

Samuel, Kings and Chronicles: A Harmony

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Samuel, Kings & Chronicles Harmony

Introduction

This harmony is a personal project I undertook in an attempt to better understand the history of the Kingdom age of Ancient Israel from the death of Saul to the Babylonian captivity. If others find it helpful, I will be pleased and somewhat flattered, and if the inevitable typographic errors are pointed out to me, I will probably correct them on my computer. However, there is no guarantee that any corrections will find their way into print.

The use of italics and underlining to indicate which book a particular reading came from will be evident if you use this much, but here is a brief, and probably inadequate explanation:

Both Samuel-Kings and Chronicles are in a non-italic serif font (Times New Roman). Unique wording from Chronicles is in the same font, but in italics.

When the parallel passages are almost identical, a single column represents both passages. Text that is truly identical is in a non-enhanced font, text from Samuel-Kings that differs is underlined, and the differing text from Chronicles is in italics. You'll get the idea. The nature of some of these minor differences makes me suspect that they are differences in translation rather than in the Hebrew text. Some day I may get ambitious enough to check it out. If a passage in either Samuel-Kings or Chronicles had no parallel in the other, I listed the passage under a heading, but did not include the text. There didn't seem to be reason enough to work that hard.

There are a few verses that I have taken from other books, especially Isaiah's historical interlude during Hezekiah's reign (in chapters 36-39) and Jeremiah's treatment of the end of the kingdom period. For those verses, I used a sans-serif font (Ariel). Such supplementary material is often in a box. It'll be obvious.

I used the Revised Standard Version for this harmony because in my judgement it's the best royalty-free translation of the First Testament available to me through my favorite computer Bible program. Incidentally, the program (e-Sword) is free, and can be downloaded at www.e-sword.net. I've used several Bible programs and e-Sword is as good as or better than any of them. You might also check out an open-source effort called "The Sword Project" at www.crosswire.com. They both have advantages, but e-sword is more user-friendly. (Wonder if I can charge him a percentage for that plug? How much is 10% of free?)

If you have a comment, I'd love to hear from you at wanderingsoul@arczip.com. Don't even think of a donation, at least not to me. Send it to some missionary. However, there may be an almost infinitesimal, non-zero chance that someone will want to use this in some other publication. Please talk to me first. If you don't, it's unlikely that I'll do much about it, except maybe try to embarrass you. It's your integrity at stake, not mine. I've got enough to answer for.

If you like this, use it and I'll be pleased. If you don't, toss it, I won't be offended, but whatever you do, don't use it in place of your Bible. At best, this is a supplement to, not a replacement for the text as it appears in the published Scriptures. Like I said, I've got enough to answer for.

In His eternal grace,
Randy Armstrong, June, 2004

Samuel, Kings & Chronicles Harmony

From the Death of Saul
To the Babylonian Captivity

Underlined: Text Unique to Samuel & Kings

Italics: *Text Unique to Chronicles*

Saul Takes His Own Life:

1 Samuel 31:1-13 & 1 Chronicles 10:1-14

Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled before the Philistines, and fell slain on Mount Gilbo'a. And the Philistines overtook Saul and his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan and Abin'adab and Mal'chishu'a, the sons of Saul. The battle pressed hard upon Saul, and the archers found him; and he was badly wounded by the archers.

Then Saul said to his armor-bearer, "Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and make sport of me."

But his armor-bearer would not; for he feared greatly. Therefore Saul took his own sword, and fell upon it. And when his armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell upon his sword, and died with him. Thus Saul died, *he* and his three sons, *and all his house* and his armor-bearer, and all his men, died on the same day together.

And when the men of Israel who were *[in] on the other side of the valley* and those beyond the Jordan saw that the men of Israel *[army]* had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook their cities and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

On the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilbo'a. And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armor *[they stripped him and took his head and his armor]*, and sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines, to carry the good news to their idols and to the people. They put his armor in the temple of Ash'taroth; and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan *[And they put his armor in the temple of their gods, and fastened his head in the temple of Dagon]*.

But when the inhabitants of Ja'besh-gil'ead heard what *[all that]* the Philistines had done to Saul, all the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took *away* the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan; and *[brought them to Jabesh]* they came to Jabesh and burnt them there. And they took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree *[they buried their bones under the oak]* in Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

So Saul died for his unfaithfulness; he was unfaithful to the LORD in that he did not keep the command of the LORD, and also consulted a medium, seeking guidance, and did not seek guidance from the LORD. Therefore the LORD slew him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse. (1Sa 31:1-13 & 1Ch 10:1-14)

David Hears of Saul's Death

2 Samuel 1:1-16

David's Lament for Saul & Jonathan

2 Samuel 1:17-27

David anointed King Over Judah

2 Samuel 2:1-7

War Between the Houses of David and Saul

2 Samuel 2:8-3:5

Abner Goes Over to David

2 Samuel 3:6-21

Joab Murders Abner

2 Samuel 3:22-39

Ish-Bosheth Murdered

2 Samuel 1:1-4:12

David Becomes King Over Israel

2 Samuel 5:1-5 & 1 Chronicles 11:1-3

Then all the tribes of Israel came [*gathered together*] to David at Hebron, and said, "Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, *even* when Saul was king [*over us*], it was you that led out and brought in Israel; and the LORD *your God* said to you, 'You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over *my people* Israel.'"

So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel, *according to the word of the LORD by Samuel.*

David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. (2Sa 5:1-5 & 1Ch 11:1-3)

David Conquers Jerusalem

2 Samuel 5:6-16 & 1 Chronicles 11:4-9, 14:1-7

And the king and his men [*And David and all Israel*] went to Jerusalem against the Jeb'usites [*that is Jebus, where the Jeb'usites were*], the inhabitants of the land, [.] who [*The inhabitants of Jebus*] said to David, "You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off"--thinking, "David cannot come in here." Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David.

And David said on that day, "Whoever would [*shall*] smite the Jeb'usites first shall be chief and commander." let him get up the water shaft to attack the lame and the blind, who are hated by David's soul." Therefore it is said, "The blind and the lame shall not come into the house." *And Jo'ab the son of Zeru'iah went up first, so he became chief.*

And David dwelt in the stronghold, and called it the city of David. [*therefore it was called the city of David.*] And David [*He*] built the city round about from the Millo inward in complete circuit; and Jo'ab repaired the rest of the city.. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him. (2Sa 5:6-10 & 2Ch 11:4-9)

And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, also carpenters and masons who built David a house [*masons and carpenters to build a house for him.*]. And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom [*his kingdom was highly exalted*] for the sake of his people Israel.

And David took more concubines and wives from [*in*] Jerusalem, after he came from Hebron; and more sons and daughters were born to David [*and David begot more sons and daughters*]. And these are the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem [*the children whom he had in Jerusalem*]: Sham'mu-a, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, Ibhar, Eli'shu-a, *El'pelet, Nogah, Nepheg, Japhi'a, Eli'shama, Eli'ada* [*Beeli'ada*], and Eliph'elet. [*Note: Eli'ada & Beeli'ada are apparently the same person. Assuming that, Chronicles and Samuel name the same 11 sons while Chronicles adds 2 not found in Samuel.*] (2Sa 5:11-16 & 1Ch 14:1-7)

David Defeats the Philistines

2 Samuel 5:17-25 & 1 Chronicles 14:8-17

When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over [*all*] Israel, all the Philistines went up in search of David; but [*and*] David heard of it and went down to the stronghold [*out against them*]. Now the Philistines had come and spread out [*made a raid*] in the valley of Reph'aim. And David inquired of the LORD [*God*], "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Wilt thou give them into my hand?"

And the LORD said to David [*him*], "Go up; for [*and*] I will certainly give the Philistines [*them*] into your hand."

And David came [*he went up*] to Ba'al-pera'zim, and David defeated them there; and he said, "the LORD [*God*] has broken through my enemies before me [*by my hand*], like a bursting flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Ba'al-pera'zim. And the Philistines [*they*] left their idols [*gods*] there, and David and his men carried them away, *and David gave command, and they were burned.*

And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread out in the valley of Reph'aim [*made a raid in the valley*]. And when David [*again*] inquired of the LORD [*God*], he [*God*] said to him, "You shall not go up *after them*; go around to their rear, and come upon them opposite the balsam trees. And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then bestir yourself [*go out to battle*]; for then the LORD [*God*] has gone out before you to smite the army of the Philistines." And David did as the LORD [*God*] commanded him, and smote the Philistines' army from Geba [*Gibeon*] to Gezer. *And the fame of David went out into all lands, and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations.* (2Sa 5:17-25 & 1Ch 14:8-17)

The Ark Brought to Jerusalem

2 Samuel 6:1-23 & 1 Chronicles 13:1-6

David consulted with the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, with every leader. And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you, and if it is the will of the LORD our God, let us send abroad to our brethren who remain in all the land of Israel, and with them to the priests and Levites in the cities that have pasture lands, that they may come together to us. Then let us bring again the ark of our God to us; for we neglected it in the days of Saul." All the assembly agreed to do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. (1Ch 13:1-4)

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

And David arose and went with all the people who were with him from Ba'ale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who sits enthroned on the cherubim. (2Sa 6:1-2)

So David assembled all Israel from the Shihor of Egypt to the entrance of Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kir'iath-je'arim.

And David and all Israel went up to Ba'alah, that is, to Kir'iath-je'arim which belongs to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD who sits enthroned above the cherubim. (1Ch 13:5-6)

And they carried the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of [from] the house of Abin'adab which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahi'o, the sons of Abin'adab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God; and Ahi'o went before the ark. And David and all the house of Israel were making merry before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals *and trumpets*.

And when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon [Chidon], Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it [hold the ark], for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God [he] smote him there because he put forth his hand to the ark; and he died there beside the ark of [before] God.

And David was angry because the LORD had broken forth upon Uzzah; and that place is called Pe'rez-uz'zah, to this day.

And David was afraid of the LORD [God] that day; and he said, "How can *[I bring]* the ark of the LORD come [God home] to me?" So David was not willing to [did not] take the ark of the LORD into the city of David; but David took it aside to the house of O'bed-e'dom the Gittite. And the ark of the LORD [God] remained in the house of O'bed-e'dom the Gittite three months; and the LORD blessed *[the household of]* O'bed-e'dom and all his household [that he had]. (2Sa 6:3-11 & 2Ch 13:7-14)

And it was told King David, "The LORD has blessed the household of O'bed-e'dom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." (2Sa 6:12a)

David built houses for himself in the city of David; and he prepared a place for the ark of God, and pitched a tent for it. Then David said, "No one but the Levites may carry the ark of God, for the LORD chose them to carry the ark of the LORD and to minister to him for ever."

And David assembled all Israel at Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the LORD to its place, which he had prepared for it. And David gathered together the sons of Aaron and the Levites:

*of the sons of Kohath, Uri'el the chief, with a hundred and twenty of his brethren;
of the sons of Merar'i, Asai'ah the chief, with two hundred and twenty of his brethren;
of the sons of Gershon, Jo'el the chief, with a hundred and thirty of his brethren;
of the sons of Eli-za'phan, Shemai'ah the chief, with two hundred of his brethren;
of the sons of Hebron, Eli'el the chief, with eighty of his brethren;
of the sons of Uz'ziel, Ammin'adab the chief, with a hundred and twelve of his brethren.*

Then David summoned the priests Zadok and Abi'athar, and the Levites Uri'el, Asai'ah, Jo'el, Shemai'ah, Eli'el, and Ammin'adab, and said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites; sanctify yourselves, you and your brethren, so that you may bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place that I have prepared for it. Because you did not carry it the first time, the LORD our God broke forth upon us, because we did not care for it in the way that is ordained." So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel. And the Levites carried the ark of God upon their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the LORD.

David also commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their brethren as the singers who should play loudly on musical instruments, on harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise sounds of joy.

So the Levites appointed Heman the son of Jo'el; and of his brethren Asaph the son of Berechi'ah; and of the sons of Merar'i, their brethren, Ethan the son of Kusha'iah; and with them their brethren of the second order, Zechari'ah, Ja-a'ziel, Shemi'ramoth, Jehi'el, Unni, Eli'ab, Benai'ah, Ma-asei'ah, Mattithi'ah, Eliph'elehu, and Miknei'ah, and the gatekeepers O'bed-e'dom and Je-i'el.

The singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, were to sound bronze cymbals; Zechari'ah, A'ziel, Shemi'ramoth, Jehi'el, Unni, Eli'ab, Ma-asei'ah, and Benai'ah were to play harps according to Al'amoth; but Mattithi'ah, Eliph'elehu, Miknei'ah, O'bed-e'dom, Je-i'el, and Azazi'ah were to lead with lyres according to the Shem'inith. Chenani'ah, leader of the Levites in music, should direct the music, for he understood it.

Berechi'ah and Elka'nah were to be gatekeepers for the ark. Shebani'ah, Josh'aphat, Nathan'el, Ama'sai, Zechari'ah, Benai'ah, and Elie'zer, the priests, should blow the trumpets before the ark of God. O'bed-e'dom and Jehi'ah also were to be gatekeepers for the ark. (2Ch 15:1-24)

So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of O'bed-e'dom to the city of David with rejoicing;

and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling.

And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the horn.

As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD. And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts, and distributed among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. (2Sa 6:12b-23)

So David and the elders of Israel, and the commanders of thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of O'bed-e'dom with rejoicing. And because God helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams.

David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, as also were all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and the singers, and Chenani'ah the leader of the music of the singers; and David wore a linen ephod. So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, to the sound of the horn, trumpets, and cymbals, and made loud music on harps and lyres.

And as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David dancing and making merry; and she despised him in her heart.

And they brought the ark of God, and set it inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before God.

And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD, and distributed to all Israel, both men and women, to each a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. (1Ch 15:25-16:3)

Moreover he appointed certain of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the LORD, to invoke, to thank, and to praise the LORD, the God of Israel. Asaph was the chief, and second to him were Zechari'ah, Je-i'el, Shemi'ramoth, Jehi'el, Mattithi'ah, Eli'ab, Benai'ah, O'bed-e'dom, and Je-i'el, who were to play harps and lyres; Asaph was to sound the cymbals, and Benai'ah and Jaha'ziel the priests were to blow trumpets continually, before the ark of the covenant of God. (1Ch 16:4-6)

David's Psalm of Thanks

1 Chronicles 16:7-42

The Ark Brought to Jerusalem (continued)

2 Samuel 6:19b-23 & 1 Chronicles 16:43

Then all the people departed, each to his house. And David returned [*went home*] to bless his household. (2Sa 6:19b-20a & 1Ch 16:43)

But Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, "How the king of Israel honored himself today, uncovering himself today before the eyes of his servants' maids, as one of the vulgar fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!"

And David said to Michal, "It was before the LORD, who chose me above your father, and above all his house, to appoint me as prince over Israel, the people of the LORD--and I will make merry before the LORD. I will make myself yet more contemptible than this, and I will be abased in your eyes; but by the maids of whom you have spoken, by them I shall be held in honor." And Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death. (2Sa 6:20b-23)

God's Promise to David

2 Samuel 7:1-17 & 1 Chronicles 17:1-15

Now when David the king dwelt in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies round about, David the king said to Nathan the prophet, "Behold See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in [*of the covenant of the LORD is under*] a tent."

And Nathan said to David the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart; for the LORD God is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan,

"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build [*You shall not build*] me a house to dwell in? *For* I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought [*led*] up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling [*have gone from tent to tent and from dwelling to dwelling*]. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'"

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and violent men

shall afflict [*waste*] them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from [*subdue*] all your enemies.

Moreover *I* the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make [*build*] you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down [*to go to be*] with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name [*me*], and I will establish the throne of his kingdom [*his throne*] for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. When he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men; but I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from [*him who was*] before you. And your [*but I will confirm him in my*] house and your [*in my*] kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your [*and his*] throne shall be established for ever."

In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David. (2Sa 7:1-17 & 1Ch 17:1-15)

David's Prayer

2 Samuel 7:18-29 & 1 Chronicles 17:16-27

Then King David went in and sat before the LORD, and said,

"Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that thou hast brought me thus far? And yet this was a small thing in thy eyes, O Lord GOD; thou hast [*also*] spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come, and hast shown me future generations, O Lord GOD!

And what more can David say to thee [*for honoring thy servant*]? For thou knowest thy servant, O Lord GOD! Because of thy promise [*For thy servant's sake, O LORD*], and according to thy own heart, thou hast wrought all this greatness, to make thy servant know it [*in making known all these great things*].

Therefore thou art great, O LORD God; for there is none like thee, O LORD, and there is no God besides thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. What other nation on earth is like thy people Israel, whom God went to redeem to be his people, making himself [*for thyself*] a name, and doing for them [*for*] great and terrible things, by [*in*] driving out before his people a nation and its gods [*nations before thy people whom thou didst redeem from Egypt*]? And thou didst establish for thyself [*make*] thy people Israel to be thy people for ever; and thou, O LORD, didst become their God.

And now, O LORD God, confirm for ever [*let*] the word which thou hast spoken concerning thy servant and concerning his house [*be established for ever*], and do as thou hast spoken; and thy name will be [*established and*] magnified for ever, saying, 'The LORD of hosts is God over Israel,' [*the God of Israel, is Israel's God,*'] and the house of thy servant David will be established before thee.

For thou, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel [*my God*], hast made this revelation [*hast revealed*] to thy servant, saying, 'I will build you a house' [*that thou wilt build a house for him*]; therefore thy servant has found courage to pray this prayer to [*before*] thee. And now, O Lord GOD [*LORD*], thou art God, and thy words are true, and thou hast promised this good thing to thy servant; now therefore may it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee; for [*what*] thou, O Lord GOD [*LORD*], hast spoken, and with thy blessing shall the house of thy servant be [*blessed is*] blessed for ever." (2Sa 7:18-20 & 1 Ch 17:16-27)

David's Victories

2 Samuel 8:1-14 & 1 Chronicles 18:1-13

After this David defeated the Philistines and subdued them, and David [he] took Meth'eg-am'mah, *Gath and its villages* out of the hand of the Philistines.

And he defeated Moab, and measured them with a line, making them lie down on the ground; two lines he measured to be put to death, and one full line to be spared. And the Moabites became servants to David and brought tribute.

David also defeated Hadade'zer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, *toward Hamath*, as he went to restore his power [set up his monument] at the river Euphra'tes. And David took from him *[a thousand chariots,]* a thousand and seven hundred [seven thousand] horsemen, and twenty thousand foot soldiers; and David hamstrung all the chariot horses, but left enough for a hundred chariots.

And when the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadade'zer king of Zobah, David slew twenty-two thousand men of the Syrians. Then David put garrisons in Aram [Syria] of Damascus; and the Syrians became servants to David and brought tribute. And the LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.

And David took the shields of gold which were carried by the servants of Hadade'zer, and brought them to Jerusalem. And from Betah [Tibhath] and from Bero'thai [Cun], cities of Hadade'zer, King David took very much bronze; *with it Solomon made the bronze sea and the pillars and the vessels of bronze.*

When To'i [To'u] king of Hamath heard that David had defeated the whole army of Hadade'zer *king of Zobah*, To'i [he] sent his son Joram [*Hador'am*] to King David, to greet him, and to congratulate him because he had fought against Hadade'zer and defeated him; for Hadade'zer had often been at war with To'i [To'u]. And Joram brought with him [he sent all sorts of] articles of silver, of gold, and of bronze;

these also King David dedicated to the LORD, together with the silver and gold which he dedicated [had carried off] from all the nations he subdued, from Edom, Moab, the Ammonites, the Philistines, *[and]* Am'alek, and from the spoil of Hadade'zer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

And David won a name for himself. When he returned, he [And Abi'shai, the son of Zeru'iah,] slew eighteen thousand E'domites in the Valley of Salt.

And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom he put garrisons, and all the E'domites became David's servants. And the LORD gave victory to David wherever he went. (2Sa 8:1-14 & 1Ch 18:1-13)

David's Officials

2 Samuel 8:15-18 & 1 Chronicles 18:14-17

So David reigned over all Israel; and David [he] administered justice and equity to all his people. And Jo'ab the son of Zeru'iah was over the army; and Jehosh'aphat the son of Ahi'lud was recorder; and Zadok the son of Ahi'tub and Ahim'elech the son of Abi'athar were priests; and Serai'ah [*Shavsha*] was secretary; and Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada was over the Cher'ethites and the Pel'ethites; and David's sons were priests [the chief officials in the service of the king]. (2Sa 8:15-18 & 1Ch 18:14-17)

(NIV: "royal advisors," NIV footnote: "royal priests.")

David & Mephibosheth

2 Samuel 9:1-13

David Defeats the Ammonites

2 Samuel 10:1-19 & 1 Chronicles 19:1-19

Now After this Nahash the king of the Ammonites died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead. And David said, "I will deal loyally with Hanun the son of Nahash, as [for] his father dealt loyally with me." So David sent by his servants [messengers] to console him concerning his father.

And David's servants came into Hanun the land of the Ammonites, *to console him.* But the princes of the Ammonites said to Hanun their lord, "Do you think, because David has sent comforters to you, that he is honoring your father? Has not David sent his servants to you to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?" [*Have not his servants come to you to search and to overthrow and to spy out the land?*"] So Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off half the beard of each [them], and cut off their garments in the middle, at their hips, and sent them away; *and they departed.*

When it was told David [*When David was told concerning the men*], he sent to meet them, for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, "Remain at Jericho until your beards have grown, and then return."

When the Ammonites saw that they had become [made themselves] odious to David, Hanun and the Ammonites sent and hired the Syrians of Beth-re'hob, and the Syrians of Zobah, twenty thousand foot soldiers, and the king of Ma'acah with a thousand men, and the men of Tob, twelve thousand men. [*a thousand talents of silver to hire chariots and horsemen from Mesopotamia, from Aram-ma'acah, and from Zobah. They hired thirty-two thousand chariots and the king of Ma'acah with his army, who came and encamped before Med'eba.*] *And the Ammonites were mustered from their cities and came to battle.*

And when David heard of it, he sent Jo'ab and all the host [army] of the mighty men. And the Ammonites came out and drew up in battle array at the entrance of the gate [city]; and the Syrians of Zobah and of Rehob, and the men of Tob and Ma'acah [*and the kings who had come*], were by themselves in the open country.

When Jo'ab saw that the battle was set against him both in front and in the rear, he chose some of the picked men of Israel, and arrayed them against the Syrians; the rest of his men he put in the charge of Abi'shai his brother, and he arrayed them [*and they were arrayed*] against the Ammonites. And he said, "If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you shall help me; but if the Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will come and help you. Be of good courage, and let us play the man for our people, and for the cities of our God; and may the LORD do what seems good to him."

