiopian and because of his appeal to God, won decisively.

2 Chronicles 15:1-19.

1 Encouraged by Azariah's words, Asa completes his reforms, removing idols restoring the altar of the Lord and calling the assembled people to covenant with the Lord.

16 He removed his mother from position of influence and cut down her idol.

18 He placed the dedicated things in the temple. Many defected from Israel to him.

19 There was peace until his 35th year.

2 Chronicles 16:1-14 // 1 Kings 15:16-24

1 Baasha of Israel started to fortify Raamah (5 miles north of Jerusalem on the main central highway) to safeguard the Israel border with Judah.

2 Asa made a treaty with Benhadad of Damascus, king of Aram and so rebuffed Baasha. Benhadad [i.e son of (the god) - Hadad] took several northern Israel towns.

7 When Hanani, a seer, rebuked him for the treaty with Aram and for not trusting the Lord, Asa imprisoned him.

12 His feet were diseased, in his last year.

14 When he died, he had a sumptuous funeral.

NADAB, son of Jeroboam (910-909) Of Israel

1 Kings 15: 25-31.

25 He reigned 2 years

26 He continued in the practices of this father.

27 He was assassinated by Baasha, an Issacharite, during a battle against the Philistines at Gibbethon. Baasha also killed all of Jeroboam's family. ( compare 1 Kings 14:10-11)

BAASHA, son of Ahijah (909-886) II Dynasty of Israel.

1 Kings 15:27 - 16:7

27 He came to power through assassination.

33 He reigned 24 years with his capital at Tirzah.

32 There was war with Asa throughout his reign.

34 He sinned as Jeroboam had.

16:1 Jehu, son of Hanani, predicted a similar fall for him and his household as that of Jeroboam.

In trying to penetrate Judah, he lost territory to Aram. (1 Kings 15:16-22)

ELAH, son of Baasha (886-885)

1 Kings 16:8-14

8 Ruled from Tirzah for two years.

19 He was assassinated by Zimri in the capital while carousing. Zimri wiped out all the family of Baasha.

ZIMRI (885) III Dynasty of Israel.

1 Kings 16:9-20

9 Commander of chariots in the army, came to power by assassination;

15 When challenged by Omri, commander of the army and his supporters, who proclaimed him as king he committed suicide by burning down the palace at Tirzah over him. He reigned 7 days.

CIVIL WAR IN ISRAEL

1 Kings 16:21-22

aged for 4 years between followers of Omri and those of Tibni. Omri defeated Tibni and became king. Tibni died.

OMRI (885-874) IV Dynasty of Israel

1 Kings 16:23-27

23. Reigned 12 years, 6 at Tirzah.

24. He built Samaria as his capital; he was evil before the Lord.

[The Bible is fairly silent about this great king. Assyrian records and the archaeological excavations have shown much of his greatness. His accession marked the start of a new era of power and strength. His choice of Samaria as capital was strategic, for it was well watered, set on an oblong hill, with steep access on all sides and surrounded by mountains. Lines of communication were good and the trade routes came from the northern fords of Jordan to the coast. Over the next century and a half, Samaria withstood several sieges by well organized armies, showing the wisdom of Omri's choice.

He also extended his control over Transjordan by imposing tribute over the land of Moab which had been independent since David conquered it.

He renewed Solomon's policy of alliance with Phoenicia, confirming it by the marriage of his son Ahab to Jezebel, the daughter of the Phoenician priest-king Ethbaal, which was to prove a disaster religiously.]

AHAB, son of Omri (874-853) of Israel

1 Kings 16:29-34

29. Reigned 22 years in Samaria.

30. His ways were evil.

31. He married Jezebel of Phoenicia, allowing her to worship Baal and even erecting an altar and a house to Baal in the capital, Samaria and making Asherah, symbols of a fertility rite; thus provoking the anger of the Lord for his wickedness.

[Jezebel had a strong influence on Israel and was determined to replace the worship of YHWH with that of Baal, organising a large group of prophets, erecting a new shrine at Samaria and persecuting the prophets of YHWH and the shrines associated with His worship.]

34. Hiel, the Bethelite rebuilt Jericho at the cost of two of his sons' lives.

1 Kings 17:1-24

1. After Elijah, the Tishbite, prophesied drought for three years against Ahab, the Lord sent him to the brook of Cherith, where he is fed by ravens.

8. When the water dried up, he was sent to the widow at Zarephath and miraculously multiplied her flour and oil.

17. He raised her son from death.

1 Kings 18:1-46

1. At the height of the famine, when Elijah sent to Ahab, met the God fearing Obadiah, who brought Ahab to him.

20. They arranged a contest on Mount Carmel between Elijah and the 450 prophets of Baal to see which God will answer by fire and thus prove to be the true God.

25. The prophets of Baal failed. At the request of Elijah, the fire of the Lord

came down and consumed the offering and the altar. The people acknowledged the true God and the Baal prophets were slain.

