

A Brief History of the Kingdom of Heaven in the Earth

WEEK THREE: THE KINGDOM OF THE CHOSEN

God's people demand a king, and He grants their request... with mixed results

God's Kingdom: established by His friends

- Moses was trained in the wilderness for 40 years with Reuel "friend of God"
- He was entrusted with more authority than anyone in history because he learned how to be God's friend.
- The Law gave rules for future Kings.
- God knew Israel would reject His direct rule, again opting for an intermediary

What is the divine purpose of Kings?

- All human governments find their source of authority in God himself.
(Rom 13:1-7/ 1 Pet 2:13-14)
- God give human authority to ensure order and protect the defenseless.
- Kings are mediators between God and men. The righteous don't need external laws or kings to enforce them.
- Sinful men will *replace* God with kings.

The Laws of Kings: (Deut. 17:14-20)

- **Israel was the first nation to have laws limiting its king's rights!**
- *whom the LORD your God chooses*
- *from among your countrymen*
- *he shall not multiply horses, wives, silver and gold for himself*
- *he shall write for himself a copy of this law...and he shall read it all the days of his life...that his heart may not be lifted up above his countrymen*

Do God's people need a king?

- In the beginning...leadership (and its blessings) came through families.
- Conquerors make "subjects" attempting to *replace* God's rule.
- God only establishes kings when we ask Him to. *My Kingdom is not of this world...* (John 18:36)
- Jesus left His Kingdom to shepherds and apostles. These are to *equip* the saints, not rule over them (Eph 4)

When God's people demand a king: The end of the Theocracy (1Sam 8)

- Israel, in the Promised land, was under "Judges" for c.400 years (1451 -1050 BC)
- **The chief call of a "judge"** is to remove evil from the land – beginning with the evil being tolerated by God's people.
- **The chief call of the prophet** is to call people into repentance, and back to God's rule over them

The United Kingdom of Israel (1050-930 BC)

United Kingdom				
Years (BC)	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture
1050 - 1010	Saul	Good / Evil	Samuel	1 Sa 8-31 1 Ch 9-10
1010 - 970	David (Captain)	Good / Good	Samuel	1 Sa 16-31 2 Sa 1-24 1 Ki 1-2 1 Ch 11-29
			Nathan	
970 - 930	Solomon (Son)	Good / Evil	Nathan	1 Ki 1-11 2 Ch 1-9

When God's people demand a king: The end of the Theocracy (1Sam 8)

5 appoint a king...like all the nations.

➤ To imitate other nations, who can only promote darkness, is to reject God's rule.

7 they have not rejected you, but...Me from being king over them

The true motive: *that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles*

➤ "We don't want the responsibility of managing our own freedom."

What kings of the world are like:

8:10-18 he will take...take...take...

➤ Anyone willingly placed in the God's stead is set up for a fall.

➤ Human kings are easier to disobey and revolt against, but the Lord gives every nation the king it asks for.

"Then you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day." (1 Samuel 8:18)

God's people get what they asked for

King Saul – the consummate politician

➤ Lasted only 2 years in righteousness, 38 years as a rejected king! (1050-1010BC)

➤ Fell prey to political spirit – Seeks power and control by all means necessary.

➤ Persecutes God's friends! (David/ priests)

➤ Driven by fear of man (since man established his rule, man can remove it)

➤ **Beware the leaven of Herod**

The War between the Kingdoms:

- David (a friend of God) – chosen for his *heart*. Hand picked from the line of Judah (“Praise” – *the scepter will not depart...Gen 49:10*)
- After Saul’s death, his “house” made war with David for 7 years. (2 Sam
- There is an eternal struggle for the establishing of God’s rule in the earth – those who permit Him to rule are blessed

THE KINGDOM OF DAVID (1010-970-

The example of a man after God’s Own Heart

The Kingdom under David

- His 40 year reign (1010-970BC) is considered the Golden era of Israel.
- First act as king – regain Jerusalem for God’s dwelling place
- Next: Established the “Tabernacle of David” God made *it* the image of the New Covenant people! (*Amos 9:11-12*)
- David, like Moses – combined priest and King into one “office”
- Most Psalms written during His reign