So Jo'ab and the people who were with him drew near to battle against the Syrians [*before the Syrians for battle*]; and they fled before him. And when the Ammonites saw that the Syrians fled, they likewise fled before Abi'shai, *Jo'ab's brother*, and entered the city. Then Jo'ab *returned from fighting against the Ammonites, and came to Jerusalem.*

But when the Syrians saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they gathered themselves together. And Hadade'zer sent, *messengers* and brought out the Syrians who were beyond the Euphra'tes; and they came to Helam, with Shobach [*Shophach*] the commander of the army of Hadade'zer at their head.

And when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together, and crossed the Jordan, and came to Helam [*to them*]. And the Syrians arrayed themselves against David, and [*and drew up his forces against them. And when David set the battle in array against the Syrians, they*] fought with him. And the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew of the Syrians the men of seven hundred chariots, and forty thousand horsemen, *and forty thousand foot soldiers* and wounded

Shobach the commander of their army, so that he died there [and killed also Shophach the commander of their army]. And when all the kings who were servants of Hadade'zer saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel [David], and became subject to them [him].

So the Syrians feared [were not willing] to help the Ammonites any more. (2Sa 10:1-19 & 1Ch 19:1-19)

The Capture of Rabbah (part 1)

2 Samuel 11:1 & 1 Chronicles 20:1a

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go forth to battle, David sent Jo'ab, and his servants with him, and all Israel [Jo'ab led out the army]; and they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. (2Sa 11:1 & 1Ch 19:1-19)

David & Bathsheba

2 Samuel 11:2-27

Nathan Rebukes David

2 Samuel 12:1-25

The Capture of Rabbah (part 2)

2 Samuel 12:26-31 & 1 Chronicles 20:1b-3

Now Jo'ab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites, and took the royal city. And Jo'ab sent messengers to David, and said, "I have fought against Rabbah; moreover, I have taken the city of waters. Now, then, gather the rest of the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it; lest I take the city, and it be called by my name."

So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah, and fought against it and took it. [And Jo'ab smote Rabbah, and overthrew it.] And he [David] took the crown of their king from his head; the weight of it was [he found that it weighed] a talent of gold, and in it was a precious stone; and it was placed on David's head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city, a very great amount. And he brought forth the people who were in it, and set them to labor with saws and iron picks and iron axes, and made them toil at the brickkilns; and thus he [David] did to all the cities of the Ammonites. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem. (2Sa 12:26-31 & 1Ch 20:1b-3)

Amnon and Tamar

2 Samuel 13:1-22

Absalom Kills Amnon

2 Samuel 13:23-39

Absalom Returns to Jerusalem

2 Samuel 14:1-33

Absalom's Conspiracy

2 Samuel 15:1-12

David Flees

2 Samuel 15:13-37

David and Ziba

2 Samuel 16:1-4

Shimei Curses David

2 Samuel 16:5-14

The Advice of Hushai and Ahithophel

2 Samuel 16:15-17:29

Absalom's Death

2 Samuel 18:1-18

David Mourns

2 Samuel 18:19-19:8a

David Returns to Jerusalem

2 Samuel 19:8b-43

Sheba Rebels Against David

2 Samuel 20:1-26

The Gibeonites Avenged

2 Samuel 21:1-14

Wars Against the Philistines

2 Samuel 21:15-22 & 1 Chronicles 20:4-8

The Philistines had war again with Israel, and David went down together with his servants, and they fought against the Philistines; and David grew weary. And Ish'bi-be'nob, one of the descendants of the giants, whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of bronze, and who was girded with a new sword, thought to kill David. But Abi'shai the son of Zeru'iah came to his aid, and attacked the Philistine and killed him. Then David's men adjured him, "You shall no more go out with us to battle, lest you quench the lamp of Israel." (2Sa 21:15-17)

*And After this there was again [arose] war with the Philistines at Gob [Gezer]; then Sib'becai the Hu'shathite slew Saph [Sip'pai], who was one of the descendants of the giants ; *and the Philistines were subdued.**

And there was again war with the Philistines at Gob; and Elha'nan the son of Ja'areor'egim [Ja'ir], the Bethlehemite, slew *Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite*, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.

And there was again war at Gath, where there was a man of great stature, who had six fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also was

descended from the giants. And when he taunted Israel, Jonathan the son of Shim'e-i [Shim'e-a], David's brother, slew him.

These four were descended from the giants in Gath; and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. (2Sa 21:18-22 & 2Ch 20:4-8)

David's Song of Praise (Psalm 18)

2 Samuel 22:1-51

The Last Words of David

2 Samuel 23:1-7

David's Mighty Men

2 Samuel 23:8-39 & 1 Chronicles 11:10-47

Now these are the chiefs of David's mighty men, who gave him strong support in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel. These are the names of the mighty men whom David had [This is an account of David's mighty men]:

Josheb-basshe'beth a Tah-che'monite [*Jasho'be-am, a Hach'monite*]; he was chief of the three; he wielded his spear against eight [*three*] hundred whom he slew at one time.

And next to him among the three mighty men was Elea'zar the son of Dodo, son of Aho'hi [*the Aho'hite*]. He was with David at Pas-dam'mim when they defied the Philistines who were gathered there for battle [*the Philistines were gathered there for battle*]. There was a plot of ground full of barley, and the men of Israel withdrew [*and the men fled from the Philistines*]. He rose and struck down the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand cleaved to the sword [*But he took his stand in the midst of the plot, and defended it, and slew the Philistines*]; and the LORD wrought [*saved them by*] a great victory that day; and the men returned after him only to strip the slain.

And next to him was Shammah, the son of Agee the Har'arite. The Philistines gathered together at Lehi, where there was a plot of ground full of lentils; and the men fled from the Philistines. But he took his stand in the midst of the plot, and defended it, and slew the Philistines; and the LORD wrought a great victory.

And three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock, and came about harvest time to David at the cave of Adullam, when a band [*the army*] of Philistines was encamped in the valley of Reph'aim. David was then in the stronghold; and the garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem. And David said longingly, "O that some one would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem which is by the gate!" Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate, and took and brought it to David.

But he [*David*] would not drink of it; he poured it out to the LORD, and said, "Far be it from me, O LORD, [*before my God*] that I should do this. Shall I drink the blood of the [*these*] men who went at the risk of their lives?" [*For at the risk of their lives they brought it.*"] Therefore he would not drink it.

These things did the three mighty men. (2SA 23:8-17 & 1Ch 11:10-19)

Now Abi'shail, the brother of Jo'ab, the son of Zeru'iah, was chief of the thirty. And he wielded his spear against three hundred men and slew them, and won a name beside the three. He was the most renowned of the thirty, and became their commander; but he did not attain to the three.

And Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada was a valiant man of Kabzeel, a doer of great deeds; he smote two ariels of Moab. He also went down and slew a lion in a pit on a day when snow had fallen. And he slew an Egyptian, a handsome man [*a man of great stature, five cubits tall*]. The Egyptian had a spear in his hand [*in his hand a spear like a weaver's beam*]; but Benai'ah went down to him with a staff, and snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew him with his own spear. These things did Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada, and won a name beside the three mighty men. He was renowned among the thirty, but he did not attain to the three. And David set him over his bodyguard.

The mighty men of the armies were:

As'ahel the brother of Jo'ab was one of the thirty;

Elha'nan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

Shammah of Harod,

Eli'ka of Harod,

Helez the Paltite [*Pel'onite*],

Ira the son of Ikkesh of Teko'a,

Abi-e'zer, of An'athoth,

Mebun'nai [*Sib'becai*] the Hu'shathite,

Zalmon [*I'lai*] the Aho'hite,

Ma'harai of Netoph'ah,

Heleb [*Heled*] the son of Ba'anah of Netoph'ah,

It'tai [*Ithai*] the son of Ri'bai of Gib'e-ah of the Benjaminites,

Benai'ah of Pira'thon,

Hid'dai [*Hurai*] of the brooks of Ga'ash,

Abi-al'bon [*Abi'el*] the Ar'bathite,

Az'maveth of Bahu'rim [*Baha'rum*],

Eli'ahba of Sha-al'bon,

the sons of Jashen,

Hashem the Gi'zonite

Jonathan [*the son of Shagee the Har'arite*],

Shammah the Har'arite,

Ahi'am the son of Sharar [*Sachar*] the Har'arite,

Eli'phal the son of Ur,

Hepher the Meche'rathite,

Ahi'jah the Pel'onite

Eliph'elet the son of Ahas'bai of Ma'acah,

Eli'am the son of Ahith'ophel of Gilo,

Hezro of Carmel,

Pa'arai the Arbite,

Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah,

Bani the Gadite,

Na'arai the son of Ezbai,

Jo'el the brother of Nathan,

Mibhar the son of Hagri,

Zelek the Ammonite,

Na'harai of Be-er'oth, the armor-bearer of Jo'ab the son of Zeru'iah,

Ira the Ithrite,

Gareb the Ithrite,

Uri'ah the Hittite: thirty-seven in all.

Zabad the son of Ahlai,

Ad'ina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a leader of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,

Hanan the son of Ma'acah,

and Josh'aphat the Mithnite,

Uzzi'a the Ash'terathite,

*Shama and Je-i'el the sons of Hotham the Aro'erite,
Jedi'a-el the son of Shimri,
and Joha his brother, the Tizite,
Eli'el the Ma'havite,
and Jer'ibai, and Joshavi'ah, the sons of El'na-am, and
Ithmah the Mo'abite,
Eli'el, and Obed,
and Ja-asi'el the Mezo'ba-ite. (2Sa 23:18-31 & 2Ch 11:20-47)*

David Counts the Fighting Men

2 Samuel 24:1-17 & 1 Chronicles 21:1-17

Again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, "Go, number Israel and Judah."

So the king said to Jo'ab and the commanders of the army, who were with him, "Go through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beer-sheba, and number the people, that I may know the number of the people."

But Jo'ab said to the king, "May the LORD your God add to the people a hundred times as many as they are, while the eyes of my lord the king still see it; but why does my lord the king delight in this thing?"

But the king's word prevailed against Jo'ab and the commanders of the army. So Jo'ab and the commanders of the army went out from the presence of the king to number the people of Israel.

They crossed the Jordan, and began from Aro'er, and from the city that is in the middle of the valley, toward Gad and on to Jazer. Then they came to Gilead, and to Kadesh in the land of the Hittites; and they came to Dan, and from Dan they went around to Sidon, and came to the fortress of Tyre and to all the cities of the Hivites and Canaanites; and they went out to the Negeb of Judah at Beer-sheba.

So when they had gone through all the land, they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days.

And Jo'ab gave the sum of the numbering of the people to the king: in Israel there were eight hundred thousand valiant men who drew the sword, and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand.

Satan stood up against Israel, and incited David to number Israel.

So David said to Jo'ab and the commanders of the army, "Go, number Israel, from Beer-sheba to Dan, and bring me a report, that I may know their number."

But Jo'ab said, "May the LORD add to his people a hundred times as many as they are! Are they not, my lord the king, all of them my lord's servants? Why then should my lord require this? Why should he bring guilt upon Israel?"

But the king's word prevailed against Jo'ab. So Jo'ab departed and went throughout all Israel,

and came back to Jerusalem. And Jo'ab gave the sum of the numbering of the people to David. In all Israel there were one million one hundred thousand men who drew the sword, and in Judah four hundred and seventy thousand who drew the sword.

But he did not include Levi and Benjamin in the numbering, for the king's command was abhorrent to Jo'ab. But God was displeased with this thing, and he smote Israel.

But David's heart smote him after he had numbered the people. And David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O LORD, I pray thee, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly."

And when David arose in the morning, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, "Go and say to David, 'Thus says the LORD, Three things I offer you; choose one of them, that I may do it to you.'"

So Gad came to David and told him, and said to him, "Shall three years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months before your foes while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days' pestilence in your land? Now consider, and decide what answer I shall return to him who sent me."

Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress; let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man."

So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning until the appointed time; and there died of the people from Dan to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men. And when the angel stretched forth his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented of the evil, and said to the angel who was working destruction among the people, "It is enough; now stay your hand." And the angel of the LORD was by the threshing floor of Arau'nah the Jeb'usite.

Then David spoke to the LORD when he saw the angel who was smiting the people, and said, "Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done? Let thy hand, I pray thee, be against me and against my father's house." (2Sa 24:1-17)

And David said to God, "I have sinned greatly in that I have done this thing. But now, I pray thee, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly." And the LORD spoke to Gad, David's seer, saying, "Go and say to David, 'Thus says the LORD, Three things I offer you; choose one of them, that I may do it to you.'"

So Gad came to David and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Take which you will: either three years of famine; or three months of devastation by your foes, while the sword of your enemies overtakes you; or else three days of the sword of the LORD, pestilence upon the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the territory of Israel.' Now decide what answer I shall return to him who sent me."

Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress; let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is very great; but let me not fall into the hand of man."

So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel; and there fell seventy thousand men of Israel.

And God sent the angel to Jerusalem to destroy it; but when he was about to destroy it, the LORD saw, and he repented of the evil; and he said to the destroying angel, "It is enough; now stay your hand." And the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jeb'usite.

And David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, and in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.

And David said to God, "Was it not I who gave command to number the people? It is I who have sinned and done very wickedly. But these sheep, what have they done? Let thy hand, I pray thee, O LORD my God, be against me and against my father's house; but let not the plague be upon thy people." (1Ch 21:1-17)

David Builds an Altar

2 Samuel 24:18-25 & 1 Chronicles 21:18-22:1

And Gad came that day to David, and said to him, "Go up, rear an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Arau'nah the Jeb'usite." So David went up at Gad's word, as the LORD commanded.

And when Arau'nah looked down, he saw the king and his servants coming on toward him; and Arau'nah went forth, and did obeisance to the king with his face to the ground.

And Arau'nah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?"

David said, "To buy the threshing floor of you, in order to build an altar to the LORD, that the plague may be averted from the people."

Then Arau'nah said to David, "Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him; here are the oxen for the burnt offering, and the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood. All this, O king, Arau'nah gives to the king." And Arau'nah said to the king, "The LORD your God accept you."

But the king said to Arau'nah, "No, but I will buy it of you for a price; I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing."

So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

So the LORD heeded supplications for the land, and the plague was averted from Israel. (2Sa 24:18-24)

Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David that David should go up and rear an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jeb'usite. So David went up at Gad's word, which he had spoken in the name of the LORD.

Now Ornan was threshing wheat; he turned and saw the angel, and his four sons who were with him hid themselves. As David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David and went forth from the threshing floor, and did obeisance to David with his face to the ground.

And David said to Ornan, "Give me the site of the threshing floor that I may build on it an altar to the LORD--give it to me at its full price--that the plague may be averted from the people."

Then Ornan said to David, "Take it; and let my lord the king do what seems good to him; see, I give the oxen for burnt offerings, and the threshing sledges for the wood, and the wheat for a cereal offering. I give it all."

But King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will buy it for the full price; I will not take for the LORD what is yours, nor offer burnt offerings which cost me nothing."

So David paid Ornan six hundred shekels of gold by weight for the site. And David built there an altar to the LORD and presented burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the LORD, and he answered him with fire from heaven upon the altar of burnt offering.

Then the LORD commanded the angel; and he put his sword back into its sheath. At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jeb'usite, he made his sacrifices there. For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses had made in the wilderness, and the altar of burnt offering were at that time in the high place at Gibeon; but David could not go before it to inquire of God, for he was afraid of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

Then David said, "Here shall be the house of the LORD God and here the altar of burnt offering for Israel." (1Ch 21:18-22:1)

Adonijah Sets Himself Up as King

1 Kings 1:1-27

David Makes Solomon King

1 Kings 1:28-53

Preparations for the Temple

1 Chronicles 22:2-19

The Levites

1 Chronicles 23:1-6

Gershonites

1 Chronicles 23:7-11

Kohathites

1 Chronicles 23:12-20

Merarites

1 Chronicles 23:21-32

The Divisions of the Priests

1 Chronicles 24:1-19

The Rest of the Levites

1 Chronicles 24:20-31

The Singers

1 Chronicles 25:1-31

The Gatekeepers

1 Chronicles 26:1-19

The Treasurers and Other Officials

1 Chronicles 26:20-32

Army Divisions

1 Chronicles 27:1-15

Ovvicers of the Tribes
1 Chronicles 27:16-24

The Kings Overseers
1 Chronicles 28:1-21

Gifts for Building the Temple
1 Chronicles 29:1-9

David's Prayer
1 Chronicles 29:10-20

Solomon Acknowledged as King (2nd time)
1 Chronicles 29:21-25

David's Charge to Solomon
1 Kings 1:1-9

The Death of David
1 Kings 2:10-12

Then David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David. And the time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

So Solomon sat upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was firmly established. (1Ki 2:10-12)

1 Chronicles 29:26-30

Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. The time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

Then he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honor; and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

Now the acts of King David, from first to last, are written in the Chronicles of Samuel the seer, and in the Chronicles of Nathan the prophet, and in the Chronicles of Gad the seer, with accounts of all his rule and his might and of the circumstances that came upon him and upon Israel, and upon all the kingdoms of the countries. (1Ch 29:26-30)

Solomon's Throne Established
1 Kings 2:13-46

Solomon Asks for Wisdom

1 Kings 3:1-15 & 2 Chronicles 1:1-17

Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt; he took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem. The people were sacrificing at the high places, however, because no house had yet been built for the name of the LORD.

Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father; only, he sacrificed and burnt incense at the high places.

And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place;

Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings upon that altar.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I shall give you."

And Solomon said, "Thou hast shown great and steadfast love to thy servant David my father, because he walked before thee in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward thee; and thou hast kept for him this great and steadfast love, and hast given him a son to sit on his throne this day.

And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people whom thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude. Give thy servant therefore an understanding mind to govern thy people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to govern this thy great people?"

Solomon the son of David established himself in his kingdom, and the LORD his God was with him and made him exceedingly great.

Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, to the judges, and to all the leaders in all Israel, the heads of fathers' houses.

And Solomon, and all the assembly with him, went to the high place that was at Gibeon; for the tent of meeting of God, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness, was there. (But David had brought up the ark of God from Kir'iath-je'arim to the place that David had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem.) Moreover the bronze altar that Bez'alel the son of Uri, son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the LORD. And Solomon and the assembly sought the LORD. And Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before the LORD, which was at the tent of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it.

In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, "Ask what I shall give you."

And Solomon said to God, "Thou hast shown great and steadfast love to David my father, and hast made me king in his stead. O LORD God, let thy promise to David my father be now fulfilled,

for thou hast made me king over a people as many as the dust of the earth.

Give me now wisdom and knowledge to go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this thy people, that is so great?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream.

Then he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants. (1Ki 3:1-15)

God answered Solomon, "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked possessions, wealth, honor, or the life of those who hate you, and have not even asked long life, but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may rule my people over whom I have made you king, wisdom and knowledge are granted to you.

I will also give you riches, possessions, and honor, such as none of the kings had who were before you, and none after you shall have the like."

So Solomon came from the high place at Gibeon, from before the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem. And he reigned over Israel. (1Ch 1:1-13)

Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. And the king made silver and gold as common in Jerusalem as stone, and he made cedar as plentiful as the sycamore of the Shephe'lah. And Solomon's import of horses was from Egypt and Ku'e, and the king's traders received them from Ku'e for a price. They imported a chariot from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty; likewise through them these were exported to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria. (2Ch 1:14-17)

A Wise Ruling

1 Kings 3:16-28

Solomon's Officials and Governors

1 Kings 4:1-19

Solomon's Daily Provisions

1 Kings 4:20-28

Solomon's Wisdom

1 Kings 4:29-34

Preparations for Building the Temple

1 Kings 5:1-18 & 2 Chronicles 2:1-18

Now Solomon purposed to build a temple for the name of the LORD, and a royal palace for himself. And Solomon assigned seventy thousand men to bear burdens and eighty thousand to quarry in the hill country, and three thousand six hundred to oversee them. (2Ch 2:1-2)

Now Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, when he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father; for Hiram always loved David. (1 Ki 5:1)

And Solomon sent word to Hiram, *the King of Tyre*:

"You know that David my father could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until the LORD put them under the soles of his feet. But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune. And so I purpose to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD said to David my father, 'Your son, whom I will set upon your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name.' (1 Ki 5:3-5)

"As you dealt with David my father and sent him cedar to build himself a house to dwell in, so deal with me. Behold, I am about to build a house for the name of the LORD my God and dedicate it to him for the burning of incense of sweet spices before him, and for the continual offering of the showbread, and for burnt offerings morning and evening, on the sabbaths and the new moons and the appointed feasts of the LORD our God, as ordained for ever for Israel.

The house which I am to build will be great, for our God is greater than all gods. But who is able to build him a house, since heaven, even highest heaven, cannot contain him? Who am I to build a house for him, except as a place to burn incense before him?

So now send me a man skilled to work in gold, silver, bronze, and iron, and in purple, crimson, and blue fabrics, trained also in engraving, to be with the skilled workers who are with me in Judah and Jerusalem, whom David my father provided. (2Ch 2:3-7)

Now therefore command that cedars of Lebanon be cut for me; and my servants will join your servants, and I will pay you for your servants such wages as you set; for you know that there is no one among us who knows how to cut timber like the Sido'nians." (1 Ki 5:6)

Send me also cedar, cypress, and algum timber from Lebanon, for I know that your servants know how to cut timber in Lebanon. And my servants will be with your servants, to prepare timber for me in abundance, for the house I am to build will be great and wonderful. I will give for your servants, the hewers who cut timber, twenty thousand cors of crushed wheat, twenty thousand cors of barley, twenty thousand baths of wine, and twenty thousand baths of oil." (2Ch 2:8-10)

When Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he rejoiced greatly, and said,

"Blessed be the LORD this day, who has given to David a wise son to be over this great people." (1 Ki 5:7)

And *Then Hiram the king of Tyre sent to Solomon, saying [answered in a letter which he sent to Solomon],*

"Because the LORD loves his people he has made you king over them."

Hiram also said,

"Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who made heaven and earth, who has given King David a wise son, endued with discretion and understanding, who will build a temple for the LORD, and a royal palace for himself.

"Now I have sent a skilled man, endued with understanding, Hiram-abi, the son of a woman of the daughters of Dan, and his father was a man of Tyre. He is trained to work in gold,

silver, bronze, iron, stone, and wood, and in purple, blue, and crimson fabrics and fine linen, and to do all sorts of engraving and execute any design that may be assigned him, with your craftsmen, the craftsmen of my lord, David your father. (2Ch 2:11-14)

"I have heard the message which you have sent to me; I am ready to do all you desire in the matter of cedar and cypress timber. My servants shall bring it down to the sea from Lebanon; and I will make it into rafts to go by sea to the place you direct, and I will have them broken up there, and you shall receive it; and you shall meet my wishes by providing food for my household." (1 Ki 5:8-9)

Now therefore the wheat and barley, oil and wine, of which my lord has spoken, let him send to his servants; and we will cut whatever timber you need from Lebanon, and bring it to you in rafts by sea to Joppa, so that you may take it up to Jerusalem." (2Ch 2:15-16)

So Hiram supplied Solomon with all the timber of cedar and cypress that he desired, while Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat as food for his household, and twenty thousand cors of beaten oil. Solomon gave this to Hiram year by year. And the LORD gave Solomon wisdom, as he promised him; and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon; and the two of them made a treaty.