41. Elijah promised Ahab rain; it came; they went to Jezreel.

1 Kings 19:1-21

1 Threatened by Jezebel, Elijah fled to Beersheba and then to the wilderness where, in his despair, he was comforted by an angel.

9 He went to Mount Horeb where he heard the gentle sound of God. The Lord told him to anoint Hazael of Damascus, Jehu of Israel and Elisha as prophet who will be instruments for killing all but the 7000 who had not bowed to Baal.

19 On the way to Damascus, he found Elisha who followed him.

1 Kings 20:1-43

1. Benhadad of Aram (Syria) and his allies besieged Samaria and demanded tribute but it was so overwhelming that the elders and Ahab, encouraged by a prophet's direction, decided to fight. They won but Benhadad escaped.

22 The prophet warned Ahab of the return of the Arameans in the coming year. Benhadad and the replenished Aramean army invaded a second time, choosing to fight in valleys instead of the mountains, this time in the Yarmuk valley near Aphek but were again defeated. Ahab made a treaty with Benhadad, forcing him to grant Israel rights of commerce and to return disputed lands and then allowed him to go away.

35. A prophet rebuked Ahab for his leniency with Benhadad which would cost him his life and Israel's slaughter.

1 Kings 21:1-29

1 Ahab coveted his neighbour, Naboth's vineyard in Jezreel, but Naboth refused to sell or exchange it. Jezebel arranged for him to be killed and for Ahab to have the land.

17 Elijah denounced his sin, speaking of God's judgment against Ahab and Jezebel.

27 Ahab repented so God deferred the judgment to his son's day.

1 Kings 22 // 2 Chronicles 18:2-34

1 Three years without war with Aram.

2 In alliance with Jehoshaphat of Judah, Ahab of Israel decided to retake Ramoth-gilead from Aram.

5 The prophets favoured the kings' plan. Micaiah, a true prophet, understood their prophecies to be from a deceiving spirit, sent to entice Ahab to his death for he foresaw defeat. At that, Ahab imprisoned him.

29 The two kings of Israel and Judah went to battle at Ramoth-gilead. Ahab was shot by a random arrow, even though he had disguised himself. He died and was buried in Samaria. The dogs licked up his blood. (1 Kings 21:19)

Azariah succeeded him.

Q[ Ramoth-gilead and the northern part of Transjordan remained in Aramean hands.]

JEHOSHAPHAT ,son of Asa, (870-848) king of Judah.

1 Kings 22:41-50

41 He built on the heritage of his father. He became king when 35 years old, reigned 25 years in Jerusalem.

43 He followed the Lord; like Asa, he did not remove the high places. He did remove the male prostitutes from the land.

44 He made peace with Israel.

48 He made a fleet of ships to go to Ophir but they were wrecked at Ezion-geber.

2 Chronicles 17:1-19

1 His position was consolidated by reinforcing the garrisons in the cities of Judah and Ephraim. He reigned piously and was blessed by the Lord. He appointed itinerant teachers of the law to teach throughout Judah. Surrounding nations paid him honour; the Philistines and Arabs gave him gifts. His greatness increased, building fortresses and store cities in Judah and his army was many; with a list of his commanders given.

2 Chronicles 18:1-34

1 He allied himself with Ahab of Israel, sealing it with the marriage of son Jehoram to Ahab's daughter, Athaliah.

4 Then follows an account of the battle at Ramoth-gilead against Aram as in 1 Kings 22:1-35.

2 Chronicles 19:1-11

1 When he returned from the battle , he was rebuked by Jehu, the prophet.

5 He appointed judges for each city of Judah and Levites and priests to judge in Jerusalem.

Psalms 82

speaking of God's justice and judgment of all the nations.

2 Chronicles 20

1 The Moabites, Ammonites and Edomites invaded Judah.

Psalms 82

written at such a time as this, praying to God to crush their enemies.

2 Chronicles 20

3 He declared a fast and prayed, with all Israel present for the Lord to deliver them.

14 When Jahaziel predicted deliverance, the people worshiped.

20 The enemy were overthrown; a great booty was taken; they praised the Lord at the Valley of Beracah and returned rejoicing to Jerusalem. All the surrounding nations dreaded them and so they were at peace.

31-37 // 1 Kings 22:41-50 The cause of the wrecking of their ships at Ezion-

geber was given as the alliance with Azariah of Israel, which was disapproved of by God.

AHAZIAH, son of Ahab (853-852) Of Israel.

1 Kings 22:51-53

51 He reigned 2 years in Samaria.

52 He followed the evil practices of his father, Ahab, and mother, Jezebel and served Baal so making God angry.

2 Kings 1

1 Moab rebelled against Israel.

2 When Ahaziah injured himself falling through a window, he sent to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron whether he will recover; but Elijah met them to say the king would die.

9 Elijah twice sends fire on the men that Ahaziah sent to get him and, taking pity on the third lot, goes with them to tell the king of God's judgment. Ahaziah dies.

2 Kings 2

1 Elijah was about to be taken to heaven; Elisha accompanied him from Gilgal till they crossed the Jordan, divided by Elijah's mantle.