The Kingdom under David

- David, like Moses – combined priest and King into one “office”
- Because He sought to glorify God as the only true sovereign of Israel, He gained an eternal dynasty:
- *2 Sam 7:16 ...your throne shall be established forever.*
- Jesus – most commonly called the “Son of David”

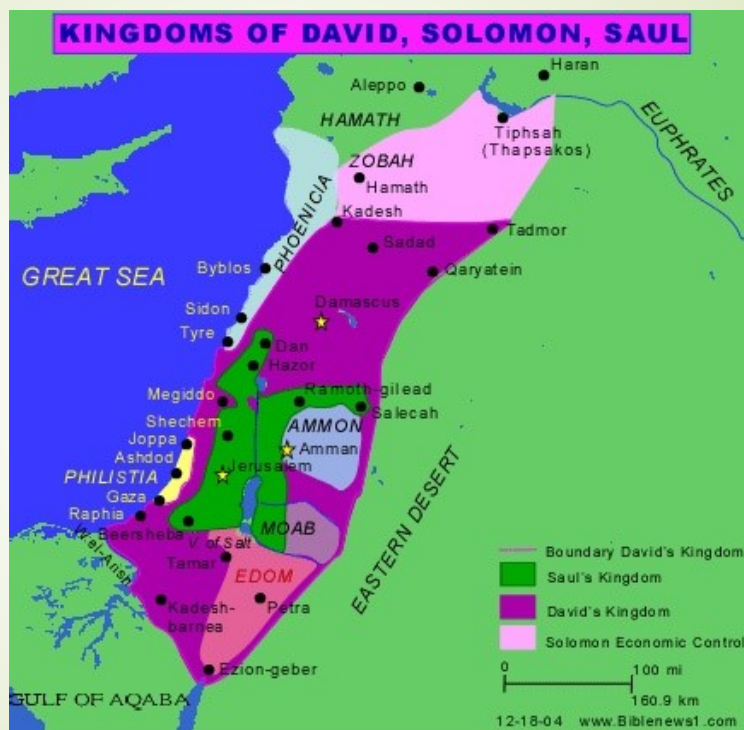
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David saw the prophetic fulfillment of this eternal dynasty in the Spirit:

- Recognized the heavenly authority of his seed: (Psalm 110)
- prophesied the cross with detail (Ps 22)
- Every king which followed compared to him "*he walked in the footsteps...*"
- God spared Judah several times "*because of my servant David...*"

Solomon's reign (970-930BC)

- Regarded as a continuation of the Golden Age of Israel
- Completed the Temple project
- Expanded borders (largest they would ever become – even to this day)
- Renowned for wisdom (wrote most of the Proverbs, Psalms 72 and 127, The Song of Songs, and Ecclesiastes)
- Ended badly, set the stage for a divided Kingdom under a foolish son



The Kingdom Divided

Rehoboam (Solomon's son)
harsh/ immature in authority

Jereboam (from tribe of Ephraim – first king of “Israel”)

Northern Kingdom now called “Israel.” (all tribes save Judah and Benjamin)

Southern Kingdom now referred to as “Judah”
(Made up of Judah and Benjamin)



The Northern Kingdom (931-722 BC)

- Birthed in rebellion
- Had NO godly kings (save a short time under Jehu, who ended Jezebel)
- Made Samaria the capitol city
- Mainly served the local Caananite gods (Ashterah, Baal)
- Omri Ahab, Jezebel,
- Elijah and Elisha were prophets to Israel

“Israel” from Jereboam’s reign until the death of Elisha (931-814BC)