King Solomon raised a levy of forced labor out of all Israel; and the levy numbered thirty thousand men. And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month in relays; they would be a month in Lebanon and two months at home; Adoni'ram was in charge of the levy. Solomon also had seventy thousand burden-bearers and eighty thousand hewers of stone in the hill country, besides Solomon's three thousand three hundred chief officers who were over the work, who had charge of the people who carried on the work.

At the king's command, they quarried out great, costly stones in order to lay the foundation of the house with dressed stones. So Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders and the men of Gebal did the hewing and prepared the timber and the stone to build the house. (1 Ki 5:10-18)

Then Solomon took a census of all the aliens who were in the land of Israel, after the census of them which David his father had taken; and there were found a hundred and fifty-three thousand six hundred. Seventy thousand of them he assigned to bear burdens, eighty thousand to quarry in the hill country, and three thousand six hundred as overseers to make the people work. (2Ch 2:17-18)

Solomon Builds the Temple

1 Kings 6:1-38 & 2 Chronicles 3:1-17

Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem on Mount Mori'ah, where the LORD had appeared to David his father, at the place that David had appointed, on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jeb'usite. (1Ch 3:1)

In the four hundred and eightieth year after the people of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, he began to build the house of the LORD.

The house which King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and thirty cubits high.

He began to build in the second month of the fourth year of his reign.

These are Solomon's measurements for building the house of God: the length, in

The vestibule in front of the nave of the house was twenty cubits long, equal to the width of the house, and ten cubits deep in front of the house.

cubits of the old standard, was sixty cubits, and the breadth twenty cubits. The vestibule in front of the nave of the house was twenty cubits long, equal to the width of the house; and its height was a hundred and twenty cubits. (1Ch 3:2-4a)

And he made for the house windows with recessed frames. He also built a structure against the wall of the house, running round the walls of the house, both the nave and the inner sanctuary; and he made side chambers all around. The lowest story was five cubits broad, the middle one was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad; for around the outside of the house he made offsets on the wall in order that the supporting beams should not be inserted into the walls of the house.

When the house was built, it was with stone prepared at the quarry; so that neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron was heard in the temple, while it was being built.

The entrance for the lowest story was on the south side of the house; and one went up by stairs to the middle story, and from the middle story to the third. So he built the house, and finished it; and he made the ceiling of the house of beams and planks of cedar. He built the structure against the whole house, each story five cubits high, and it was joined to the house with timbers of cedar.

Now the word of the LORD came to Solomon, "Concerning this house which you are building, if you will walk in my statutes and obey my ordinances and keep all my commandments and walk in them, then I will establish my word with you, which I spoke to David your father. And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel."

So Solomon built the house, and finished it. He lined the walls of the house on the inside with boards of cedar; from the floor of the house to the rafters of the ceiling, he covered them on the inside with wood; and he covered the floor of the house with boards of cypress.

He built twenty cubits of the rear of the house with boards of cedar from the floor to the rafters, and he built this within as an inner sanctuary, as the most holy place. The house, that is, the nave in front of the inner sanctuary, was forty cubits long. The cedar within the house was carved in the form of gourds and open flowers; all was cedar, no stone was seen.

The inner sanctuary he prepared in the innermost part of the house, to set there the ark of the covenant of the LORD. The inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high; and he overlaid it with pure gold. He also made an altar of cedar. And Solomon overlaid the inside of the house with pure gold, and he drew chains of gold across, in front of the inner sanctuary, and overlaid it with gold. And he overlaid the whole house with gold, until all the house was finished. Also the whole altar that belonged to the inner sanctuary he overlaid with gold.

And he made the most holy place; its length, corresponding to the breadth of the house, was twenty cubits, and its breadth was twenty cubits; he overlaid it with six hundred talents of fine gold. The weight of the nails was one shekel to fifty shekels of gold. And he overlaid the upper chambers with gold. (2Ch 3:8-9)

He overlaid it on the inside with pure gold. The nave he lined with cypress, and covered it with fine gold, and made palms and chains on it. He adorned the house with settings of precious stones. The gold was gold of Parva'im. So he lined the house with gold--its beams, its thresholds, its walls, and its doors; and he carved cherubim on the walls. (2Ch 3:4b-7)

In the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olivewood, each ten cubits high. Five cubits was the length of one wing of the

In the most holy place he made two cherubim of wood and overlaid them with gold.

cherub, and five cubits the length of the other wing of the cherub; it was ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. The other cherub also measured ten cubits; both cherubim had the same measure and the same form. The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was that of the other cherub. He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; and the wings of the cherubim were spread out so that a wing of one touched the one wall, and a wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; their other wings touched each other in the middle of the house. And he overlaid the cherubim with gold.

The wings of the cherubim together extended twenty cubits: one wing of the one, of five cubits, touched the wall of the house, and its other wing, of five cubits, touched the wing of the other cherub; and of this cherub, one wing, of five cubits, touched the wall of the house, and the other wing, also of five cubits, was joined to the wing of the first cherub. The wings of these cherubim extended twenty cubits; the cherubim stood on their feet, facing the nave. (2Ch 3:10-13)

He carved all the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubim and palm trees and open flowers, in the inner and outer rooms. The floor of the house he overlaid with gold in the inner and outer rooms.

For the entrance to the inner sanctuary he made doors of olivewood; the lintel and the doorposts formed a pentagon. He covered the two doors of olivewood with carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers; he overlaid them with gold, and spread gold upon the cherubim and upon the palm trees. (1Ki 6:1-36)

And he made the veil of blue and purple and crimson fabrics and fine linen, and worked cherubim on it. (2Ch 3:14)

So also he made for the entrance to the nave doorposts of olivewood, in the form of a square, and two doors of cypress wood; the two leaves of the one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding. On them he carved cherubim and palm trees and open flowers; and he overlaid them with gold evenly applied upon the carved work.

He built the inner court with three courses of hewn stone and one course of cedar beams.

In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid, in the month of Ziv. And in the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its parts, and according to all its specifications. He was seven years in building it. (1Ki 6:37-38)

Solomon Builds His Palace

1 Kings 7:1-12

The Temple Furnishings

1 Kings 7:1-13 & 2 Chronicles 4:1-5:1

And King Solomon sent and brought Hiram from Tyre. He was the son of a widow of the tribe of Naph'tali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in bronze; and he was full of wisdom, understanding, and skill, for making any work in bronze. He came to King Solomon, and did all his work.

He cast two pillars of bronze.

Eighteen cubits was the height of one pillar, and a line of twelve cubits measured its circumference; it was hollow, and its thickness was four fingers; the second pillar

In front of the house he made two pillars thirty-five cubits high,

was the same. He also made two capitals of molten bronze, to set upon the tops of the pillars; the height of the one capital was five cubits, and the height of the other capital was five cubits. Then he made two nets of checker work with wreaths of chain work for the capitals upon the tops of the pillars; a net for the one capital, and a net for the other capital. Likewise he made pomegranates; in two rows round about upon the one network, to cover the capital that was upon the top of the pillar; and he did the same with the other capital. Now the capitals that were upon the tops of the pillars in the vestibule were of lily-work, four cubits. The capitals were upon the two pillars and also above the rounded projection which was beside the network; there were two hundred pomegranates, in two rows round about; and so with the other capital. He set up the pillars at the vestibule of the temple; he set up the pillar on the south and called its name Jachin; and he set up the pillar on the north and called its name Bo'az. And upon the tops of the pillars was lily-work. Thus the work of the pillars was finished. (1Ki 7:13-22)

With capital of five cubits on the top of each. He made chains like a necklace and put them on the tops of the pillars;

and he made a hundred pomegranates, and put them on the chains.

He set up the pillars in front of the temple, one on the south, the other on the north; that on the south he called Jachin, and that on the north Bo'az. (2Ch 3:15-17)

He made an altar of bronze, twenty cubits long, and twenty cubits wide, and ten cubits high. (2Ch 4:1)

Then he made the molten sea; it was round, ten cubits from brim to brim, and five cubits high, and a line of thirty cubits measured its circumference. Under its brim were *figures of gourds*, for thirty cubits, compassing the sea round about; the gourds were in two rows, cast with it when it was cast.

It stood upon twelve oxen, three facing north, three facing west, three facing south, and three facing east; the sea was set upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward. Its thickness was a handbreadth; and its brim was made like the brim of a cup, like the flower of a lily; it held two thousand baths. (1Ki 7:23-26 & 2Ch 4:2-5)

He also made the ten stands of bronze; each stand was four cubits long, four cubits wide, and three cubits high. This was the construction of the stands: they had panels, and the panels were set in the frames and on the panels that were set in the frames were lions, oxen, and cherubim. Upon the frames, both above and below the lions and oxen, there were wreaths of beveled work. Moreover each stand had four bronze wheels and axles of bronze; and at the four corners were supports for a laver. The supports were cast, with wreaths at the side of each. Its opening was within a crown which projected upward one cubit; its opening was round, as a pedestal is made, a cubit and a half deep. At its opening there were carvings; and its panels were square, not round. And the four wheels were underneath the panels; the axles of the wheels were of one piece with the stands; and the height of a wheel was a cubit and a half. The wheels were made like a chariot wheel; their axles, their rims, their spokes, and their hubs, were all cast.

There were four supports at the four corners of each stand; the supports were of one piece with the stands. And on the top of the stand there was a round band half a cubit high; and on the top of the stand its stays and its panels were of one piece with it. And on the surfaces of its stays

and on its panels, he carved cherubim, lions, and palm trees, according to the space of each, with wreaths round about. After this manner he made the ten stands; all of them were cast alike, of the same measure and the same form.

And he made ten lavers of bronze; each laver held forty baths, each laver measured four cubits, and there was a laver for each of the ten stands. And he set the stands, five on the south side of the house, and five on the north side of the house; and he set the sea on the southeast corner of the house. (1Ki 7:27-39)

He also made ten lavers in which to wash, and set five on the south side, and five on the north side. In these they were to rinse off what was used for the burnt offering, and the sea was for the priests to wash in. (2Ch 4:6)

And he made ten golden lampstands as prescribed, and set them in the temple, five on the south side and five on the north.

He also made ten tables, and placed them in the temple, five on the south side and five on the north. And he made a hundred basins of gold.

He made the court of the priests, and the great court, and doors for the court, and overlaid their doors with bronze; and he set the sea at the southeast corner of the house. (2Ch 4:7-10)

Hiram [Huram] also made the pots, the shovels, and the basins.

So Hiram [Huram] finished all the work that he did for King Solomon on the house of the LORD [God]:

the two pillars,
the two bowls of [*and*] the [*two*] capitals that were on the tops of the pillars,
and the two networks to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the tops of the pillars;

and the four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, two rows of pomegranates for each network, to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were upon the pillars;

*He made the ten stands also, and the ten lavers upon the stands;
and the one sea, and the twelve oxen underneath the sea [it].*

Now the pots, the shovels, and the basins, all these vessels in the house of the LORD, which Hiram made for King Solomon, were of burnished bronze.

The pots, the shovels, the forks, and all the equipment for these Hiram-abi made of burnished bronze for King Solomon for the house of the LORD. (2Ch 4:16)

In the plain of the Jordan the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zarethan [Zer'edah].

And Solomon left all the vessels unweighed, because there were so many of them; the weight of the bronze was not found out.

Solomon made all these things in great quantities, so that the weight of the bronze was not ascertained. (2Ch 4:19)

So Solomon made all the vessels [things] that were in the house of the LORD God]:
the golden altar,
the golden tables for the bread of the Presence,
the lampstands *and their laps* of pure gold to burn before the inner sanctuary, five on the south side and five on the north, before the inner sanctuary; *as prescribed*;
the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs, of *purest* gold;
the cups, snuffers, basins, dishes for incense, and firepans, of pure gold;

and the sockets of gold, for the doors of the innermost part of the house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the nave of the temple.

and the sockets of the temple, for the inner doors to the most holy place and for the doors of the nave of the temple were of gold.
(2Ch 4:22b)

Thus all the work that King Solomon did on the house of the LORD was finished. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated, *and stored* the silver, the gold, and *all* the vessels, and stored them in the treasuries of the house of the LORD [God]. (1Ki 7:40-51 & 2Ch 4:11-5:1)

The Ark Brought to the Temple

1 Kings 8:1-21 & 2 Chronicles 5:2-6:11

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers' houses of the people of Israel, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. And all the men of Israel assembled to to [before the] King Solomon at the feast in the month Eth'anim, which is *[in]* the seventh month.

And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests [Levites] took up the ark. And they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered.

Then [So] the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside; and they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tables of stone which Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

And when the priests came out of the holy place (*for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without regard to their divisions; and all the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, and Jedu'thun, their sons and kinsmen, arrayed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps, and lyres, stood east of the altar with a hundred and twenty priests who were trumpeters; and it was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the LORD*), and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the LORD, "*For he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever,*" a cloud filled the house of the LORD [the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud], so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD [God].

Then Solomon said, "The LORD has set the sun in the heavens, but has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. I have built thee an exalted house, a place for thee to dwell in for ever."

Then the king faced about, and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood. And he said,

"Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his hand has fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to David my father, saying, 'Since the day that I brought my

people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city in all the tribes of Israel in which to build a house, that my name might be there [*and I chose no man as prince over my people Israel; but I have chosen Jerusalem that my name may be there*]; but I chose [*and I have chosen*] David to be over my people Israel.'

Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. But the LORD said to David my father, 'Whereas it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart; nevertheless you shall not build the house, but your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for my name.'

Now the LORD has fulfilled his promise which he made; for I have risen in the place of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and I have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. And there I have provided a place for the ark, in which is the covenant of the LORD which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt [*the people of Israel*]." (1Ki 8:1-21 & 2Ch 6:1-11)

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

1 Kings 8:22-61 & 2 Chronicles 6:12-42

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven. [*Solomon had made a bronze platform five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits high, and had set it in the court; and he stood upon it. Then he knelt upon his knees in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven*]; and said,

"O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and showing steadfast love to thy servants who walk before thee with all their heart; who hast kept with thy servant David my father what thou didst declare to him; yea, thou didst speak with thy mouth, and with thy hand hast fulfilled it this day.

Now therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father what thou hast promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a man before me to sit upon the throne of Israel, if only your sons take heed to their way, to walk before me [*in my law*] as you have walked before me.' Now therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, let thy word be confirmed, which thou hast spoken to thy servant David my father.

"But will God indeed dwell *with man* on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built! Yet have regard to the prayer of thy servant and to his supplication, O LORD my God, hearkening to the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prays before thee this day; that thy eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which thou hast said, 'My name shall be there,' [*where thou hast promised to set thy name,*] that thou mayest hearken to the prayer which thy servant offers toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant and of thy people Israel, when they pray toward this place; yea, hear thou in [*from*] heaven thy dwelling place; and when thou hearest, forgive.

"If a man sins against his neighbor and is made to take an oath, and comes and swears his oath before thine altar in this house, then hear thou in heaven, and act, and judge thy servants, condemning [*requiting*] the guilty by bringing his conduct upon his own head, and vindicating the righteous by rewarding him according to his righteousness.

"When [*if*] thy people Israel are defeated before the enemy because they have sinned against thee, if [*when*] they turn again to thee, and acknowledge thy name, and pray and make supplication to thee in this house; then hear thou in [*from*] heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again to the land which thou gavest *to them and* to their fathers.

"When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against thee, if they pray toward this place, and acknowledge thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou dost afflict them, then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, thy people Israel, when thou dost teach them the good way in which they should walk; and grant rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people as an inheritance. "If there is famine in the land, if there is pestilence or blight or mildew or locust or caterpillar; if their enemy [enemies] besieges [besiege] them in any of their cities; whatever plague, whatever sickness there is; whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by any man or by all thy people Israel, each knowing the affliction of his own heart [his own affliction, and his own sorrow] and stretching out his hands toward this house; then hear thou in [from] heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and act, and render to each whose heart thou knowest, according to all his ways (for thou, thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men); that they may fear thee *and walk in thy ways all* the days that they live in the land which thou gavest to our fathers.

"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of thy people Israel, comes from a far country for thy name's sake [the sake of thy great name, and thy mighty hand, and thy outstretched arm] (for they shall hear of thy great name, and thy mighty hand, and of thy outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this house, hear thou in [from] heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to thee; in order that all the peoples of the earth may know thy name and fear thee, as do thy people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

"If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, by whatever way thou shalt send them, and they pray to the LORD [thee] toward the [this] city which thou hast chosen and the house which I have built for thy name, then hear thou in [from] heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

"If they sin against thee--for there is no man who does not sin--and thou art angry with them, and dost give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away captive to the land of the enemy to a land, far off or near; yet if they lay it to heart in the land to which they have been carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to thee in the land of their captors, saying, 'We have sinned, and have acted perversely and wickedly'; if they repent with all their mind and with all their heart in the land of their enemies, who carried them captive [captivity, to which they were carried captive], and pray to thee toward their land, which thou gavest to their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name; then hear thou in [from] heaven thy dwelling place their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause and forgive thy people who have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions which they have committed against thee; and grant them compassion in the sight of those who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them (for they are thy people, and thy heritage, which thou didst bring out of Egypt, from the midst of the iron furnace).

Let thy eyes be open to the supplication of thy servant, and to the supplication of thy people Israel, giving ear to them whenever they call to thee. For thou didst separate them from among all the peoples of the earth, to be thy heritage, as thou didst declare through Moses, thy servant, when thou didst bring our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord GOD." (1Ki 8:52-53)

Now, O my God, let thy eyes be open and thy ears attentive to a prayer of this place. "And now arise, O LORD God, and go to thy resting place, thou and the ark of thy might. Let thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in thy goodness. O LORD God, do not turn away the face of thy anointed one! Remember thy steadfast love for David thy servant." (2Ch 6:40-42)

When Solomon had ended his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house. When all the children of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the LORD upon the

temple, they bowed down with their faces to the earth on the pavement, and worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever." (2Ch 7:1-3)

Now as Solomon finished offering all this prayer and supplication to the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, where he had knelt with hands outstretched toward heaven; and he stood, and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

"Blessed be the LORD who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised; not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he uttered by Moses his servant. The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers; may he not leave us or forsake us; that he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances, which he commanded our fathers. Let these words of mine, wherewith I have made supplication before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires; that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other. Let your heart therefore be wholly true to the LORD our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day." (1Ki 8:53-61)

The Dedication of the Temple

1 Kings 8:62-66 & 2 Chronicles 7:1-10

Then the king, and all Israel with him [*the people*], offered sacrifice before the LORD. *King Solomon* offered as peace offerings to the LORD [*a sacrifice*] twenty-two thousand oxen and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD [*God*].

The priests stood at their posts; the Levites also, with the instruments for music to the LORD which King David had made for giving thanks to the LORD--for his steadfast love endures for ever--whenever David offered praises by their ministry; opposite them the priests sounded trumpets; and all Israel stood. (2Ch 7:6)

The same day the king consecrated the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD; for there he offered the burnt offering and the cereal offering and the fat pieces of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar that was before the LORD was too small to receive the burnt offering and the cereal offering and the fat pieces of the peace offerings.

So Solomon held the feast at that time, and all Israel with him, a great assembly, from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days.

On the eighth day he sent the people away; and they blessed the king, and went to their homes joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the LORD Had shown to David his servant and to Israel his people. (1Ki 8:64-66)

And Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD; for there he offered the burnt offering and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar Solomon had made could not hold the burnt offering and the cereal offering and the fat.

At that time Solomon held the feast for seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great congregation, from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt. And on the eighth day they held a solemn assembly; for they had kept the dedication of the altar seven days and the feast seven days. On the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their homes, joyful and glad of heart for the goodness that the LORD had shown to David and to Solomon and to Israel his people. (2Ch 7:7-10)

The Lord Appears to Solomon

1 Kings 9:1-9 & 2 Chronicles 7:11-22

When Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's house and all that Solomon desired to build, the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. And the LORD said to him,

"I have heard your prayer and your supplication, which you have made before me; I have consecrated this house which you have built, and put my name there for ever; my eyes and my heart will be there for all time. (1Ki 9:1-3)

Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's house; all that Solomon had planned to do in the house of the LORD and in his own house he successfully accomplished. Then the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him:

"I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice. (2Ch 7:11-12a)

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there for ever; my eyes and my heart will be there for all time. (2Ch 7:13-16)

And as for you, if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and my ordinances, then I will establish your royal throne over Israel for ever, as I promised [covenanted with] David your father, saying, 'There shall not fail you a man upon the throne of [to rule] Israel.'

But if you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and do not keep [and forsake my statutes and my commandments] my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but [and] go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut off Israel [pluck you up] from the land which I have given them [you]; and the [this] house which I have consecrated for my name I will cast out of my sight; and Israel will become [will make it] a proverb and a byword among all peoples. And this house will become a heap of ruins [at this house, which is exalted]; everyone passing by it will be astonished, and will hiss; and they will say, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?' Then they will say, 'Because they forsook the LORD their God [of their fathers] who brought their fathers [them] out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore the LORD [he] has brought all this evil upon them.'" (1Ki 9:1-9 & 2Ch 7:11-22)

Solomon's Other Activities

1 Kings 9:10-28 & 2 Chronicles 8:1-18

At the end of twenty years, in which Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD and the king's [his own] house, (1Ki 9:10)

and Hiram king of Tyre had supplied Solomon with cedar and cypress timber and gold, as much as he desired, King Solomon gave to Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. But when Hiram came from Tyre to see the cities which

Solomon had given him, they did not please him. Therefore he said, "What kind of cities are these which you have given me, my brother?" So they are called the land of Cabul to this day. Hiram had sent to the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold. (1Ki 9:11-14)

Solomon rebuilt the cities which Hiram had given to him, and settled the people of Israel in them. And Solomon went to Ha'math-zo'bah, and took it. He built Tadmor in the wilderness and all the store-cities which he built in Hamath. He also built Upper Beth-hor'on and Lower Beth-hor'on, fortified cities with walls, gates, and bars, and Ba'alath, and all the store-cities that Solomon had, and all the cities for his chariots, and the cities for his horsemen, and whatever Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion. (2Ch 8:2-6)

And this is the account of the forced labor which King Solomon levied to build the house of the LORD and his own house and the Millo and the wall of Jerusalem and Hazor and Megid'do and Gezer (Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and captured Gezer and burnt it with fire, and had slain the Canaanites who dwelt in the city, and had given it as dowry to his daughter, Solomon's wife; so Solomon rebuilt Gezer) and Lower Beth-hor'on and Ba'alath and Tamar in the wilderness, in the land of Judah, and all the store-cities that Solomon had, and the cities for his chariots, and the cities for his horsemen, and whatever Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion. (1Ki 9:15-19)

All the people who were left of the Amorites, the Hittites [*Hittites, the Amorites*], the Per'izzites, the Hivites, and the Jeb'usites, who were not of the people of Israel-- from their descendants who were left after them in the land, whom the people of Israel were unable to destroy utterly [*had not destroyed*]-these Solomon made a forced levy of slaves, and so they are to this day. But of the people of Israel Solomon made no slaves *for his work*; they were the soldiers, they were his officials, his commanders, his captains [*and his officers*], his chariot commanders [*the commanders of his chariots*] and his horsemen. And These were the chief officers who were over Solomon's work [*of King Solomon*]: five [*two*] hundred and fifty, who had charge of [*exercised authority over*] the people who carried on the work. (1Ki 9:20-23 & 1Ch 8:7-10)

But Pharaoh's daughter went up from the city of David to her own house which Solomon had built for her; then he built the Millo.