9 Elisha asked for a double portion of his spirit and Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind.

12 Elisha saw it, took Elijah's mantle, divided the Jordan and is recognised by the other prophets as having the spirit of Elijah upon him. They prophets searched but did not find Elijah.

19 Elisha purifies the unhealthy waters at Jericho with salt.

23 At Bethel, 42 lads mocked him; they are slain by bears.

25 He went to Mount Carmel and then to Samaria.

JORAM (JEHORAM), son of Ahab (852-841) Of Israel

2 Kings 3:1-27

1 Reigned 12 years. While he gave up the worship of Baal, he still retained the practices of Jeroboam.

4 With Jehoshaphat, king of Judah and the king of Edom he went to fight against the rebellious Moab. Finding no water, they asked Elisha, who promised both water and victory. Both happened.

2 Kings 4:1-44

1 Elisha saved an indebted widow by multiplying her oil to sell.

8 Because of her kindness to him, Elisha blessed a childless Shunammite woman with a son. When he died, Elisha raised him.

38 At Gilgal he made the poisonous stew edible.

42 He multiplied meagre provisions to feed 100 men.

2 Kings 5:1-27

1 Naaman, captain of the Syrian army, at the suggestion of his slave girl went to Elisha to be cured of leprosy. After some persuasion and humbling himself by

washing in the Jordan, he was healed and acknowledged God as the only true God and departed with soil from Israel.

20 Gehazi, Elisha's servant, lied to Naaman to get money for himself; Elisha afflicted him with leprosy.

#### 2 Kings 6:1-33

1 At the Jordan, Elisha recovered an axehead that had been lost in the river.

8 When the king of Aram (Syria), heard that Elisha knew his plans, he sent his army to get him. They surrounded Dotham; Elisha's servant had his eyes opened to see the forces of the Lord; the invaders are blinded by the Lord and led to Samaria where the king of Israel fed them and sent them away.

24 Benhadad besieged Samaria and reduced it to famine, even cannibalism. The king of Israel sent men to slay Elisha.

#### 2 Kings 7:1-20

1 Elisha predicted abundant relief for Samaria by the next day.

3 Four lepers found the Aramean camp deserted because the army had become frightened and fled; told the city and the camp was plundered by the hungry inhabitants, killing the king's officer in their haste.

#### 2 Kings 8:1-29

1 Elisha warned the Shunammite woman to leave to avoid an impending 7 years famine. On return, her land was restored to her by the king.

7 In Damascus, when Benhadad was sick, Elisha wept as foresaw that Hazael would become king of Aram and commit atrocities against Israel. Hazael murdered Benhadad and became king.

JEHORAM, son of Jehoshaphat, (848-841) King of Judah

#### 2 Kings 8:16-24

17 He was 32 years old and reigned 8 years in Jerusalem.

18 Ahab's daughter, his wife, caused him to follow the practices of Israel.

20 During his reign, Edom and Libnah revolted against Judah.

#### // 2 Chronicles 21: 1-20

2-4 He killed his brothers and some rulers of Israel.

11 He made high places in Judah's mountains and introduced idolatry;

12 Elijah rebuked him and predicted disaster for his family.

16 The Philistines and the Arabians invaded Judah and stripped his house.

18 He died of an incurable bowel disease and was buried, with little regret.

AHAZIAH, son of Jehoram (841) king of Judah

#### 2 Kings 8: 25-29

6 He was 22 years old and reigned 1 year. He was related to the kings of Israel, greatgrandson of Omri for his mother, Athaliah, was Omri's granddaughter and Ahab's daughter and had married Jehoram.

28 He joined Joram of Israel in battle against Hazael of Aram at Ramoth-gilead where Joram was wounded.



2 Kings 9:27-28

He was shot by Jehu, when visiting Joram, recovering after the battle at Jezreel.

He fled to Megiddo; died and his body was returned to Jerusalem.

// 2 Chronicles 22:1-9 which mentions that his counselors came from the house of Ahab, which was his undoing.

JEHU, son of Jehoshaphat (841-814) V Dynasty of Israel

2 Kings 9:1-37

1 Elisha, through one of his disciples anointed Jehu, a captain in the army, with oil as the next king of Israel to wipe out the house of Ahab.

14 He rode to Jezreel and killed Joram, king of Israel and Ahaziah, king of Judah.

30 Jezebel was also slain and the dogs ate her flesh.

2 Kings 10:1-36

1 Jehu directed the great men of the city to behead the 70 sons of Ahab. He killed all those associated with Ahab in Jezreel.

12 On the way to Samaria he met and killed 42 relatives of Azariah of Judah.

15 Meeting Jehonadab, He took him with him and killed all associated with Ahab in Samaria.

18 By pretending to prepare to worship Baal, he gathers Baal followers and then eradicates them.

29 However, the idolatry of Jeroboam's golden calves remained and Jehu was not careful about following the Lord.

32 Hazael of Aram took territory from Israel, particularly east of the Jordan.

34 He died, was buried in Samaria. He reigned 28 years.