Three times a year Solomon used to offer up burnt offerings and peace offerings upon the altar which he built to the LORD, burning incense before the LORD. So he finished the house. (1Ki 9:24-25)

Solomon brought Pharaoh's daughter up from the city of David to the house which he had built for her, for he said, "My wife shall not live in the house of David king of Israel, for the places to which the ark of the LORD has come are holy."

Then Solomon offered up burnt offerings to the LORD upon the altar of the LORD which he had built before the vestibule, as the duty of each day required, offering according to the commandment of Moses for the sabbaths, the new moons, and the three annual feasts--the feast of unleavened bread, the feast of weeks, and the feast of tabernacles. (2Ch 8:11-13)

According to the ordinance of David his father, he appointed the divisions of the priests for their service, and the Levites for their offices of praise and ministry before the priests as the duty of each day required, and the gatekeepers in their divisions for the several gates; for so David the man of God had commanded. And they did not turn aside from what the king had commanded the priests and Levites concerning any matter and concerning the treasuries.

Thus was accomplished all the work of Solomon from the day the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid until it was finished. So the house of the LORD was completed. (1Ch 8:14-16)

King Solomon built a fleet of ships at E'zion-ge'ber, which is near Eloth on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. And Hiram sent with the fleet his servants, seamen who were familiar with the sea, together with the servants of Solomon; and they went to Ophir, and brought from there gold, to the amount of four hundred and twenty talents; and they brought it to King Solomon. (1Ki 9:26-28)

Then Solomon went to E'zion-ge'ber and Eloth on the shore of the sea, in the land of Edom. And Hiram sent him by his servants ships and servants familiar with the sea, and they went to Ophir together with the servants of Solomon, and fetched from there four hundred and fifty talents of gold and brought it to King Solomon. (2Ch 8:17-18)

The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon

1 Kings 10:1-13 & 2 Chronicles 9:1-12

Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to *Jerusalem* to test him with hard questions. She came to Jerusalem with [Having] a very great retinue, with [and] camels bearing spices, and very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king which he could not explain to her. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, *and their clothing, his cupbearers, and their clothing,* and his burnt offerings which he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more spirit in her.

And she said to the king, "The report was true which I heard in my own land of your affairs and of your wisdom, but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it; and, behold, the half [half the greatness of your wisdom was not told me; your wisdom and prosperity [you] surpass the report which I heard. Happy are your wives! Happy are these your servants, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the [his] throne of Israel as king for the LORD your God! Because the LORD [your God] loved Israel for ever, he has made you king *over them,* that you may execute justice and righteousness."

Then she gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices, and precious stones; never again came such an abundance of spices as these [there were no spices such as those] which the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon. (1Ki 10:1-10 & 2Ch 9:1-9)

Moreover the fleet of Hiram, which brought gold from Ophir, brought from Ophir a very great amount of almug wood and precious stones. And the king made of the almug wood supports for the house of the LORD, and for the king's house, lyres also and harps for the singers; no such almug wood has come or been seen, to this day. (1Ki 10:11-12)

Moreover the servants of Hiram and the servants of Solomon, who brought gold from Ophir, brought algum wood and precious stones. And the king made of the algum wood steps for the house of the LORD and for the king's house, lyres also and harps for the singers; there never was seen the like of them before in the land of Judah. (2Ch 9:10-12)

And King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all that she desired, whatever she asked besides what was given her by the bounty of King Solomon [she had brought to the king]. So she turned and went back to her own land, with her servants. (1Ki 10:13 & 2Ch 9:12)

Solomon's Splendor

1 Kings 10:14-29 & 2 Chronicles 9:13-28

Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold, besides that which came from the traders and from the traffic of the merchants, and from all the kings of Arabia and from the governors of the land [*the traders and merchants brought; and all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the land brought gold and silver to Solomon*].

King Solomon made two hundred large shields of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of *beaten* gold went into each shield. And he made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three minas [*hundred shekels*] of gold went into each shield; and the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.

The king also made a great ivory throne, and overlaid it with the finest pure gold. The throne had six steps *and a footstool of gold, which were attached to the throne, and at the back of the throne was a calf's head*, and on each side of the seat were arm rests and two lions standing beside the arm rests, while twelve lions stood there, one on each end of a step on the six steps. The like of it was never made in any kingdom. All King Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver, it [*silver*] was not considered as anything in the days of Solomon. For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish at sea with the fleet [*king's ships went to Tarshish with the servants*] of Hiram. Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish used to come bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.

Thus King Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom. And the whole [*all the kings of the*] earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind. Every one of them brought his present, articles of silver and *of* gold, garments, myrrh, spices, horses, and mules, so much year by year.

And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen [*had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots*]; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. *And he ruled over all the kings from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt.* And the king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stone, and he made cedar as plentiful as the sycamore of the Shephe'lah. And Solomon's import of horses was from Egypt and Ku'e, and the king's traders received them from Ku'e at a price. A chariot could be imported from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty; and so through the king's traders they were exported to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria [*And horses were imported for Solomon from Egypt and from all the lands.*].

(1Ki 10:14-29 & 2Ch 9:15-28)

Solomon's Wives

1 Kings 11:1-13

Solomon's Adversaries

1 Kings 11:14-25

Jeroboam Rebels Against Solomon

1 Kings 11:26-40

Solomon's Death

1 Kings 11:41-43 & 2 Chronicles 9:29-31

Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, *from first to last*, are they not written in the book of the acts of Solomon [*history of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahi'jah the Shi'lonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jerobo'am the son of Nebat*]? And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father; and Rehobo'am his son reigned in his stead. (1Ki 11:41-43 & 2Ch 9:29-31)

Israel Rebels Against Rehoboam

1 Kings 12:1-24 & 2 Chronicles 10:1-11-4

Rehobo'am went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king. And when Jerobo'am the son of Nebat heard of it (for he was still in Egypt, whither he had fled from King Solomon), then Jerobo'am returned from Egypt. And they sent and called him; and Jerobo'am and all the assembly of Israel came and said to Rehobo'am, "Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke upon us, and we will serve you."

He said to them, "Depart for three days, then come again to me [*Come to me again in three days*]." So the people went away.

Then King Rehobo'am took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he was yet alive, saying, "How do you advise me to answer this people?"

And they said to him, "If you will be a servant [*kind*] to this people today and serve [*please*] them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants for ever."

But he forsook the counsel which the old men gave him, and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him and stood before him. And he said to them, "What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me, 'Lighten the yoke that your father put upon us?'"

And the young men who had grown up with him said to him, "Thus shall you speak to this people who said to you, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but do you lighten it for us'; thus shall you say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's loins. And now, whereas my father laid upon you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.'"

So Jerobo'am and all the people came to Rehobo'am the third day, as the king said, "Come to me again the third day." And the king answered the people [*them*] harshly, and forsaking the counsel which the old men had given him [*of the old men*], he [*King Rehobo'am*] spoke to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying, "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke [*it*]; my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions." So the king did not hearken to the people; for it was a turn of affairs brought about by the LORD [*God*] that he [*the LORD*] might fulfil his word, which the LORD [*he*] spoke by Ahi'jah the Shi'lonite to Jerobo'am the son of Nebat.

And when all Israel saw that the king did not hearken to them, the people answered the king, "What portion have we in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. *Each of you* To your tents, O Israel! Look now to your own house, David." So *all* Israel departed to their tents. But Rehobo'am reigned over the people of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah.

Then King Rehobo'am sent Ador'am [*Hador'am*], who was taskmaster over the forced labor, and all *the people of* Israel stoned him to death with stones. And King Rehobo'am made haste to mount his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem. So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

And when all Israel heard that Jerobo'am had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. There was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

When Rehobo'am came to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, and the tribe of Benjamin, a hundred and eighty thousand chosen warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to restore the kingdom to Rehobo'am the son of Solomon.

But the word of God [the LORD] came to Shemai'ah the man of God: "Say to Rehobo'am the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all the house of [Israel in] Judah and Benjamin, and to the rest of the people, 'Thus says the LORD, You shall not go up or fight against your kinsmen the people of Israel [brethren]. Return every man to his home, for this thing is from me.'" So they hearkened to the word of the LORD, and went home again, according to the word of the LORD [returned and did not go against Jerobo'am]. (1Ki 12:1-24 & 2Ch 10:1-11:4)

Golden Calves at Bethel and Dan

1 Kings 12:25-33

The Man of God From Judah

1 Kings 13:1-34

Ahijah's Prophecy Against Jeroboam

1 Kings 14:1-20

Rehoboam Fortifies Judah

1 Chronicles 11:5-17

Rehoboam's Family

1 Chronicles 11:18-23

Rehoboam King of Judah & Shishak Attacks Jerusalem

1 Kings 14:21-31 & 2 Chronicles 12:1-16

Now Rehobo'am the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehobo'am was forty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. His mother's name was Na'amah the Ammonitess. *And he did evil, for he did not set his heart to seek the LORD.* (1Ki 14:21 & 2Ch 12:13b-14)

When the rule of Rehobo'am was established and was strong, he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel with him. (1Ch 12:1)

And Judah did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they committed, more than all that their fathers had done. For they also built for themselves high places, and pillars, and Ashe'rim on every high hill and under every green tree; and there were also male cult prostitutes in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD drove out before the people of Israel. (1Ki 14:22-24)

In the fifth year of King Rehobo'am, because they had been unfaithful to the LORD, Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem with twelve hundred chariots and sixty

thousand horsemen. And the people were without number who came with him from Egypt-- Libyans, Suk'ki-im, and Ethiopians. And he took the fortified cities of Judah and came as far as Jerusalem.

Then Shemai'ah the prophet came to Rehobo'am and to the princes of Judah, who had gathered at Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said to them, "Thus says the LORD, 'You abandoned me, so I have abandoned you to the hand of Shishak.'"

Then the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves and said, "The LORD is righteous."

When the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemai'ah: "They have humbled themselves; I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance, and my wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak. Nevertheless they shall be servants to him, that they may know my service and the service of the kingdoms of the countries." (1Ki 14:25a & 2Ch 12:2-8)

So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem; he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house; he took away everything. He also took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made; and King Rehobo'am made in their stead shields of bronze, and committed them to the hands of the officers of the guard, who kept the door of the king's house. And as often as the king went into the house of the LORD, the guard came and bore them and brought them back to the guardroom. (1Ki 14:25b-28 & 2Ch 12:9-11)

And when he humbled himself the wrath of the LORD turned from him, so as not to make a complete destruction; moreover, conditions were good in Judah. So King Rehobo'am established himself in Jerusalem and reigned. (2Ch 12:12-13a)

Now the rest of the acts of Rehobo'am, and all that he did, from first to last, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah [*chronicles of Shemai'ah the prophet and of Iddo the seer*]? And there was war [*There were continual wars*] between Rehobo'am and Jerobo'am continually. And Rehobo'am slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. His mother's name was Na'amah the Ammonitess. And Abi'jam [*Abi'jah*] his son reigned in his stead. (1Ki 14:29-31 & 2Ch 12:15-16)

Abijah King of Judah

1 Kings 15:1-8 & 2 Chronicles 13:1-14:1

Now in the eighteenth year of King Jerobo'am the son of Nebat, Abi'jam began to reign over Judah. He reigned for three years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Ma'acah [*Micai'ah*] the daughter of Abish'alom [*U'riel of Gib'e-ah*]. (1Ki 15:1-2 & 2Ch 13:1-2a)

And he walked in all the sins which his father did before him; and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father. Nevertheless for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, setting up his son after him, and establishing Jerusalem; because David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, and did not turn aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uri'ah the Hittite. (1Ki 15:3-5)

Now there was war between Rehobo'am and Jerobo'am [*Abi'jah and Jerobo'am*] all the days of his life. (1Ki 15:6 & 2Ch 13:2b)

Abi'jah went out to battle having an army of valiant men of war, four hundred thousand picked men; and Jerobo'am drew up his line of battle against him with eight hundred thousand picked mighty warriors.

Then Abi'jah stood up on Mount Zemara'im which is in the hill country of E'phraim, and said, "Hear me, O Jerobo'am and all Israel! Ought you not to know that the LORD God of Israel gave the kingship over Israel for ever to David and his sons by a covenant of salt? Yet Jerobo'am the son of Nebat, a servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up and rebelled against his lord; and certain worthless scoundrels gathered about him and defied Rehobo'am the son of Solomon, when Rehobo'am was young and irresolute and could not withstand them. "

And now you think to withstand the kingdom of the LORD in the hand of the sons of David, because you are a great multitude and have with you the golden calves which Jerobo'am made you for gods. Have you not driven out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and made priests for yourselves like the peoples of other lands? Whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull or seven rams becomes a priest of what are no gods.

But as for us, the LORD is our God, and we have not forsaken him. We have priests ministering to the LORD who are sons of Aaron, and Levites for their service. They offer to the LORD every morning and every evening burnt offerings and incense of sweet spices, set out the showbread on the table of pure gold, and care for the golden lampstand that its lamps may burn every evening; for we keep the charge of the LORD our God, but you have forsaken him. Behold, God is with us at our head, and his priests with their battle trumpets to sound the call to battle against you. O sons of Israel, do not fight against the LORD, the God of your fathers; for you cannot succeed."

Jerobo'am had sent an ambush around to come on them from behind; thus his troops were in front of Judah, and the ambush was behind them. And when Judah looked, behold, the battle was before and behind them; and they cried to the LORD, and the priests blew the trumpets. Then the men of Judah raised the battle shout. And when the men of Judah shouted, God defeated Jerobo'am and all Israel before Abi'jah and Judah. The men of Israel fled before Judah, and God gave them into their hand. Abi'jah and his people slew them with a great slaughter; so there fell slain of Israel five hundred thousand picked men. Thus the men of Israel were subdued at that time, and the men of Judah prevailed, because they relied upon the LORD, the God of their fathers.

And Abi'jah pursued Jerobo'am, and took cities from him, Bethel with its villages and Jeshah'nah with its villages and Ephron with its villages. Jerobo'am did not recover his power in the days of Abi'jah; and the LORD smote him, and he died.

But Abi'jah grew mighty. And he took fourteen wives, and had twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters. (2Ch 13:3-21)

The rest of the acts of Abi'jam [*Abi'jah*], *his ways and his sayings, and all that he did*, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah [*story of the prophet Iddo*]? And there was war between Abi'jam and Jerobo'am.

And Abi'jam [*So Abi'jah*] slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his stead. *In his days the land had rest for ten years.* (1Ki 15:7-8 & 2Ch 13:22-14:1)

Asa King of Judah

1 Kings 15:9-24 & 2 Chronicles 14:2-15

In the twentieth year of Jerobo'am king of Israel Asa began to reign over Judah, and he reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Ma'acah the daughter of Abish'alom. (1Kings 15:9-10)

And Asa did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as David his father had done. He put away the male cult prostitutes out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made. (1Ki 15:11-12)

And Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God. He took away the foreign altars and the high places, and broke down the pillars and hewed down the Ashe'rim, and commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to keep the law and the commandment. He also took out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the incense altars. And the kingdom had rest under him. He built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest. He had no war in those years, for the LORD gave him peace. (1Ch 14:2-6)

And he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities, and surround them with walls and towers, gates and bars; the land is still ours, because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought him, and he has given us peace on every side." So they built and prospered.

And Asa had an army of three hundred thousand from Judah, armed with bucklers and spears, and two hundred and eighty thousand men from Benjamin, that carried shields and drew bows; all these were mighty men of valor.

Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million men and three hundred chariots, and came as far as Mare'shah. And Asa went out to meet him, and they drew up their lines of battle in the valley of Zeph'athah at Mare'shah.

And Asa cried to the LORD his God, "O LORD, there is none like thee to help, between the mighty and the weak. Help us, O LORD our God, for we rely on thee, and in thy name we have come against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee."

So the LORD defeated the Ethiopians before Asa and before Judah, and the Ethiopians fled. Asa and the people that were with him pursued them as far as Gerar, and the Ethiopians fell until none remained alive; for they were broken before the LORD and his army. The men of Judah carried away very much booty. And they smote all the cities round about Gerar, for the fear of the LORD was upon them. They plundered all the cities, for there was much plunder in them. And they smote the tents of those who had cattle, and carried away sheep in abundance and camels. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

The Spirit of God came upon Azari'ah the son of Oded, and he went out to meet Asa, and said to him, "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: The LORD is with you, while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you. For a long time Israel was without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law; but when in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him, he was found by them. In those times there was no peace to him who went out or to him who came in, for great disturbances afflicted all the inhabitants of the lands. They were broken in pieces, nation against nation and city against city, for God troubled them with every sort of distress. But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded."

When Asa heard these words, the prophecy of Azari'ah the son of Oded, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols from all the land of Judah and Benjamin and from the cities which he had taken in the hill country of E'phraim, and he repaired the altar of the LORD that was in front of the vestibule of the house of the LORD.

And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those from E'phraim, Manas'seh, and Simeon who were sojourning with them, for great numbers had deserted to him from Israel when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.

They were gathered at Jerusalem in the third month of the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa. They sacrificed to the LORD on that day, from the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep. And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and with all their soul; and that whoever would not seek the LORD, the God of Israel, should be put to death, whether young or old, man or woman. They took oath to the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with horns. And all Judah rejoiced over the oath; for they had sworn with all their heart, and had sought him

with their whole desire, and he was found by them, and the LORD gave them rest round about. (2Ch 14:7-15:15)

He also removed Ma'acah his mother [Ma'acah, his mother, King Asa removed] from being queen mother because she had an abominable image made for Ashe'rah; and Asa cut down her image, *crushed it*, and burned it at the brook Kidron. But the high places were not taken away. Nevertheless the heart of Asa was wholly true to the LORD [blameless] all his days. And he brought into the house of the LORD the votive gifts of his father and his own votive gifts, silver, and gold, and vessels. *And there was no more war until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.* (1Ki 15:13-15 & 2Ch 15:16-19)

And there was war between Asa and Ba'asha king of Israel all their days. *In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Ba'asha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.*

Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in [from] the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house, and gave them into the hands of his servants; and King Asa sent them to Ben-ha'dad the son of Tabrim'mon, the son of He'zi-on, king of Syria, who dwelt in Damascus, saying, "Let there be a league between me and you, as between my father and your father: behold, I am sending to you a present of silver and gold; go, break your league with Ba'asha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me."

And Ben-ha'dad hearkened to King Asa, and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and *they* conquered Ijon [I'jon], Dan, A'bel-beth-ma'acah [A'bel-ma'im], and all Chin'neroth, with all the land [and all the store-cities] of Naph'tali. And when Ba'asha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah *and let his work cease*, and he dwelt in Tirzah. Then King Asa made a proclamation to [took] all Judah, *none was exempt*, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Ba'asha had been building; and with them King Asa [he] built Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah. (1Ki 15:16-22 & 2Ch 16:1-6)

At that time Hana'ni the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him, "Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you. Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with exceedingly many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the LORD, he gave them into your hand. For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show his might in behalf of those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this; for from now on you will have wars."

Then Asa was angry with the seer, and put him in the stocks, in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this. And Asa inflicted cruelties upon some of the people at the same time.

The acts of Asa, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet, and his disease became severe; yet even in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but sought help from physicians. (2Ch 16:7-12)

Now the rest of all the acts of Asa, all his might, and all that he did, and the cities which he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? But in his old age he was diseased in his feet. (1Ki 15:23)

And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father;

and Jehosh'aphat his son reigned in his stead. (1Ki 15:24)

And Asa slept with his fathers, dying in the forty-first year of his reign. They buried him in the tomb which he had hewn out for himself in the city of David. They laid him on a bier which had been filled with various kinds of spices prepared by the perfumer's art; and they made a very great fire in his honor. (2Ch 16:13-14)

Nadab King of Israel

1 Kings 15:25-32

Baasha King of Israel

1 Kings 15:33-16:7

Elah King of Israel

1 Kings 16:8-14

Zimri King of Israel

1 Kings 16:15-20

Omri King of Israel

1 Kings 16:21-28

Ahab Becomes King of Israel

1 Kings 16:29-34

Elijah Fed by Ravens

1 Kings 17:1-6

The Widow at Zarephath

1 Kings 17:7-24

Elijah and Obadiah

1 Kings 18:1-15

Elijah on Mount Carmel

1 Kings 18:16-46

Elijah Flees to Horeb

1 Kings 19:1-9a

The LORD Appears to Elijah

1 Kings 19:9b-18

The Call of Elisha

1 Kings 19:19-21

Ben-Hadad Attacks Samaria

1 Kings 20:1-12

Ahab Defeats Ben-Hadad

1 Kings 20:13-34

A Prophet Condemns Ahab

1 Kings 20:35-43

Naboth's Vineyard

1 Kings 21:1-29

Micaiah Prophecies Against Ahab

1 Kings 22:1-28 & 2 Chronicles 18:1-27

For three years Syria and Israel continued without war. But in the third year Jehosh'aphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel. And the king of Israel said to his servants, "Do you know that Ramoth-gilead belongs to us, and we keep quiet and do not take it out of the hand of the king of Syria?" (1Ki 22:1-3)

Now Jehosh'aphat had great riches and honor; and he made a marriage alliance with Ahab. After some years he went down to Ahab in Sama'ria. And Ahab killed an abundance of sheep and oxen for him and for the people who were with him, and induced him to go up against Ramoth-gilead. (2Ch 18:1-2)

And he [*Ahab king of Israel*] said to Jehosh'aphat *king of Judah*, "Will you go with me to battle at Ramoth-gilead?"

And Jehosh'aphat said to the king of Israel [*He answered him*], "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses. *We will be with you in the war.*" And Jehosh'aphat said to the king of Israel, "Inquire first for the word of the LORD."

Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, "Shall I [*we*] go to battle against Ramoth-gilead, or shall I forbear?"

And they said, "Go up; for the Lord [*God*] will give it into the hand of the king."

But Jehosh'aphat said, "Is there not here another prophet of the LORD of whom we may inquire?"

And the king of Israel said to Jehosh'aphat, "There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, Micai'ah the son of Imlah; but I hate him, for he never prophesies good concerning me, but *always* evil."

And Jehosh'aphat said, "Let not the king say so."

Then the king of Israel summoned an officer and said, "Bring quickly Micai'ah the son of Imlah."

Now the king of Israel and Jehosh'aphat the king of Judah were sitting on their thrones, arrayed in their robes, *and they were sitting* at the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Sama'ria; and all the prophets were prophesying before them. And Zedeki'ah the son of Chena'anah made for himself horns of iron, and said, "Thus says the LORD, 'With these you shall push the Syrians until they are destroyed.'"

And all the prophets prophesied so, and said, "Go up to Ramoth-gilead and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the king."

And the messenger who went to summon Micai'ah said to him, "Behold, the words of the prophets with one accord are favorable to the king; let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably."

But Micai'ah said, "As the LORD lives, what the LORD says to me, that I will speak."

And when he had come to the king, the king said to him, "Micai'ah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we [*I*] forbear?"

And he answered him, "Go up and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the king [*they will be given into your hand*]."

But the king said to him, "How many times shall I adjure you that you speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?"

And he said, "I saw all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd; and the LORD said, 'These have no master; let each return to his home in peace.'"

And the king of Israel said to Jehosh'aphat, "Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?"

And Micai'ah said, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing beside him on his right hand and on his left; and the LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab *the king of Israel*, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?'

And one said one thing, and another said another. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, saying, 'I will entice him.'

And the LORD said to him, 'By what means?'

And he said, 'I will go forth, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.'

And he said, 'You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go forth and do so.'

Now therefore behold, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the LORD has spoken evil concerning you."

Then Zedeki'ah the son of Chena'anah came near and struck Micai'ah on the cheek, and said, "How *Which way* did the Spirit of the LORD go from me to speak to you?"

And Micai'ah said, "Behold, you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide yourself."

And the king of Israel said, "Seize Micai'ah, and take him back to Amon the governor of the city and to Jo'ash the king's son; and say, 'Thus says the king, "Put this fellow in prison, and feed him with scant fare of bread and water, until I come in peace.'""

And Micai'ah said, "If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Hear, all you peoples!" (1Ki 22:4-28 & 2 Chronicles 18:3-27)

Ahab Killed at Ramoth Gilead

1 Kings 22:29-40 & 2 Chronicles 18:28-19:3

So the king of Israel and Jehosh'aphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead. And the king of Israel said to Jehosh'aphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you wear your robes." And the king of Israel disguised himself and *they* went into battle.

Now the king of Syria had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, "Fight with neither small nor great, but only with the king of Israel." And when the captains of the chariots saw Jehosh'aphat, they said, "It is surely the king of Israel." So they turned to fight against him; and Jehosh'aphat cried out, *and the LORD helped him. God drew them away from him, And [for]* when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.

But a certain man drew his bow at a venture, and struck the king of Israel between the scale armor and the breastplate; therefore he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn about, and carry me out of the battle, for I am wounded." And the battle grew hot that day, and the king of Israel was propped [*propped himself*] up in his chariot facing the Syrians, until at evening; *then at sunset* he died; and the blood of the wound flowed into the bottom of the chariot. And about sunset a cry went through the army, "Every man to his city, and every man to his country!" (1Ki 22:29-36 & 2Ch 18:28-34)

So the king died, and was brought to Sama'ria; and they buried the king in Sama'ria. And they washed the chariot by the pool of Sama'ria, and the dogs licked up his blood, and the harlots

washed themselves in it, according to the word of the LORD which he had spoken. (1Ki 22:37-38)

Jehosh'aphat the king of Judah returned in safety to his house in Jerusalem. But Jehu the son of Hana'ni the seer went out to meet him, and said to King Jehosh'aphat, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD? Because of this, wrath has gone out against you from the LORD. Nevertheless some good is found in you, for you destroyed the Ashe'rahs out of the land, and have set your heart to seek God." (2Ch 19:1-3)

Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ivory house which he built, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahazi'ah his son reigned in his stead. (1Ki 22:39-40)

Jehoshaphat King of Judah (Part 1)

1 Kings 22:41-50 & 2 Chronicles 17:1-19

(also 2Ch 19:4-11, 20:1-30 & 20:31-21:3)

Thus Jehosh'aphat the son of Asa began to reign [reigned] over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel. Jehosh'aphat [he] was thirty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Azu'bah the daughter of Shilhi. He walked in all the way of Asa his father; And he did not turn aside from it, doing [he did] what was right in the sight of the LORD; yet the high places, however, were not taken away, and the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places: the people had not yet set their hearts upon the God of their fathers. Jehosh'aphat also made peace with the king of Israel. (1Ki 22:41-44 & 2Ch 20:31-33)

Jehosh'aphat his son reigned in his stead, and strengthened himself against Israel. He placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of E'phraim which Asa his father had taken.

The LORD was with Jehosh'aphat, because he walked in the earlier ways of his father; he did not seek the Ba'als, but sought the God of his father and walked in his commandments, and not according to the ways of Israel. Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah brought tribute to Jehosh'aphat; and he had great riches and honor. His heart was courageous in the ways of the LORD; and furthermore he took the high places and the Ashe'rim out of Judah.

In the third year of his reign he sent his princes, Ben-hail, Obadi'ah, Zechari'ah, Nathan'el, and Micai'ah, to teach in the cities of Judah; and with them the Levites, Shemai'ah, Nethani'ah, Zebadi'ah, As'ahel, Shemi'ramoth, Jehon'athan, Adoni'jah, Tobi'jah, and Tobadoni'jah; and with these Levites, the priests Eli'shama and Jeho'ram. And they taught in Judah, having the book of the law of the LORD with them; they went about through all the cities of Judah and taught among the people.

And the fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah, and they made no war against Jehosh'aphat. Some of the Philistines brought Jehosh'aphat presents, and silver for tribute; and the Arabs also brought him seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven thousand seven hundred he-goats.

And Jehosh'aphat grew steadily greater. He built in Judah fortresses and store-cities, and he had great stores in the cities of Judah. He had soldiers, mighty men of valor, in Jerusalem. This was the muster of them by fathers' houses:

Of Judah, the commanders of thousands:

Adnah the commander, with three hundred thousand mighty men of valor,

and next to him Jehoha'nan the commander, with two hundred and eighty thousand, and next to him Amasi'ah the son of Zichri, a volunteer for the service of the LORD, with two hundred thousand mighty men of valor.

Of Benjamin:

Eli'ada, a mighty man of valor, with two hundred thousand men armed with bow and shield,

and next to him Jeho'zabad with a hundred and eighty thousand armed for war.

These were in the service of the king, besides those whom the king had placed in the fortified cities throughout all Judah. (2Ch 17:1-19)

Jehoshaphat Appoints Judges

2 Chronicles 19:4-11

Jehosh'aphat dwelt at Jerusalem; and he went out again among the people, from Beer-sheba to the hill country of E'phraim, and brought them back to the LORD, the God of their fathers. He appointed judges in the land in all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city, and said to the judges, "Consider what you do, for you judge not for man but for the LORD; he is with you in giving judgment. Now then, let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed what you do, for there is no perversion of justice with the LORD our God, or partiality, or taking bribes."

Moreover in Jerusalem Jehosh'aphat appointed certain Levites and priests and heads of families of Israel, to give judgment for the LORD and to decide disputed cases. They had their seat at Jerusalem. And he charged them: "Thus you shall do in the fear of the LORD, in faithfulness, and with your whole heart: whenever a case comes to you from your brethren who live in their cities, concerning bloodshed, law or commandment, statutes or ordinances, then you shall instruct them, that they may not incur guilt before the LORD and wrath may not come upon you and your brethren. Thus you shall do, and you will not incur guilt.

And behold, Amari'ah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadi'ah the son of Ish'mael, the governor of the house of Judah, in all the king's matters; and the Levites will serve you as officers. Deal courageously, and may the LORD be with the upright!" (2Ch 19:4-11)

Jehoshaphat Defeats Moab and Ammon

2 Chronicles 20:1-30

After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the Me-u'nites, came against Jehosh'aphat for battle. Some men came and told Jehosh'aphat, "A great multitude is coming against you from Edom, from beyond the sea; and, behold, they are in Haz'azon-ta'mar" (that is, En-ge'di). Then Jehosh'aphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. And Judah assembled to seek help from the LORD; from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. And Jehosh'aphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, and said,

"O LORD, God of our fathers, art thou not God in heaven? Dost thou not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations? In thy hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee. Didst thou not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and give it for ever to the descendants of Abraham thy friend? And they have dwelt in it, and have built thee in it a sanctuary for thy name, saying, 'If evil comes upon us, the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house, and before thee, for thy name is in this house, and cry to thee in our affliction, and thou wilt hear and save.' And now behold, the men of

Ammon and Moab and Mount Se'ir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade when they came from the land of Egypt, and whom they avoided and did not destroy-- behold, they reward us by coming to drive us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. O our God, wilt thou not execute judgment upon them? For we are powerless against this great multitude that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon thee."

Meanwhile all the men of Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

And the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jaha'ziel the son of Zechari'ah, son of Benai'ah, son of Je-i'el, son of Mattani'ah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly.

And he said, "Hearken, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, and King Jehosh'aphat: Thus says the LORD to you, 'Fear not, and be not dismayed at this great multitude; for the battle is not yours but God's. Tomorrow go down against them; behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz; you will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeru'el. You will not need to fight in this battle; take your position, stand still, and see the victory of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.' Fear not, and be not dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD will be with you."

Then Jehosh'aphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. And the Levites, of the Ko'hathites and the Kor'ahites, stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice.

And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Teko'a; and as they went out, Jehosh'aphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed." And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the LORD and praise him in holy array, as they went before the army, and say,

*"Give thanks to the LORD,
for his steadfast love endures for ever."*

And when they began to sing and praise, the LORD set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Se'ir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed. For the men of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Se'ir, destroying them utterly, and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Se'ir, they all helped to destroy one another.

When Judah came to the watchtower of the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and behold, they were dead bodies lying on the ground; none had escaped. When Jehosh'aphat and his people came to take the spoil from them, they found cattle in great numbers, goods, clothing, and precious things, which they took for themselves until they could carry no more. They were three days in taking the spoil, it was so much. On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Bera'cah, for there they blessed the LORD; therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Bera'cah to this day.

Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehosh'aphat at their head, returning to Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had made them rejoice over their enemies. They came to Jerusalem, with harps and lyres and trumpets, to the house of the LORD.

And the fear of God came on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. So the realm of Jehosh'aphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest round about. (2Ch 20:1-30)

Now the rest of the acts of Jehosh'aphat, and his might that he showed, and how he warred, from first to last, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? [are written in the chronicles of Jehu the son of Hana'ni, which are recorded in the Book of the Kings of Israel.] (1Ki 22:45 & 2Ch 20:34)

And the remnant of the male cult prostitutes who remained in the days of his father Asa, he exterminated from the land. There was no king in Edom; a deputy was king. (1Ki 22:46)

Jehosh'aphat made ships of Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold; but they did not go, for the ships were wrecked at E'zion-ge'ber. Then Ahazi'ah the son of Ahab said to Jehosh'aphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships," but Jehosh'aphat was not willing. (1Ki 22:48-49)

After this Jehosh'aphat king of Judah joined with Ahazi'ah king of Israel, who did wickedly. He joined him in building ships to go to Tarshish, and they built the ships in E'zion-ge'ber. Then Elie'zer the son of Do-dav'ahu of Mare'shah prophesied against Jehosh'aphat, saying, "Because you have joined with Ahazi'ah, the LORD will destroy what you have made." And the ships were wrecked and were not able to go to Tarshish. (2Ch 20:35-37)

And Jehosh'aphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Jeho'ram his son reigned in his stead. *He had brothers, the sons of Jehosh'aphat: Azari'ah, Jehi'el, Zechari'ah, Azari'ah, Michael, and Shephati'ah; all these were the sons of Jehosh'aphat king of Judah. Their father gave them great gifts, of silver, gold, and valuable possessions, together with fortified cities in Judah; but he gave the kingdom to Jeho'ram, because he was the first-born. (1KI 22:50 & 2Ch 21:1-3)*

Ahaziah King of Israel

1 Kings 22:51-53

The Lord's Judgment on Ahaziah

2 Kings 1:1-18

Elijah Taken Up to Heaven

2 Kings 2:1-18

Healing of the Water

2 Kings 2:19-22

Elisha Is Jeered

2 Kings 2:23-25

Moab Revolts

2 Kings 3:1-27

The Widow's Oil

2 Kings 4:1-7

The Sunammite's Son Restored to Life

2 Kings 4:8-37

Death in the Pot

2 Kings 4:38-41

Feeding of a Hundred

2 Kings 4:42-44

Naaman Healed of Leprosy

2 Kings 5:1-27

An Axhead Floats

2 Kings 6:1-7

Elisha Traps Blinded Arameans

2 Kings 6:8-23

Famine in Besieged Samaria

2 Kings 6:24-7:2

The Siege Lifted

2 Kings 6:3-20

The Shunammite's Land Restored

2 Kings 8:1-6

Hazael Murders Ben-Hadad

2 Kings 8:7-15

Jehoram King of Judah

2 Kings 8:16-24 & 2 Chronicles 21:4-20

In the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab, king of Israel, Jehox'ram the son of Jehosh'aphat, king of Judah, began to reign. (2Ki 8:16)

When Jeho'ram had ascended the throne of his father and was established, he slew all his brothers with the sword, and also some of the princes of Israel. (2Ch 21:4)

He [Jeho'ram] was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for the daughter of Ahab was his wife. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah [the house of David], for the sake of [because of the covenant which he had made with] David his servant, and since he promised to give a lamp to him and to his sons for ever.

In his days Edom revolted from the rule of Judah, and set up a king of their own. Then Joram [Jeho'ram] passed over to Za'ir with his commanders and all his chariots, and he rose by night, and he and his chariot commanders smote the E'domites who had surrounded him and his chariot commanders; but his army fled home. So Edom revolted from the rule of Judah to this day.

Then Libnah revolted at the same time [At that time Libnah also revolted from his rule, because he had forsaken the LORD, the God of his fathers]. (2Ki 8:17-22 & 2Ch 21:5-10)

And a letter came to him from Eli'jah the prophet, saying,

"Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father, 'Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehosh'aphat your father, or in the ways of Asa king of Judah, but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have led Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem into unfaithfulness, as the house of Ahab led Israel into unfaithfulness, and also you have killed your brothers, of your father's house, who were better than yourself; behold, the LORD will bring a great plague on your people, your children, your wives, and all your possessions, and you yourself will have a severe sickness with a disease of your bowels, until your bowels come out because of the disease, day by day.'"

And the LORD stirred up against Jeho'ram the anger of the Philistines and of the Arabs who are near the Ethiopians; and they came up against Judah, and invaded it, and carried away all the possessions they found that belonged to the king's house, and also his sons and his wives, so that no son was left to him except Jeho'ahaz, his youngest son.

And after all this the LORD smote him in his bowels with an incurable disease. In course of time, at the end of two years, his bowels came out because of the disease, and he died in great agony. His people made no fire in his honor, like the fires made for his fathers. (2Ch 21:12-19)

Now the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? So Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and Ahazi'ah his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 8:23-24)

He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem; and he departed with no one's regret. They buried him in the city of David, but not in the tombs of the kings. (2Ch 21:20)

Ahaziah King of Judah

2 Kings 8:25-29 & 2 Chronicles 22:1-6)

And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahazi'ah his youngest son king in his stead; for the band of men that came with the Arabs to the camp had slain all the older sons. So In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab, king of Israel, Ahazi'ah the son of Jeho'ram, king of Judah, began to reign [reigned].

Ahazi'ah was twenty [forty]-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athali'ah; she was a [the] granddaughter of Omri king of Israel. He also walked in the way of the house of Ahab, *for his mother was his counselor in doing wickedly and [He] did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as the house of Ahab had done, for he was son-in-law to the house of Ahab [for after the death of his father they were his counselors, to his undoing].*

He even followed their counsel, and went with Joram [Jeho'ram] the son of Ahab to make war against Haz'ael king of Syria at Ramoth-gilead, where [And] the Syrians wounded Joram .

And King Joram [he] returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him [he had received] at Ramah, when he fought against Haz'ael king of Syria. And Ahazi'ah the son of Jeho'ram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick. (2Ki 8:25-29 & 2Ch 22:1-6)

Jehu Anointed King of Israel

2 Kings 9:1-13

Jehu Kills Joram and Ahaziah

2 Kings 9:14-29 & 2 Chronicles 22:7-9

Thus Jehu the son of Jehosh'aphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. (Now Joram with all Israel had been on guard at Ramoth-gilead against Haz'ael king of Syria; but King Joram had returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Haz'ael king of Syria.) So Jehu said, "If this is your mind, then let no one slip out of the city to go and tell the news in Jezreel." Then Jehu mounted his chariot, and went to Jezreel, for Joram lay there. And Ahazi'ah king of Judah had come down to visit Joram.

Now the watchman was standing on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, "I see a company."

And Joram said, "Take a horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, 'Is it peace?'"

So a man on horseback went to meet him, and said, "Thus says the king, 'Is it peace?'"

And Jehu said, "What have you to do with peace? Turn round and ride behind me."

And the watchman reported, saying, "The messenger reached them, but he is not coming back."

Then he sent out a second horseman, who came to them, and said, "Thus the king has said, 'Is it peace?'"

And Jehu answered, "What have you to do with peace? Turn round and ride behind me."

Again the watchman reported, "He reached them, but he is not coming back. And the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he drives furiously."

Joram said, "Make ready." And they made ready his chariot. Then Joram king of Israel and Ahazi'ah king of Judah set out, each in his chariot, and went to meet Jehu, and met him at the property of Naboth the Jezreelite. And when Joram saw Jehu, he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?"

He answered, "What peace can there be, so long as the harlotries and the sorceries of your mother Jez'ebel are so many?"

Then Joram reined about and fled, saying to Ahazi'ah, "Treachery, O Ahazi'ah!"

And Jehu drew his bow with his full strength, and shot Joram between the shoulders, so that the arrow pierced his heart, and he sank in his chariot. Jehu said to Bidkar his aide, "Take him up, and cast him on the plot of ground belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember, when you and I rode side by side behind Ahab his father, how the LORD uttered this oracle against him: 'As surely as I saw yesterday the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons--says the LORD--I will requite you on this plot of ground.' Now therefore take him up and cast him on the plot of ground, in accordance with the word of the LORD."

When Ahazi'ah the king of Judah saw this, he fled in the direction of Beth-haggan. And Jehu pursued him, and said, "Shoot him also"; and they shot him in the chariot at the ascent of Gur, which is by Ibleam. And he fled to Megid'do, and died there. His servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the city of David. In the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab, Ahazi'ah began to reign over Judah. (2Ki 9:14-29)

But it was ordained by God that the downfall of Ahazi'ah should come about through his going to visit Joram. For when he came there he went out with Jeho'ram to meet Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed to destroy the house of Ahab. And when Jehu was executing judgment upon the house of Ahab, he met the princes of Judah and the sons of Ahazi'ah's brothers, who attended Ahazi'ah, and he killed them.

He searched for Ahazi'ah, and he was captured while hiding in Sama'ria, and he was brought to Jehu and put to death. They buried him, for they said, "He is the grandson of Jehosh'aphat, who sought the LORD with all his heart." And the house of Ahazi'ah had no one able to rule the kingdom. (2Ch 22:7-9)

Jezebel Killed

2 Kings 9:30-37

Ahab's Family Killed

2 Kings 10:1-17

Ministers of Baal Killed

2 Kings 10:18-36

Athaliah and Joash

2 Kings 11:1-21 & 2 Chronicles 22:10-23:21

Now when Athali'ah the mother of Ahazi'ah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal family *of the house of Judah*. But Jehosh'eba, [*Jeho-shab'e-ath*] the daughter of *the King Joram, sister of Ahazi'ah*, took Jo'ash the son of Ahazi'ah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were about to be slain, and she put him and his nurse in a bedchamber. Thus [*she*] *Jeho-shab'e-ath, the daughter of King Jeho'ram and wife of Jehoi'ada the priest, because she was a sister of Ahazi'ah*, hid him from Athali'ah, so that he was not slain [*she did not slay him*]; and he remained with her [*them*] six years, hid in the house of the LORD [*God*], while Athali'ah reigned over the land. (2Ki 11:1-3 & 2Ch 22:10-12)

But in the seventh year Jehoi'ada sent and brought the captains of the Carites and of the guards, and had them come to him in the house of the LORD; and he made a covenant with them and put them under oath in the house of the LORD, and he showed them the king's son. (2Ki 11:4)

And he commanded them, "This is the thing that you shall do: one third of you, those who come off duty on the sabbath and guard the king's house (another third being at the gate Sur and a third at the gate behind the guards), shall guard the palace; and the two divisions of you, which come on duty in force on the sabbath and guard the house of the LORD, shall surround the king, each with his weapons in his hand; and whoever approaches the ranks is to be slain. Be with the king when he goes out and when he comes in." (1Ki 11:5-8)

But in the seventh year Jehoi'ada took courage, and entered into a compact with the commanders of hundreds, Azari'ah the son of Jero'ham, Ish'mael the son of Jehoha'nan, Azari'ah the son of Obed, Masei'ah the son of Adai'ah, and Elisha'phat the son of Zichri. And they went about through Judah and gathered the Levites from all the cities of Judah, and the heads of fathers' houses of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem. And all the assembly made a covenant with the king in the house of God. And Jehoi'ada said to them, "Behold, the king's son! Let him reign, as the LORD spoke concerning the sons of David.

This is the thing that you shall do: of you priests and Levites who come off duty on the sabbath, one third shall be gatekeepers, and one third shall be at the king's house and one third at the Gate of the Foundation; and all the people shall be in the courts of the house of the LORD. Let no one enter the house of the LORD except the priests and ministering Levites; they may enter, for they are holy, but all the people shall keep the charge of the LORD. The Levites shall surround the king, each with his weapons in his hand; and whoever enters the house shall be slain. Be with the king when he comes in, and when he goes out." (2Ch 23:1-7

The captains [Levites] did according to all that Jehoi'ada the priest commanded, and [They] each brought his men who were to go off duty on the sabbath, with those who were to come on duty on the sabbath, and came to Jehoi'ada the priest; *for Jehoi'ada the priest did not dismiss the divisions.* And Jehoi'ada the priest delivered to the captains the spears and *the large and small* shields that had been King David's, which were in the house of the LORD [God]; and the guards stood [he set all the people as a guard for the king], every man with his weapons in his hand, from the south side of the house to the north side of the house, around the altar and the house.

Then he brought out the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they proclaimed him king, and *Jehoi'ada and his sons* anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, "Long live the king!"

When Athali'ah heard the noise of the guard and of the people running and praising the king, she went into the house of the LORD to the people; and when she looked, there was the king standing by the pillar *at the entrance*, according to the custom, and the captains and the trumpeters beside the king, and all the people of the land rejoicing and blowing trumpets, *and the singers with their musical instruments leading in the celebration.* And Athali'ah rent her clothes, and cried, "Treason! Treason!"

Then Jehoi'ada the priest commanded [brought out] the captains who were set over the army, *saying to them*, "Bring her out between the ranks; and slay with the sword any one who follows her *[is to be slain with the sword]*." For the priest said, "Let her not be slain [Do not slay her] in the house of the LORD." So they laid hands on her; and she went through the horses' entrance to [into the entrance of the horse gate of] the king's house, and there she was slain [they slew her there].

And Jehoi'ada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and people [himself and all the people and the king], that they should be the LORD's people; and also between the king and the people. Then all the people of the land went to the house of Ba'al, and tore it down; his altars and his images they broke in pieces, and they slew Mattan the priest of Ba'al before the altars.

And the priest [Jehoi'ada] posted watchmen *[for]* the house of the LORD *under the direction of the Levitical priests and the Levites whom David had organized to be in charge of the house of the LORD, to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, according to the order of David. He stationed the gatekeepers at the gates of the house of the LORD so that no one should enter who was in any way unclean.* And he took the captains, the Carites, the guards, the nobles, the governors of the people, and all the people of the land; and they brought the king down from the house of the LORD, marching through the gate of the guards [the upper gate] to the king's house. And he took his seat on the throne of the kings [And they set the king upon the royal throne]. So all the people of the land rejoiced; and the city was quiet after Athali'ah had been slain with the sword at the king's house. Jeho'ash was seven years old when he began to reign. (2Ki 11:9-21) (2Ch 23:8-21)

Joash Repairs the Temple

2 Kings 12:1-16 & 2 Chronicles 24:1-16

In the seventh year of Jehu Jeho'ash [Jo'ash was seven years old when he] began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zib'iah of Beer-sheba. And Jeho'ash [Jo'ash] did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all his days, because Jehoi'ada the priest instructed him [the days of Jehoi'ada the priest]. Nevertheless the high places were not taken away; the people continued to sacrifice and burn incense on the high places. Jehoi'ada got for him two wives, and he had sons and daughters. (1Ki 12:1-4 & 2Ch 24:1-3)

Jeho'ash said to the priests, "All the money of the holy things which is brought into the house of the LORD, the money for which each man is assessed--the money from the assessment of persons--and the money which a man's heart prompts him to bring into the house of the LORD, let the priests take, each from his acquaintance; and let them repair the house wherever any need of repairs is discovered."

But by the twenty-third year of King Jeho'ash the priests had made no repairs on the house.

Therefore King Jeho'ash summoned Jehoi'ada the priest and the other priests and said to them, "Why are you not repairing the house? Now therefore take no more money from your acquaintances, but hand it over for the repair of the house." So the priests agreed that they should take no more money from the people, and that they should not repair the house. (1Ki 12:4-8)

For the sons of Athali'ah, that wicked woman, had broken into the house of God; and had also used all the dedicated things of the house of the LORD for the Ba'als. (2Ch 24:7)

Then Jehoi'ada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar on the right side as one entered the house of the LORD; and the priests who guarded the threshold put in it all the money that was brought into the house of the LORD.

And whenever they saw that there was much money in the chest, the king's secretary and the high priest came up and they counted and tied up in bags the money that was found in the house of the LORD. Then they would give the money that was weighed out into the hands of the workmen who had the oversight of the house of the LORD; and they paid it out to the carpenters and the builders who worked upon the house of the LORD, and to the masons and the stonecutters, as well as to buy timber and quarried stone for making repairs on the house of the LORD, and for any outlay upon the repairs of the house.

But there were not made for the house of the LORD basins of silver, snuffers, bowls, trumpets, or any vessels of gold, or of silver, from the money that was brought into the house of the LORD, for that was given to the workmen who were repairing the house of the LORD with it. And they did not ask an accounting from the men into whose hand they delivered the money to

After this Jo'ash decided to restore the house of the LORD. And he gathered the priests and the Levites, and said to them, "Go out to the cities of Judah, and gather from all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year; and see that you hasten the matter."

But the Levites did not hasten it.

So the king summoned Jehoi'ada the chief, and said to him, "Why have you not required the Levites to bring in from Judah and Jerusalem the tax levied by Moses, the servant of the LORD, on the congregation of Israel for the tent of testimony?" (2Ch 24:4-6)

So the king commanded, and they made a chest, and set it outside the gate of the house of the LORD. And proclamation was made throughout Judah and Jerusalem, to bring in for the LORD the tax that Moses the servant of God laid upon Israel in the wilderness. And all the princes and all the people rejoiced and brought their tax and dropped it into the chest until they had finished.

And whenever the chest was brought to the king's officers by the Levites, when they saw that there was much money in it, the king's secretary and the officer of the chief priest would come and empty the chest and take it and return it to its place. Thus they did day after day, and collected money in abundance. And the king and Jehoi'ada gave it to those who had charge of the work of the house of the LORD, and they hired masons and carpenters to restore the house of the LORD, and also workers in iron and bronze to repair the house of the LORD. (2Ch 24:8-12)

pay out to the workmen, for they dealt honestly. The money from the guilt offerings and the money from the sin offerings was not brought into the house of the LORD; it belonged to the priests. (1Ki 12:9-16)

So those who were engaged in the work labored, and the repairing went forward in their hands, and they restored the house of God to its proper condition and strengthened it. And when they had finished, they brought the rest of the money before the king and Jehoi'ada, and with it were made utensils for the house of the LORD, both for the service and for the burnt offerings, and dishes for incense, and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt offerings in the house of the LORD continually all the days of Jehoi'ada.

But Jehoi'ada grew old and full of days, and died; he was a hundred and thirty years old at his death. And they buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good in Israel, and toward God and his house. (2Ch 24:13-16)

The Wickedness of Joash

2 Chronicles 24:17-27 (also 2 Kings 12:17-21)

Now after the death of Jehoi'ada the princes of Judah came and did obeisance to the king; then the king hearkened to them. And they forsook the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Ashe'rim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their guilt. Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD; these testified against them, but they would not give heed.

Then the Spirit of God took possession of Zechari'ah the son of Jehoi'ada the priest; and he stood above the people, and said to them, "Thus says God, 'Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.'"

But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD. Thus Jo'ash the king did not remember the kindness which Jehoi'ada, Zechari'ah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. And when he was dying, he said, "May the LORD see and avenge!" (1Ch 24:17-22)

At that time Haz'ael king of Syria went up and fought against Gath, and took it. But when Haz'ael set his face to go up against Jerusalem, Jeho'ash king of Judah took all the votive gifts that Jehosh'aphat and Jeho'ram and Ahazi'ah, his fathers, the kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own votive gifts, and all the gold that was found in the treasuries of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent these to Haz'ael king of Syria. Then Haz'ael went away from Jerusalem.

At the end of the year the army of the Syrians came up against Jo'ash. They came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all their spoil to the king of Damascus. Though the army of the Syrians had come with few men, the LORD delivered into their hand a very great army, because they had forsaken the LORD, the God of their fathers. Thus they executed judgment on Jo'ash. (2Ch 24:23-24)

Now the rest of the acts of Jo'ash, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

Accounts of his sons, and of the many oracles against him, and of the rebuilding of the house of God are written in the Commentary on the Book of the Kings. And Amazi'ah his son reigned in his stead. (2Ch 24:27)

His servants arose and made a conspiracy, and slew Jo'ash in the house of Millo, on the way that goes down to Silla. It was Jo'zacar the son of Shim'e-ath and Jeho'zabad the son of Shomer, his servants, who struck him down, so that he died. And they buried him with his fathers in the city of David, and Amazi'ah his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 12:17-21)

When they had departed from him, leaving him severely wounded, his servants conspired against him because of the blood of the son of Jehoi'ada the priest, and slew him on his bed. So he died; and they buried him in the city of David, but they did not bury him in the tombs of the kings.

Those who conspired against him were Zabad the son of Shim'e-ath the Ammonitess, and Jeho'zabad the son of Shimrith the Moabitess. (2Ch 24:25-26)

Jehoahaz King of Israel

2 Kings 13:1-9

Jehoash King of Israel

2 Kings 13:10-25

Amaziah King of Judah

2 Kings 14:1-22 & 2 Chronicles 25:1-28

In the second year of Jo'ash the son of Jo'ahaz, king of Israel, Amazi'ah the son of Jo'ash, king of Judah, began to reign. He [Amazi'ah] was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jeho-ad'din [Jeho-ad'dan] of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, yet not with a blameless heart like David his father; he did in all things as Jo'ash his father had done. But the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

And as soon as the royal power was firmly in his hand he killed his servants who had slain the king his father. But he did not put to death the children of the murderers [their children to death]; according to what is written in the book of the law of Moses, where the LORD commanded, "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, or the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall die for his own sin." (2Ki 14:1-6 & 2Ch 25:1-4)

Then Amazi'ah assembled the men of Judah, and set them by fathers' houses under commanders of thousands and of hundreds for all Judah and Benjamin. He mustered those twenty years old and upward, and found that they were three hundred thousand picked men, fit for war, able to handle spear and shield. He hired also a hundred thousand mighty men of valor from Israel for a hundred talents of silver.

But a man of God came to him and said, "O king, do not let the army of Israel go with you, for the LORD is not with Israel, with all these E'phraimites. But if you suppose that in this way you will be strong for war, God will cast you down before the enemy; for God has power to help or to cast down."

And Amazi'ah said to the man of God, "But what shall we do about the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel?"

The man of God answered, "The LORD is able to give you much more than this."

Then Amazi'ah discharged the army that had come to him from E'phraim, to go home again. And they became very angry with Judah, and returned home in fierce anger. (2Ch 25:5-10)

He killed ten thousand E'domites in the Valley of Salt and took Sela by storm, and called it Jok'the-el, which is its name to this day. (2Ki 14:7)

But Amazi'ah took courage, and led out his people, and went to the Valley of Salt and smote ten thousand men of Se'ir. The men of Judah captured another ten thousand alive, and took them to the top of a rock and threw them down from the top of the rock; and they were all dashed to pieces. (2Ch 25:11-12)

But the men of the army whom Amazi'ah sent back, not letting them go with him to battle, fell upon the cities of Judah, from Sama'ria to Beth-hor'on, and killed three thousand people in them, and took much spoil.

After Amazi'ah came from the slaughter of the E'domites, he brought the gods of the men of Se'ir, and set them up as his gods, and worshiped them, making offerings to them. Therefore the LORD was angry with Amazi'ah and sent to him a prophet, who said to him, "Why have you resorted to the gods of a people, which did not deliver their own people from your hand?"

But as he was speaking the king said to him, "Have we made you a royal counselor? Stop! Why should you be put to death?"

So the prophet stopped, but said, "I know that God has determined to destroy you, because you have done this and have not listened to my counsel." (2Ch: 25:13-16)

Then Amazi'ah king of Judah took counsel and sent messengers to Jeho'ash [Jo'ash] the son of Jeho'ahaz, son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the face."

And Jeho'ash [Jo'ash the] king of Israel sent word to Amazi'ah king of Judah, "A thistle on Lebanon sent to a cedar on Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son for a wife'; and a wild beast of Lebanon passed by and trampled down the thistle. You have indeed [say, 'See, I have] smitten Edom, and your heart has lifted you up *in boastfulness*. Be content with your glory, and [But now] stay at home; for why should you provoke trouble so that you fall, you and Judah with you?"

But Amazi'ah would not listen; *for it was of God, in order that he might give them into the hand of their enemies, because they had sought the gods of Edom*. So Jeho'ash [Jo'ash] king of Israel went up, and he and Amazi'ah king of Judah faced one another in battle at Beth-she'mesh, which belongs to Judah. And Judah was defeated by Israel, and every man fled to his home. And Jeho'ash [Jo'ash] king of Israel captured Amazi'ah king of Judah, the son of Jeho'ash [Jo'ash], son of Ahazi'ah, at Beth-she'mesh, and came [brought him] to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem for four hundred cubits, from the E'phraim Gate to the Corner Gate. And he seized all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the LORD [God] and O'bed-e'dom with them.] in [he seized also] the treasuries of the king's house, also [and] hostages, and he returned to Sama'ria. (2Ki 14:8-14 & 2Ch 25:17-24)

Now the rest of the acts of Jeho'ash which he did, and his might, and how he fought with Amazi'ah king of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? And Jeho'ash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Sama'ria with the kings of Israel; and Jerobo'am his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 14:15-16)

Amazi'ah the son of Jo'ash, king of Judah, lived fifteen years after the death of Jeho'ash [Jo'ash] son of Jeho'ahaz, king of Israel. Now the rest of the deeds of Amazi'ah, *from first to last*, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah [Kings of Judah and Israel]?

And *From the time when he turned away from the LORD* they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish. But they sent after him to Lachish, and slew him there. And they brought him upon horses; and he was buried in Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David. (2Ki 14:17-20 & 2Ch 25:25-28)

And all the people of Judah took Azari'ah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amazi'ah. He built Elath and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers. (2Ki 14:21-22)

Jereboam II King of Israel

2 Kings 14:23-29

Azariah (*Uzziah*) King of Judah

2 Kings 15:1-7 & 2 Chronicles 26:1-23

In the twenty-seventh year of Jerobo'am king of Israel Azari'ah the son of Amazi'ah, king of Judah, began to reign. (2Ki 15:1) *And all the people of Judah took Uzzi'ah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amazi'ah. He built Eloth and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers. (2Ch 26:1-2)*

He [*Uzzi'ah*] was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoli'ah of Jerusalem. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his father Amazi'ah had done. (2Ki 15:2-3 & 2Ch 26:3-4)

He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechari'ah, who instructed him in the fear of God; and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper. (2Ch 26:5)

Nevertheless the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. (1Ki 15:4)

He went out and made war against the Philistines, and broke down the wall of Gath and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod; and he built cities in the territory of Ashdod and elsewhere among the Philistines. God helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabs that dwelt in Gurba'al, and against the Me-u'nites. The Ammonites paid tribute to Uzzi'ah, and his fame spread even to the border of Egypt, for he became very strong.

Moreover Uzzi'ah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate and at the Valley Gate and at the Angle, and fortified them. And he built towers in the wilderness, and hewed out many cisterns, for he had large herds, both in the Shephe'lah and in the plain, and he had farmers and vinedressers in the hills and in the fertile lands, for he loved the soil.

Moreover Uzzi'ah had an army of soldiers, fit for war, in divisions according to the numbers in the muster made by Je-i'el the secretary and Ma-asei'ah the officer, under the direction of Hanani'ah, one of the king's commanders. The whole number of the heads of fathers' houses of mighty men of valor was two thousand six hundred. Under their command was an army of three hundred and seven thousand five hundred, who could make war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy. And Uzzi'ah prepared for all the army shields, spears, helmets, coats of mail, bows, and stones for slinging. In Jerusalem he made engines, invented by skilful men, to be on the towers and the corners, to shoot arrows and great stones. And his fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong.

But when he was strong he grew proud, to his destruction. For he was false to the LORD his God, and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. But Azari'ah the priest went in after him, with eighty priests of the LORD who were men of valor; and they withstood King Uzzi'ah, and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzzi'ah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the sanctuary; for you have done wrong, and it will bring you no honor from the LORD God."

Then Uzzi'ah was angry. Now he had a censer in his hand to burn incense, and when he became angry with the priests leprosy broke out on his forehead, in the presence of the priests in the house of the LORD, by the altar of incense. And Azari'ah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked at him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead! And they thrust him out quickly, and he himself hastened to go out, because the LORD had smitten him. (2Ch 26:6-20)

And the LORD smote the king, so that he [*And King Uzzi'ah*] was a leper to the day of his death, and *being a leper* he dwelt in a separate house [*for he was excluded from the house of the LORD*]. And Jotham the king's son was over the household, governing the people of the land. (2Ki 15:5 & 2Ch 26:20-21)

The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Teko'a, which he saw concerning Israel *in the days of Uzzi'ah* king of Judah and in the days of Jerobo'am the son of Jo'ash, king of Israel, **two years before the earthquake**. (Amo 1:1)

And the valley of my mountains shall be stopped up, for the valley of the mountains shall touch the side of it; **and you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzzi'ah** king of Judah. Then the LORD your God will come, and all the holy ones with him. (Zec 14:5)

Now the rest of the acts of Azari'ah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

And Azari'ah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David, and Jotham his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 15:6-7)

Now the rest of the acts of Uzzi'ah, from first to last, Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz wrote.

And Uzzi'ah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the burial field which belonged to the kings, for they said, "He is a leper." And Jotham his son reigned in his stead. (2Ch 26:22-23)

Zechariah King of Israel

2 Kings 15:8-12

Shallum King of Israel

2 Kings 15:13-16

Menahem King of Israel

2 Kings 15:17-22

Pekahiah King of Israel

2 Kings 15:23-26

Pehah King of Israel

2 Kings 15:27-31

Jotham King of Judah

2 Kings 15:32-38 & 2 Chronicles 27:1-9

In the second year of Pekah the son of Remali'ah, king of Israel, Jotham the son of Uzzi'ah, king of Judah, began to reign. (2Ki 15:32)

He [Jotham] was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jeru'shah the daughter of Zadok. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his father Uzzi'ah had done--*only he did not invade the temple of the LORD. Nevertheless the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places [But the people still followed corrupt practices]*. He built the upper gate of the house of the LORD, *and did much building on the wall of Ophel. Moreover he built cities in the hill country of Judah, and forts and towers on the wooded hills.* (2Ki 15:33-35 & 1Ch 27:1-4)

He fought with the king of the Ammonites and prevailed against them. And the Ammonites gave him that year a hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand cors of wheat and ten thousand of barley. The Ammonites paid him the same amount in the second and the third years.

So Jotham became mighty, because he ordered his ways before the LORD his God. (2Ch 27:5-6)

Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did [his wars, and his ways], are they not [behold, they are] written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel and of Judah? (2Ki 15:36 & 2Ch 27:7)

In those days the LORD began to send Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remali'ah against Judah. (1Ki 15:37)

He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. (2Ch 27:8) (cf 27:1)

And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers [they buried him] in the city of David his father; and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 15:38 & 2Ch 27:9)

Ahaz King of Judah

2 Kings 16:1-20 & 2 Chronicles 28:1-27

In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remali'ah, Ahaz the son of Jotham, king of Judah, began to reign. Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And he did not do what was right in the eyes of the LORD his God, as [like] his father David had done, but he walked in the way[s] of the kings of Israel. He even *made molten images for the Ba'als; and he burned incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burned his son[s] as an offering, according to the abominable practices of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the people of Israel. And he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.* (2Ki 16:1-4 & 2Ch 28:1-4)

Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remali'ah, king of Israel, came up to wage war on Jerusalem, and they besieged Ahaz but could not conquer him. (2Ki 16:5)

Therefore the LORD his God gave him into the hand of the king of Syria, who defeated him and took captive a great number of his people and brought them to Damascus. (2Ch 28:5a)

He was also given into the hand of the king of Israel, who defeated him with great slaughter. For Pekah the son of Remali'ah slew a hundred and twenty thousand in Judah in one day, all of them men of valor, because they had forsaken the LORD, the God of their fathers. And Zichri, a mighty man of E'phraim, slew Ma-asei'ah the king's son and Azri'kam the commander of the palace and Elka'nah the next in authority to the king. The men of Israel took captive two hundred thousand of their kinsfolk, women, sons, and daughters; they also took much spoil from them and brought the spoil to Sama'ria.

But a prophet of the LORD was there, whose name was Oded; and he went out to meet the army that came to Sama'ria, and said to them, "Behold, because the LORD, the God of your fathers, was angry with Judah, he gave them into your hand, but you have slain them in a rage which has reached up to heaven. And now you intend to subjugate the people of Judah and Jerusalem, male and female, as your slaves. Have you not sins of your own against the LORD your God? Now hear me, and send back the captives from your kinsfolk whom you have taken, for the fierce wrath of the LORD is upon you."

Certain chiefs also of the men of E'phraim, Azari'ah the son of Joha'nan, Berechi'ah the son of Meshil'lemoth, Jehizki'ah the son of Shallum, and Ama'sa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who were coming from the war, and said to them, "You shall not bring the captives in here, for you propose to bring upon us guilt against the LORD in addition to our present sins and guilt. For our guilt is already great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel."

So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the assembly. And the men who have been mentioned by name rose and took the captives, and with the spoil they clothed all that were naked among them; they clothed them, gave them sandals, provided them with food and drink, and anointed them; and carrying all the feeble among them on asses, they brought them to their kinsfolk at Jericho, the city of palm trees. Then they returned to Sama'ria. (2Ch 28:5b-15)

At that time the king of Edom recovered Elath for Edom, and drove the men of Judah from Elath; and the E'domites came to Elath, where they dwell to this day. (2Ki 16:6)

At that time King Ahaz sent to the king of Assyria for help. For the E'domites had again invaded and defeated Judah, and carried away captives. (2Ch 28:16-17)

And the Philistines had made raids on the cities in the Shephe'lah and the Negeb of Judah, and had taken Beth-she'mesh, Ai'jalon, Gede'roth, Soco with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo with its villages; and they settled there. For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had dealt wantonly in Judah and had been faithless to the LORD. (2Ch 28:18-19)

So Ahaz sent messengers to Tig'lath-pile'ser king of Assyria, saying, "I am your servant and your son. Come up, and rescue me from the hand of the king of Syria and from the hand of the king of Israel, who are attacking me." Ahaz also took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent a present to the king of Assyria. And the king of Assyria hearkened to him; the king of Assyria marched up against Damascus, and took it, carrying its people captive to Kir, and he killed Rezin. (2Ki 16:7-9)

When King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tig'lath-pile'ser king of Assyria, he saw the altar that was at Damascus. And King Ahaz sent to Uri'ah the priest a model of the altar, and its pattern, exact in all its details. And Uri'ah the priest built the altar; in accordance with all that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus, so Uri'ah

So Til'gath-pilne'ser king of Assyria came against him, and afflicted him instead of strengthening him. For Ahaz took from the house of the LORD and the house of the king and of the princes, and gave tribute to the king of Assyria; but it did not help him.

the priest made it, before King Ahaz arrived from Damascus. And when the king came from Damascus, the king viewed the altar. Then the king drew near to the altar, and went up on it, and burned his burnt offering and his cereal offering, and poured his drink offering, and threw the blood of his peace offerings upon the altar. And the bronze altar which was before the LORD he removed from the front of the house, from the place between his altar and the house of the LORD, and put it on the north side of his altar.

In the time of his distress he became yet more faithless to the LORD--this same King Ahaz. For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which had defeated him, and said, "Because the gods of the kings of Syria helped them, I will sacrifice to them that they may help me." But they were the ruin of him, and of all Israel. (1Ch 28:20-23)

And King Ahaz commanded Uri'ah the priest, saying, "Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening cereal offering, and the king's burnt offering, and his cereal offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their cereal offering, and their drink offering; and throw upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice; but the bronze altar shall be for me to inquire by." Uri'ah the priest did all this, as King Ahaz commanded. (2Ki 16:10-16)

And King Ahaz cut off the frames of the stands, and removed the laver from them, and he took down the sea from off the bronze oxen that were under it, and put it upon a pediment of stone. And the covered way for the sabbath which had been built inside the palace, and the outer entrance for the king he removed from the house of the LORD, because of the king of Assyria. (2Ki 16:15-18)

And Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of God and cut in pieces the vessels of the house of God, and he shut up the doors of the house of the LORD; and he made himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem. In every city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, provoking to anger the LORD, the God of his fathers. (2Ch 28:20-25)

Now the rest of the acts of Ahaz [*his acts*] and all his ways, from first to last which he did, are they not [*behold, they are*] written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah and Israel? And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers [*and they buried him*] in the city of David, in Jerusalem, for they did not bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel; and Hezeki'ah his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 16:19-20 & 2Ch 28:26-27)

Hoshea Last King of Israel

2 Kings 17:1-6

Israel Exiled Because of Sin

2 Kings 17:7-23

Samaria Resettled

2 Kings 17:24-41

Hezekiah King of Judah (Part 1)

2 Kings 18:1-8 & 2 Chronicles 29:1-2

In the third year of Hoshe'a son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezeki'ah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign. He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechari'ah. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done. (2Ki 18:1-3)

Hezeki'ah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi'jah the daughter of Zechari'ah. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done. (2Ch 29:1-2)

He removed the high places, and broke the pillars, and cut down the Ashe'rah. And he broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the people of Israel had burned incense to it; it was called Nehush'tan.

He trusted in the LORD the God of Israel; so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him. For he held fast to the LORD; he did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments which the LORD commanded Moses. And the LORD was with him; wherever he went forth, he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria, and would not serve him. He smote the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city. (2Ki 18:4-8)

Hezekiah Purifies the Temple

2 Chronicles 29:3-36

Hezekian Celebrates the Passover

2 Chronicles 30:1-31:1

Contributions for Worship

2 Chronicles 31:2-21

Hezekiah King of Judah (Part 2)

2 Kings 18:9-16, 2 Chronicles 32:1-8 & Isaiah 36:1

In the fourth year of King Hezeki'ah, which was the seventh year of Hoshe'a son of Elah, king of Israel, Shalmane'ser king of Assyria came up against Sama'ria and besieged it and at the end of three years he took it. In the sixth year of Hezeki'ah, which was the ninth year of Hoshe'a king of Israel, Sama'ria was taken. The king of Assyria carried the Israelites away to Assyria, and put them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD their God but transgressed his covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded; they neither listened nor obeyed. (2Ki 18:9-12)

In the fourteenth year of King Hezeki'ah Sennach'erib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them. (2Ki 18:13 & Isa 36:1)

After these things and these acts of faithfulness Sennach'erib king of Assyria came and invaded Judah and encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them for himself. And when Hezeki'ah saw that Sennach'erib had come and intended to fight against Jerusalem, he planned with his officers and his mighty men to stop the water of

the springs that were outside the city; and they helped him. A great many people were gathered, and they stopped all the springs and the brook that flowed through the land, saying, "Why should the kings of Assyria come and find much water?" He set to work resolutely and built up all the wall that was broken down, and raised towers upon it, and outside it he built another wall; and he strengthened the Millo in the city of David. He also made weapons and shields in abundance.

And he set combat commanders over the people, and gathered them together to him in the square at the gate of the city and spoke encouragingly to them, saying, "Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him; for there is one greater with us than with him. With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles." And the people took confidence from the words of Hezeki'ah king of Judah. (2Ch 32:1-8)

And Hezeki'ah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong; withdraw from me; whatever you impose on me I will bear." And the king of Assyria required of Hezeki'ah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. And Hezeki'ah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasuries of the king's house.

At that time Hezeki'ah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the doorposts which Hezeki'ah king of Judah had overlaid and gave it to the king of Assyria. (2Ki 18:14-16)

Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

2 Kings 18:17-37, 2 Chronicles 32:9-19 & Isaiah 36:2-22

And the king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the Rab'saris, and the Rab'shakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezeki'ah at Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. (2Ki 18:17a)

And the king of Assyria sent the Rab'shakeh from Lachish to King Hezeki'ah at Jerusalem, with a great army. (Isa 36:2a)

After this Sennach'erib king of Assyria, who was besieging Lachish with all his forces, sent his servants to Jerusalem to Hezeki'ah king of Judah and to all the people of Judah that were in Jerusalem, saying, (2Ch 32:9)

When they arrived, they came and [And he] stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is on the highway to the Fuller's Field. And when they called for the king, there came out to them [him] Eli'akim the son of Hilki'ah, who was over the household, and Shebnah the secretary, and Jo'ah the son of Asaph, the recorder.

And the Rab'shakeh said to them, "Say to Hezeki'ah,

"Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: On what do you rest this confidence of yours? Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war? On whom do you now rely, that you have rebelled against me? Behold, you are relying now on Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of any man who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who rely on him. But if you say to me, "We rely on the LORD our God," is it not he whose high places and altars Hezeki'ah has removed, saying to Judah

"Thus says Sennach'erib king of Assyria, 'On what are you relying, that you stand siege in Jerusalem? Is not Hezeki'ah misleading you, that he may give you over to die by famine and by thirst, when he tells you, "The LORD our God will deliver us from the hand of the king of Assyria"?"

Has not this same Hezeki'ah taken away his high places and his altars and commanded Judah and

and to Jerusalem, "You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem"?

Come now, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders upon them. How then can you repulse a single captain among the least of my master's servants, when you rely on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? Moreover, is it without the LORD that I have come up against this place [land] to destroy it? The LORD said to me, Go up against this land, and destroy it."

Then Eli'akim the son of Hilki'ah, and Shebna, and Jo'ah, said to the Rab'shakeh, "Pray, speak to your servants in the Aramaic language, for we understand it; do not speak to us in the language of Judah within the hearing of the people who are on the wall."

But the Rab'shakeh said to them, "Has my master sent me to speak these words to your master and to you, and not to the men sitting on the wall, who are doomed with you to eat their own dung and to drink their own urine?"

Then the Rab'shakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the language of Judah: "Hear the word[s] of the great king, the king of Assyria! Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezeki'ah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you out of my hand. Do not let Hezeki'ah make you to rely on the LORD by saying, The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'

Do not listen to Hezeki'ah; for thus says the king of Assyria: 'Make your peace with me and come out to me; then every one of you will eat of his own vine, and every one of his own fig tree, and every one of you will drink the water of his own cistern; until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive trees and honey, that you may live, and not die.

And do not listen to Hezeki'ah when he misleads [Beware lest Hezeki'ah mislead] you by saying, The LORD will deliver us. Has any of the gods of the nations ever delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharva'im, Hena, and Ivvah? Have they delivered Sama'ria out of my hand? Who among all the gods of the countries have delivered their countries out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?"

But the people [they] were silent and answered him not a word, for the king's command was, "Do not answer him."

Then Eli'akim the son of Hilki'ah, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Jo'ah the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezeki'ah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of the Rab'shakeh. (2Ki 18:17b-37 & Isa 36:2b-22)

Jerusalem, "Before one altar you shall worship, and upon it you shall burn your sacrifices"?

Do you not know what I and my fathers have done to all the peoples of other lands? Were the gods of the nations of those lands at all able to deliver their lands out of my hand? Who among all the gods of those nations which my fathers utterly destroyed was able to deliver his people from my hand, that your God should be able to deliver you from my hand?

Now therefore do not let Hezeki'ah deceive you or mislead you in this fashion, and do not believe him, for no god of any nation or kingdom has been able to deliver his people from my hand or from the hand of my fathers. How much less will your God deliver you out of my hand!"

And his servants said still more against the Lord GOD and against his servant Hezeki'ah. And he wrote letters to cast contempt on the LORD the God of Israel and to speak against him, saying, "Like the gods of the nations of the lands who have not delivered their people from my hands, so the God of Hezeki'ah will not deliver his people from my hand."

And they shouted it with a loud voice in the language of Judah to the people of Jerusalem who were upon the wall, to frighten and terrify them, in order that they might take the city. And they spoke of the God of Jerusalem as they spoke of the gods of the peoples of the earth, which are the work of men's hands. (2Ch 32:10-19)

Jerusalem's Deliverance Foretold

2 Kings 19:1-12 & Isaiah 37:1-13

When King Hezeki'ah heard it, he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD. And he sent Eli'akim, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests, covered [*clothed*] with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz. They said to him, "Thus says Hezeki'ah, This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth. It may be that the LORD your God heard all the words of the Rab'sshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left."

When the servants of King Hezeki'ah came to Isaiah, Isaiah said to them, "Say to your master, 'Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. Behold, I will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'"

The Rab'sshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah; for he heard that the king had left Lachish.

And when [*Now*] the king heard concerning Tirha'kah king of Ethiopia, "Behold, he has set out to fight against you," *And when he heard it*, he sent messengers again to Hezeki'ah, saying, "Thus shall you speak to Hezeki'ah king of Judah: 'Do not let your God on whom you rely deceive you by promising that Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria. Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, destroying them utterly. And shall you be delivered? Have the gods of the nations delivered them, the nations which my fathers destroyed, Gozan, Haran, Rezep, and the people of Eden who were in Tel-assar? Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, the king of the city of Sepharva'im, the king of Hena, or the king of Ivvah?'" (2Ki 19:1-13 & Isa 37:1-13)

Hezekiah's Prayer

2 Kings 19:14-37, 2 Chronicles 33:20-23 & Isaiah 37:14-38

Hezeki'ah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezeki'ah went up to the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD. And Hezeki'ah prayed before [*to*] the LORD, and said: "O LORD of hosts the God of Israel, who art enthroned above the cherubim, thou art the God, thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. Incline thy ear, O LORD, and hear; open thy eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear *all* the words of Sennach'erib, which he has sent to mock the living God.

Then Hezeki'ah the king and Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, prayed because of this and cried to heaven. (2 Chronicles 32:20)

Of a truth, O LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they were destroyed. So now, O LORD our God, save us, I beseech thee, from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou *alone*, O LORD, art God [*The LORD*] alone."

Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezeki'ah, saying, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Your prayer to me about Sennach'erib king of Assyria I have heard. [*Because you have*

prayed to me concerning Sennach'erib king of Assyria.] This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him:

"She despises you, she scorns you--the virgin daughter of Zion; she wags her head behind you--the daughter of Jerusalem.

"Whom have you mocked and reviled? Against whom have you raised your voice and haughtily lifted your eyes?

Against the Holy One of Israel!

By your messengers you have mocked the LORD, and you have said, 'With my many chariots

I have gone up the heights of the mountains, to the far recesses of Lebanon;

I felled its tallest cedars, its choicest cypresses;

I entered its farthest retreat [*came to its remotest height*], its densest forest.

I dug wells and drank foreign waters, and I dried up with the sole of my foot all the streams of Egypt.'

"Have you not heard that I determined it long ago?

I planned from days of old what now I bring to pass, that you should turn fortified cities into heaps of ruins,

while their inhabitants, shorn of strength, are dismayed and confounded,

and have become like plants of the field, and like tender grass,

like grass on the housetops; blighted before it is grown?

"But I know your sitting down and your going out and coming in, and your raging against me.

Because you have raged against me and your arrogance has come into my ears,

I will put my hook in your nose and my bit in your mouth, and I will turn you back on the way by which you came.

"And this shall be the sign for you:

this year you shall eat what grows of itself, and in the second year what springs of the same; then in the third year sow, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat their fruit. And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward; for out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and out of Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the LORD [*of hosts*] will do [*accomplish*] this.

"Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria,

He shall not come into this city or shoot an arrow there, or come before it with a shield or cast up a siege mound against it. By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and he shall not come into this city, says the LORD. For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David." (2 Ki 19:14-34 & *Isa 37:14-35*)

And that night the angel of the LORD went forth, and slew a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies. Then Sennach'erib king of Assyria departed, and went home, and dwelt at Nin'evah.

And as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, Adram'melech and Share'zer, his sons, slew him with the sword, and escaped into the land of Ar'arat. And Esarhad'don [*E'sar-had'don*] his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 19:35-37 & *Isa 37:36-38*)

And the LORD sent an angel, who cut off all the mighty warriors and commanders and officers in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land.

And when he came into the house of his god, some of his own sons struck him down there with the sword. (2Ch 32:21)

So the LORD saved Hezeki'ah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennach'erib king of Assyria and from the hand of all his enemies; and he gave them rest on every side. And many brought gifts to the LORD to Jerusalem and precious things to Hezeki'ah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations from that time onward. (2Ch 32:22-23)

Hezekiah's Illness

2 Kings 20:1-11, 2 Chronicles 32:24-20 & Isaiah 38:1-22

In those days Hezeki'ah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Set your house in order; for you shall die, you shall not recover.'"

In those days Hezeki'ah became sick and was at the point of death,

Then Hezeki'ah turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the LORD, saying, "Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in thy sight." And Hezeki'ah wept bitterly.

*and he prayed to the LORD;
(2Ch 32:24a)*

And before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court, [Then] the word of the LORD came to him [Isaiah]: "Turn back [Go], and say to Hezeki'ah the prince of my people, Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will heal you; on the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD. And I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David's sake." (2Ki 20:4-6 & Isa 38:4-6)

And Isaiah said, "Bring a cake of figs. And let them take and lay it on [Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a cake of figs, and apply it to] the boil, that he may recover."

And Hezeki'ah said to Isaiah [Hezeki'ah also had said], "What shall be [is] the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of the LORD on the third day?" (2Ki 20:7-8 & Isa 38:21-22)

And Isaiah said, "This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do the [this] thing that he has promised: shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or go back ten steps?" 2 Kings 20:7-9 & Isa 38:7)

and he answered him and gave him a sign. (2Ch 32:24b)

And Hezeki'ah answered, "It is an easy thing for the shadow to lengthen ten steps; rather let the shadow go back ten steps."

And Isaiah the prophet cried to the LORD; and he brought the shadow back ten steps, by which the sun had declined on the dial of Ahaz. (2Ki 20:10-11)

Behold, I will make the shadow cast by the declining sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps." So the sun turned back on the dial the ten steps by which it had declined. (Isa 38:8)

A writing of Hezeki'ah king of Judah, after he had been sick and had recovered from his sickness:

*I said, In the noontide of my days I must depart; I am consigned to the gates of Sheol for the rest of my years.
 I said, I shall not see the LORD in the land of the living;
 I shall look upon man no more among the inhabitants of the world.
 My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me like a shepherd's tent;
 like a weaver I have rolled up my life; he cuts me off from the loom; from day to night thou dost bring me to an end;
 I cry for help until morning; like a lion he breaks all my bones; from day to night thou dost bring me to an end.
 Like a swallow or a crane I clamor, I moan like a dove.
 My eyes are weary with looking upward.
 O Lord, I am oppressed; be thou my security!*

*But what can I say? For he has spoken to me, and he himself has done it.
 All my sleep has fled because of the bitterness of my soul.
 O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these is the life of my spirit.
 Oh, restore me to health and make me live!
 Lo, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness;
 but thou hast held back my life from the pit of destruction,
 for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.
 For Sheol cannot thank thee, death cannot praise thee;
 those who go down to the pit cannot hope for thy faithfulness.
 The living, the living, he thanks thee, as I do this day;
 the father makes known to the children thy faithfulness.
 The LORD will save me, and we will sing to stringed instruments all the days of our life, at the house of the LORD. (Isa 38:9-20)*

Envoys From Babylon

2 Kings 20:12-19, 2 Chronicles 32:35-26, 31 & Isaiah 39:1-8

At that time Mero'dach-bal'adan the son of Bal'adan, king of Babylon, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezeki'ah; for he heard that Hezeki'ah [*he*] had been sick *and had recovered*. And Hezeki'ah welcomed them, and he showed them all his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his *whole* armory, all that was found in his storehouses; there was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezeki'ah did not show them.

Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezeki'ah, and said to him, "What did these men say? And whence did they come to you?"

And Hezeki'ah said, "They have come *to me* from a far country, from Babylon."

He said, "What have they seen in your house?"

And Hezeki'ah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them."

Then Isaiah said to Hezeki'ah, "Hear the word of the LORD *of hosts*: Behold, the days are coming, when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be

But Hezeki'ah did not make return according to the benefit done to him, for his heart was proud. Therefore wrath came upon him and Judah and Jerusalem.

But Hezeki'ah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come upon them in the days of Hezeki'ah. (2Ch 32:25-26)

And so in the matter of the envoys of the princes of Babylon, who had been sent to him to inquire about the sign that had been done in the land, God left him to himself, in order to try him and to know all that was in his heart. (2Ch 32:31)

left, says the LORD. And some of your own sons, who are born to you, shall be taken away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon."

Then said Hezeki'ah to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD which you have spoken is good." For he thought, "Why not, if there will be peace and security in my days?" (2Ki 20:12-19 & *Isa* 39:1-8)

Hezekiah King of Judah (Part 3)

2 Kings 20:20-21 & 2 Chronicles 32:27-30, 32-33

And Hezeki'ah had very great riches and honor; and he made for himself treasuries for silver, for gold, for precious stones, for spices, for shields, and for all kinds of costly vessels; storehouses also for the yield of grain, wine, and oil; and stalls for all kinds of cattle, and sheepfolds. He likewise provided cities for himself, and flocks and herds in abundance; for God had given him very great possessions.

This same Hezeki'ah closed the upper outlet of the waters of Gihon and directed them down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezeki'ah prospered in all his works. (2Ch 32:27-30)

The rest of the deeds of Hezeki'ah, and all his might, and how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

And Hezeki'ah slept with his fathers;

and
Manas'seh his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 20:20-21)

Now the rest of the acts of Hezeki'ah, and his good deeds, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz, in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel.

And Hezeki'ah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the ascent of the tombs of the sons of David; and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honor at his death.

And Manas'seh his son reigned in his stead. (2Ch 32:32-33)

Manasseh King of Judah

2 Kings 21:1-18 & 2 Chronicles 33:1-20

(see also Jeremiah 15:4)

Manas'seh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Heph'zibah. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominable practices of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the people of Israel. For he rebuilt the high places which his father Hezeki'ah his father had destroyed [broken down]; and he erected altars for Ba'al [to the Ba'als], and made an Ashe'rah[s], as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served them. And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem will I put my name [shall my name be for ever]." And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. And he burned his son[s] as an offering *in the valley of*

the son of Hinnom, and practiced soothsaying and augury, and sorcery, and dealt with mediums and with wizards. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

And the graven image of Ashe'rah that he had made he set in the house of God, of which the LORD [God] said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name for ever; and I will not cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land which I gave to their fathers [no more remove the foot of Israel from the land which I appointed for your fathers], if only they will be careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law, the statutes, and the ordinances that my servant Moses commanded them [given through Moses]." But they did not listen, and Manas'sseh seduced them to do [Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that they did] more evil than the nations had done whom the LORD destroyed before the people of Israel. (2Ki 21:1-9 & 2Ch 33:1-9)

And the LORD said by his servants the prophets, "Because Manas'sseh king of Judah has committed these abominations, and has done things more wicked than all that the Amorites did, who were before him, and has made Judah also to sin with his idols; therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing upon Jerusalem and Judah such evil that the ears of every one who hears of it will tingle. And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Sama'ria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab; and I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. And I will cast off the remnant of my heritage, and give them into the hand of their enemies, and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies, because they have done what is evil in my sight and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers came out of Egypt, even to this day."

Moreover Manas'sseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides the sin which he made Judah to sin so that they did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. (1 Ki 21:10-18)

The LORD spoke to Manas'sseh and to his people, but they gave no heed. Therefore the LORD brought upon them the commanders of the army of the king of Assyria, who took Manas'sseh with hooks and bound him with fetters of bronze and brought him to Babylon. And when he was in distress he entreated the favor of the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers. He prayed to him, and God received his entreaty and heard his supplication and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manas'sseh knew that the LORD was God.

Afterwards he built an outer wall for the city of David west of Gihon, in the valley, and for the entrance into the Fish Gate, and carried it round Ophel, and raised it to a very great height; he also put commanders of the army in all the fortified cities in Judah. And he took away the foreign gods and the idol from the house of the LORD, and all the altars that he had built on the mountain of the house of the LORD and in Jerusalem, and he threw them outside of the city. He also restored the altar of the LORD and offered upon it sacrifices of peace offerings and of thanksgiving; and he commanded Judah to serve the LORD the God of Israel. Nevertheless the people still sacrificed at the high places, but only to the LORD their God. (2Ch 33:10-17)

Now the rest of the acts of Manas'sseh, and all that he did, and the sin that he committed, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

Now the rest of the acts of Manas'sseh, and his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of the LORD the God of Israel, behold, they are in the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

And his prayer, and how God received his entreaty, and all his sin and his faithlessness, and the sites on which he built high places and set up the Ashe'rim and the images, before he humbled himself, behold, they are written in the Chronicles of the Seers.

And Manas'sseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his house, in the garden of Uzza; and Amon his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 21:1-18)

So Manas'sseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his house; and Amon his son reigned in his stead. (2Ch 33:18-20)

Amon King of Judah

2 Kings 21:19-26 & 2 Chronicles 33:21-25

Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Meshul'lemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as Manas'sseh his father had done. (2Ki 21:19-20 & 2Ch 33:21-22a)

He walked in all the way in which his father walked, and served the idols that his father served, and worshiped them; he forsook the LORD, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of the LORD. (2Ki 21:21-22)

Amon sacrificed to all the images that Manas'sseh his father had made, and served them. And he did not humble himself before the LORD, as Manas'sseh his father had humbled himself, but this Amon incurred guilt more and more. (2Ch 33:22b-23)

And the [his] servants of Amon conspired against him, and killed the king [him] in his house. But the people of the land slew all those who had conspired against King Amon, and the people of the land made Josi'ah his son king in his stead.

Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And he was buried in his tomb in the garden of Uzza; and Josi'ah his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 21:23-26 & 2Ch 33:24-25)

Josiah King of Judah

1 Kings 22:1-2 & 2 Chronicles 34:1-2

Josi'ah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedi'dah the daughter of Adai'ah of Bozkath. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. (2Ki 22:1-2 & 2Ch 34:1-2)

Josiah's Early Reforms

2 Chronicles 34:3-7

For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet a boy, he began to seek the God of David his father; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Ashe'rim, and the graven and the molten images. And they broke down the altars of the Ba'als in his presence; and he hewed down the incense altars which stood above them; and he broke in pieces the Ashe'rim and the graven and the molten images, and he made dust of them and strewed it over the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. He also burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and purged Judah and Jerusalem. And in the cities of Manas'sseh, E'phraim, and Simeon, and as far as Naph'tali, in their ruins round about, he broke down the

altars, and beat the Ashe'rim and the images into powder, and hewed down all the incense altars throughout all the land of Israel. Then he returned to Jerusalem.

Josiah Repairs the Temple

2 Kings 22:3-7 & 2 Chronicles 34:8-13

In the eighteenth year of King Josi'ah, the king sent Shaphan the son of Azali'ah, son of Meshul'lam, the secretary, to the house of the LORD, saying,

"Go up to Hilki'ah the high priest, that he may reckon the amount of the money which has been brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the threshold have collected from the people;

and let it be given into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD; and let them give it to the workmen who are at the house of the LORD, repairing the house, that is, to the carpenters, and to the builders, and to the masons, as well as for buying timber and quarried stone to repair the house.

But no accounting shall be asked from them for the money which is delivered into their hand, for they deal honestly." (2Ki 22:3-7)

Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azali'ah, and Ma-asei'ah the governor of the city, and Jo'ah the son of Jo'ahaz, the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God.

They came to Hilki'ah the high priest and delivered the money that had been brought into the house of God, which the Levites, the keepers of the threshold, had collected from Manas'seh and E'phraim and from all the remnant of Israel and from all Judah and Benjamin and from the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

They delivered it to the workmen who had the oversight of the house of the LORD; and the workmen who were working in the house of the LORD gave it for repairing and restoring the house. They gave it to the carpenters and the builders to buy quarried stone, and timber for binders and beams for the buildings which the kings of Judah had let go to ruin.

And the men did the work faithfully. Over them were set Jahath and Obadi'ah the Levites, of the sons of Merar'i, and Zechari'ah and Meshul'lam, of the sons of the Ko'hathites, to have oversight. The Levites, all who were skilful with instruments of music, were over the burden bearers and directed all who did work in every kind of service; and some of the Levites were scribes, and officials, and gatekeepers. (2Ch 34:8-13)

The Book of the Law Found

2 Kings 22:8-22 & 2 Chronicles 34:14-28

While they were bringing out the money that had been brought into the house of the LORD, Hilki'ah the priest found the book of the law of the LORD given through Moses.

And [Then] Hilki'ah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD." And Hilki'ah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it. And Shaphan the secretary came [brought the book] to the king, and further reported to the king, "All that was committed to your servants they are doing. Your servants [They] have emptied out the money that was found in the house of the LORD, and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers and the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD." Then Shaphan

the secretary told the king, "Hilki'ah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read it before the king.

And when the king heard the words of the book of the law, he rent his clothes. And the king commanded Hilki'ah the priest, and Ahi'kam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor [*Abdon*] the son of Micai'ah [*Micah*], and Shaphan the secretary, and Asai'ah the king's servant, saying, "Go, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah [*those who are left in Israel and in Judah*], concerning the words of this [the] book that has been found; for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against [*poured out on*] us, because our fathers have not obeyed [*kept*] the words of this book [*the LORD*], to do according to all that is written *in this book concerning us.*"

So Hilki'ah the priest, and Ahi'kam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asai'ah [*and those whom the king had sent*] went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah [*Tokhat*], son of Harhas [*Hasrah*], keeper of the wardrobe (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter); and they talked with her [*spoke to her to that effect*].

And she said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Tell the man who sent you to me, Thus says the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place and upon its inhabitants, all the words of [*curses that are written in*] the book which [*was read before*] the king of Judah has read. Because they have forsaken me and have burned incense to other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore my wrath will be kindled against [*poured out upon*] this place, and it will not be quenched.

But as to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall you say to him, Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Regarding the words which you have heard, because your heart was penitent, and you humbled yourself before the LORD [*God*], when you heard how I spoke [*his words*] against this place, and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have humbled yourself before me, and you have rent your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, says the LORD. Therefore, behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place *and its inhabitants.*"

And they brought back word to the king. (2Ki 22:8-20 & 2Ch 34:14-28)

Josiah Renews the Covenant

2 Kings 23:1-3 & 2 Chronicles 34:29-32

Then the king sent [*and gathered together*], and all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem were gathered to him. And the king went up to the house of the LORD, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests and the prophets [*Levites*], all the people, both small and great [*great and small*]; and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which had been found in the house of the LORD. And the king stood *in his place by the pillar* and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this [the] covenant that were written in this book; (2Ki 23:1-3a & 2Ch 34:29-31)

and all the people joined in the covenant. (2Ki 23:3b)

Then he made all who were present in Jerusalem and in Benjamin stand to it. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers. (2Ch 34:32)

Josiah's Later Reforms

2 Kings 23:4-20 & 2 Chronicles 34:33

And the king commanded Hilki'ah, the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the threshold, to bring out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels made for Ba'al, for Ashe'rah, and for all the host of heaven; he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel. And he deposed the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places at the cities of Judah and round about Jerusalem; those also who burned incense to Ba'al, to the sun, and the moon, and the constellations, and all the host of the heavens. And he brought out the Ashe'rah from the house of the LORD, outside Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and beat it to dust and cast the dust of it upon the graves of the common people. And he broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes which were in the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the Ashe'rah.

And Josi'ah took away all the abominations from all the territory that belonged to the people of Israel, and made all who were in Israel serve the LORD their God. All his days they did not turn away from following the LORD the God of their fathers. (2Ch 34:33)

And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beer-sheba; and he broke down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on one's left at the gate of the city. However, the priests of the high places did not come up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they ate unleavened bread among their brethren.

And he defiled To'pheth, which is in the valley of the sons of Hinnom, that no one might burn his son or his daughter as an offering to Molech. And he removed the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun, at the entrance to the house of the LORD, by the chamber of Nathan-melech the chamberlain, which was in the precincts; and he burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

And the altars on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manas'sseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, he pulled down and broke in pieces, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron. And the king defiled the high places that were east of Jerusalem, to the south of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ash'toreth the abomination of the Sido'nians, and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And he broke in pieces the pillars, and cut down the Ashe'rim, and filled their places with the bones of men.

Moreover the altar at Bethel, the high place erected by Jerobo'am the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, that altar with the high place he pulled down and he broke in pieces its stones, crushing them to dust; also he burned the Ashe'rah. And as Josi'ah turned, he saw the tombs there on the mount; and he sent and took the bones out of the tombs, and burned them upon the altar, and defiled it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed, who had predicted these things.

Then he said, "What is yonder monument that I see?"

And the men of the city told him, "It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and predicted these things which you have done against the altar at Bethel."

And the man cried against the altar by the word of the LORD, and said, "O altar, altar, thus says the LORD: 'Behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josi'ah by name; and he shall sacrifice upon you the priests of the high places who burn incense upon you, and men's bones shall be burned upon you.'" (1Ki 13:2) {The man of God and the Prophet from Samaria. see 1Ki 13}

And he said, "Let him be; let no man move his bones." So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet who came out of Sama'ria.

And all the shrines also of the high places that were in the cities of Sama'ria, which kings of Israel had made, provoking the LORD to anger, Josi'ah removed; he did to them according to all that he had done at Bethel. And he slew all the priests of the high places who were there, upon the altars, and burned the bones of men upon them. Then he returned to Jerusalem. (2Ki 23:8-20)

Josiah Celebrates the Passover

2 Kings 23:21-27 & 2 Chronicles 35:1-19

And the king commanded all the people, "Keep the passover to the LORD your God, as it is written in this book of the covenant." (2Ki 23:21)

Josi'ah kept a passover to the LORD in Jerusalem; and they killed the passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the first month. He appointed the priests to their offices and encouraged them in the service of the house of the LORD. And he said to the Levites who taught all Israel and who were holy to the LORD, "Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David, king of Israel, built; you need no longer carry it upon your shoulders. Now serve the LORD your God and his people Israel. Prepare yourselves according to your fathers' houses by your divisions, following the directions of David king of Israel and the directions of Solomon his son. (2Ch 35:1-4)

And stand in the holy place according to the groupings of the fathers' houses of your brethren the lay people, and let there be for each a part of a father's house of the Levites. And kill the passover lamb, and sanctify yourselves, and prepare for your brethren, to do according to the word of the LORD by Moses."

Then Josi'ah contributed to the lay people, as passover offerings for all that were present, lambs and kids from the flock to the number of thirty thousand, and three thousand bulls; these were from the king's possessions.

And his princes contributed willingly to the people, to the priests, and to the Levites. Hilki'ah, Zechari'ah, and Jehi'el, the chief officers of the house of God, gave to the priests for the passover offerings two thousand six hundred lambs and kids and three hundred bulls. Conani'ah also, and Shemai'ah and Nethan'el his brothers, and Hashabi'ah and Je-i'el and Jo'zabad, the chiefs of the Levites, gave to the Levites for the passover offerings five thousand lambs and kids and five hundred bulls.

When the service had been prepared for, the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their divisions according to the king's command. And they killed the passover lamb, and the priests sprinkled the blood which they received from them while the Levites flayed the victims. And they set aside the burnt offerings that they might distribute them according to the groupings of the fathers' houses of the lay people, to offer to the LORD, as it is written in the book of Moses. And so they did with the bulls. And they roasted the passover lamb with fire according to the ordinance; and they boiled the holy offerings in pots, in caldrons, and in pans, and carried them quickly to all the lay people. And afterward they prepared for themselves and for the priests, because the priests the sons of Aaron were busied in offering the burnt offerings and the fat parts until night; so the Levites prepared for themselves and for the priests the sons of Aaron.

The singers, the sons of Asaph, were in their place according to the command of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jedu'thun the king's seer; and the gatekeepers were at each gate; they did not need to depart from their service, for their brethren the Levites prepared for them. (2Ch 35:5-15)

For no such passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah; but in the eighteenth year of King Josi'ah this passover was kept to the LORD in Jerusalem. (2Ki 23:21-23)

So all the service of the LORD was prepared that day, to keep the passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD, according to the command of King Josi'ah. And the people of Israel who were present kept the passover at that time, and the feast of unleavened bread seven days. No passover like it had been kept in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet; none of the kings of Israel had kept such a passover as was kept by Josi'ah, and the priests and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josi'ah this passover was kept. (2Ch 35:16-19)

Moreover Josi'ah put away the mediums and the wizards and the teraphim and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilki'ah the priest found in the house of the LORD. 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.

Still the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of his great wrath, by which his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manas'sseh had provoked him. And the LORD said, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will cast off this city which I have chosen, Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there." (2Ki 23:24-27)

Yet for all this her false sister Judah did not return to me with her whole heart, but in pretense, says the LORD." (Jer 3:10) {See Jer 3:6-11}

The Death of Josiah

2 Kings 23:28-30 & 2 Chronicles 35:20-36:1

Now the rest of the acts of Josi'ah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? (2Ki 23:28)

Now the rest of the acts of Josi'ah, and his good deeds according to what is written in the law of the LORD, and his acts, first and last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah. (2Ch 35:26-27)

In his days Pharaoh Neco king of Egypt went up to the king of Assyria to the river Euphra'tes.

After all this, when Josi'ah had prepared the temple, Neco king of Egypt went up to fight at Car'chemish on the Euphra'tes and Josi'ah went out against him. But he sent envoys to him, saying, "What have we to do with each other, king of Judah? I am not coming against you this day, but against the house with which I am at war; and God has commanded me to make haste. Cease opposing God, who is with me, lest he destroy you."

King Josi'ah went to meet him;
and Pharaoh Neco slew him at Megid'do, when he saw him.

Nevertheless Josi'ah would not turn away from him, but disguised himself in order to fight with him. He did not listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, but joined battle in the plain of Megid'do.

And the archers shot King Josi'ah; and the king said

And his servants carried him dead in a chariot from Megid'do, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own tomb. (2Ki 23:29-30a)

to his servants, "Take me away, for I am badly wounded." So his servants took him out of the chariot and carried him in his second chariot and brought him to Jerusalem. And he died, and was buried in the tombs of his fathers. All Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josi'ah.

Jeremiah also uttered a lament for Josi'ah; and all the singing men and singing women have spoken of Josi'ah in their laments to this day. They made these an ordinance in Israel; behold, they are written in the Laments. (2Ch 35:20-25)

And the people of the land took Jeho'ahaz the son of Josi'ah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead *in Jerusalem.* (2Ki 23:30b & 2Ch 36:1)

Jehoahaz King of Judah

2 Kings 23:31-35 & 2 Chronicles 36:2-4

Jeho'ahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamu'tal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done. And Pharaoh Neco put him in bonds at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign [Then the king of Egypt deposed him] in Jerusalem, and laid upon the land a tribute of a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. And Pharaoh Neco the king of Egypt made Eli'akim the son of Josi'ah [his brother] king in the place of Josi'ah his father [over Judah and Jerusalem], and changed his name to Jehoi'akim. But he [Neco] took Jeho'ahaz his brother away; and he came [carried him] to Egypt, and died there. (2Ki 23:31-34 & 2Ch 36:2-4)

And Jehoi'akim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh, but he taxed the land to give the money according to the command of Pharaoh. He exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, from every one according to his assessment, to give it to Pharaoh Neco. (2Ki 23:35)

Jehoiakim King of Judah

2 Kings 23:36-24:7 & 2 Chronicles 36:5-8 (also Jeremiah 35-36)

Jehoi'akim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zebi'dah the daughter of Pedai'ah of Rumah. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoi'akim became his servant three years; then he turned and rebelled against him. And the LORD sent against him bands of the Chaldeans, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the Ammonites, and sent them against Judah

Jehoi'akim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God.

Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters to take him to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar also carried part of the vessels of the house of the LORD to Babylon and put them in his palace in Babylon. (2Ch 36:5-7)

to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD which he spoke by his servants the prophets. Surely this came upon Judah at the command of the LORD, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manas'seh, according to all that he had done, and also for the innocent blood that he had shed; for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD would not pardon. (2Ki 23:36-24:4)

Now the rest of the deeds of Jehoi'akim, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? So Jehoi'akim slept with his fathers, and Jehoi'achin his son reigned in his stead. (2Ki 24:5-6)

Now the rest of the acts of Jehoi'akim, and the abominations which he did, and what was found against him, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah; and Jehoi'achin his son reigned in his stead. (2Ch 36:8)

And the king of Egypt did not come again out of his land, for the king of Babylon had taken all that belonged to the king of Egypt from the Brook of Egypt to the river Euphra'tes. (2Ki 24:7)

Jehoiachin King of Judah

2 Kings 24:8-17 & 2 Chronicles 36:9-10

Jehoi'achin was eighteen years old when he became king, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Nehush'ta the daughter of Elna'than of Jerusalem. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father had done.

At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up to Jerusalem, and the city was besieged. And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to the city, while his servants were besieging it; and Jehoi'achin the king of Judah gave himself up to the king of Babylon, himself, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his palace officials.

The king of Babylon took him prisoner in the eighth year of his reign, and carried off all the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold in the temple of the LORD, which Solomon king of Israel had made, as the LORD had foretold. He carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valor, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and the smiths; none remained, except the poorest people of the land.

And he carried away Jehoi'achin to Babylon; the king's mother, the king's wives, his officials, and the chief men of the land, he took into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon. And the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon all the men of valor, seven thousand, and the craftsmen and the smiths, one thousand, all of them strong and fit for war.

Jehoi'achin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.

In the spring of the year King Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought him to Babylon, with the precious vessels of the house of the LORD,

And the king of Babylon made Mattani'ah, Jehoi'achin's uncle, king in his stead, and changed his name to Zedeki'ah. (2Ki 24:8-17)

and made his brother Zedeki'ah king over Judah and Jerusalem. (2Ch 36:9-10)

Jehoiachin Released

2 Kings 25:27-30 & Jeremiah 52:31-34)

And in the thirty-seventh year of the exile [captivity] of Jehoi'achin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh [fifth] day of the month, Evil-mero'dach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign] became king, graciously freed [lifted up the head of] Jehoi'achin king of Judah from [and brought him out of] prison; and he spoke kindly to him, and gave him a seat above the seats of the kings who were with him in Babylon. So Jehoi'achin put off his prison garments. And every day of his life he dined regularly at the king's table; and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king, every day a portion [according to his daily need, until the day of his death], as long as he lived. (2Ki 25:27-30 & Jer 52:31-34)

Zedekiah King of Judah

2 Kings 24:18-20, 2 Chronicles 36:11-14 & Jeremiah 52:1-3 (also Jeremiah 32-34, 37-38)

Zedeki'ah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamu'tal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoi'akim had done. For [Surely] because of the anger of the LORD it came to the point [such a pass] in Jerusalem and Judah that he cast them out from his presence. And Zedeki'ah rebelled against the king of Babylon. (2Ki 24:18-20 & Jer 51:1-3)

Zedeki'ah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. He did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the LORD. He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God; he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD, the God of Israel. All the leading priests and the people likewise were exceedingly unfaithful, following all the abominations of the nations; and they polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. (2Ch 36:11-14)

The Fall of Jerusalem

2 Kings 25:1-26, 2 Chronicles 36:15-23 & Jeremiah 52:4-34 (also Jeremiah 39-44)

The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent persistently to them by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place; but they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words, and scoffing at his prophets, till the wrath of the LORD rose against his people, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought up against them the king of the Chalde'ans, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or aged; he gave them all into his hand. (2Ch 36:15-17)

And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem, and laid siege to it; and they built siegeworks against it round about. So the city was besieged till the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. Then a breach was made in the city; and the king with all the men of war fled and went out from the city by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the king's garden, though [while] the Chaldeans were around about the city. And they went in the direction of the Arabah. But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king, and overtook him [Zedekiah] in the plains of Jericho; and all his army was scattered from him. Then they captured the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, who [and he] passed sentence upon him. They [The king of Babylon] slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and also slew all the princes of Judah at Riblah and [He] put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him in fetters, and the king of Babylon took him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

In the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month--which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon--Nebu'zarad'an, the captain of the bodyguard, a servant of [who served] the king of Babylon, came to [entered] Jerusalem. And he burned the house of the LORD, and the king's house and all the houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down. And all the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down the walls around about Jerusalem. (1Ki 25:1-10 & Jer 52:4-14)

And the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, together with the rest of the multitude, Nebu'zarad'an the captain of the guard carried into exile. (2Ki 25:11)

And Nebu'zarad'an the captain of the guard carried away captive some of the poorest of the people and the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, together with the rest of the artisans. (Jer 52:15)

But Nebu'zarad'an the captain of the guard left some of the poorest of the land to be vinedressers and plowmen.

And the pillars of bronze that were in the house of the LORD, and the stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried all the bronze to Babylon. And they took away the pots, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the basins, and the dishes for incense and all the vessels of bronze used in the temple service, the firepans also, and the bowls [also the small bowls, and the firepans], and the basins, and the pots, and the lampstands, and the dishes for incense, and the bowls for libation. What was of gold the captain of the guard took away as gold, and what was of silver, as silver. As for the two pillars, the one sea, the twelve bronze bulls which were under the sea, and the stands, which Solomon the king had made for the house of the LORD, the bronze of all these vessels [things] was beyond weight. As for the pillars The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, its circumference was twelve cubits, and its thickness was four fingers, and it was hollow. and upon it was a capital of bronze; the height of the one capital was three [five] cubits; a network and pomegranates, all of bronze, were upon the capital round about. And the second pillar had the like, with the network [pomegranates]. There were ninety-six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates were a hundred upon the network round about.

And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king and of his princes, all these he brought to Babylon. And they burned the house of God, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious vessels. (2Ch 36:18-19)

And the captain of the guard took Serai'ah the chief priest, and Zephani'ah the second priest, and the three keepers of the threshold; and from the city he took an officer who had been in command of the men of war, and five [seven] men of the king's council who were found in the city; and the secretary of the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in *the midst* of the city. And Nebuzarad'an the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. And the king of Babylon smote them, and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath.

So Judah was taken into exile [*carried captive*] out of its land. (2Ki 25:11-21 & *Jeremiah 52:16-27*)

He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept sabbath, to fulfil seventy years. (2Ch 36:20-21)

This is the number of the people whom Nebuchadrez'zar carried away captive: in the seventh year, three thousand and twenty-three Jews; in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrez'zar he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred and thirty-two persons; in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadrez'zar, Nebuzarad'an the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews seven hundred and forty-five persons; all the persons were four thousand and six hundred. (Jer 52:28-30)

And over the people who remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnez'zar king of Babylon had left, he appointed Gedali'ah the son of Ahi'kam, son of Shaphan, governor. Now when all the captains of the forces in the open country and their men heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedali'ah governor, they came with their men to Gedali'ah at Mizpah, namely, Ish'mael the son of Nethani'ah, and Joha'nán the son of Kare'ah, and Serai'ah the son of Tanhu'meth the Netoph'athite, and Ja-azani'ah the son of the Ma-ac'athite. And Gedali'ah swore to them and their men, saying, "Do not be afraid because of the Chalde'an officials; dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you."

But in the seventh month, Ish'mael the son of Nethani'ah, son of Eli'shama, of the royal family, came with ten men, and attacked and killed Gedali'ah and the Jews and the Chalde'ans who were with him at Mizpah. Then all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the forces arose, and went to Egypt; for they were afraid of the Chalde'ans. (2Ki 25:22-26)

Epilog

2 Chronicles 36:22-23

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing:

"Thus says Cyrus king of Persia,

'The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all his people, may the LORD his God be with him. Let him go up.' (2Ch 36:15-23)