Israel				
Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture
931 - 910	Jeroboam I (servant)	Evil / Evil	Abijah	1 Ki 12-14 2 Ch 10
910 - 909	Nadab (son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15
909 - 886	Baasha	Evil / Evil	Jehu	1 Ki 16
886 - 885	Elah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 16
885	Zimri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Micaiah	1 Ki 16
885 - 874	Omri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Elijah 1 Ki 17-19 1 Ki 21 2 Ki 1-2	1 Ki 16
874 - 853	Ahab (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 17 2 Ch 18
853 - 852	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 22 2 Ki 1
852 - 841	Joram (Son of Ahab)	Evil / Evil	Elisha 1 Ki 19 2 Ki 2-9 2 Ki 13	2 Ki 3
841 - 814	Jehu (Captain)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 9-10

“Israel” from The death of Elisha to the Assyrian invasion (814-722 BC)

814 - 798	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13
798 - 782	Jehoash (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13-14
782 - 753	Jeroboam II (Son)	Evil / Evil	Amos Hosea	2 Ki 14
753 - 752	Zechariah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
752	Shallum	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
752 - 742	Menahem	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
742 - 740	Pekahiah (Son)	Evil / Evil		Jonah (in Nineveh)
752 - 740 (rival) 733 - 722 (sole)	Pekah (Captain)	Evil / Evil	2 Ki 15	
732 - 722	Hoshea	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 17
Israel into Assyrian captivity - 722 BC				

Before the end...3 Prophets call out to Israel, and beyond

- Jonah, Amos & Hosea prophecy mainly to Israel
- Joel, Isaiah and Micah prophecy mainly to Judah
- All warn of a coming captivity, with promises of a restoration ahead.
- All point to a day beyond natural Israel's time –Kingdom of God through messiah

Before the end...God sends prophets...

Jonah – 825BC (while Jeroboam II ruled Israel, and Uzziah ruled Judah)

- Sent to Ninevah, capitol of Assyria.
- A successful mission, carrying the clear favor of God!
- Revealed Israel's unwillingness to be God's light to the nations.
- Their destruction came from the nation they rejected even though God showed mercy

Before the end...God sends prophets...

Amos: (784)

- Judgment coming, but hope for a restoration ahead...
- Speaks to all the neighboring countries – warning of God's judgment on them, too!
- Amos 9:11-15 – the New Covenant community!

Before the end...God sends prophets...

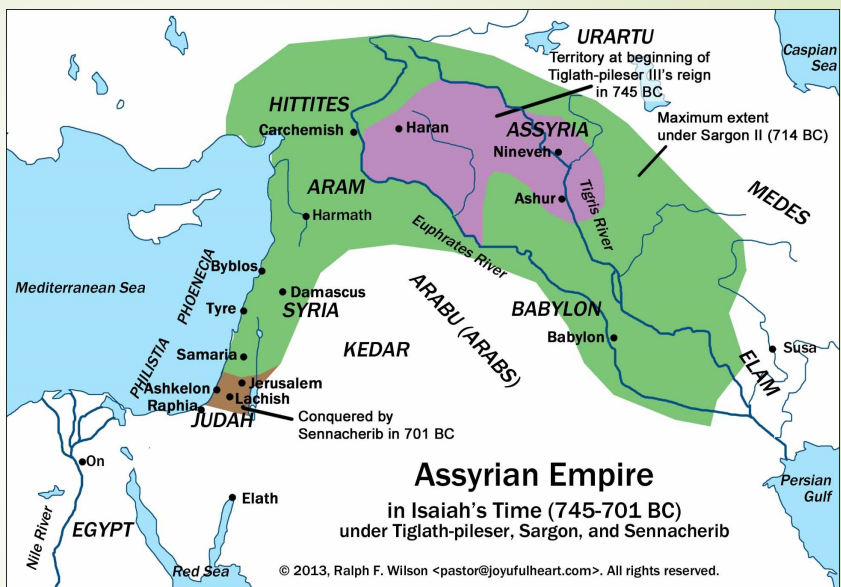
Hosea: (785-725)

- A living parable – heartbreaking expression of God's pain over Israel
- Israel called His bride – extended invitation to the gentiles: (2:19-23)
- Messianic prophecy: *When Israel was a youth I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son. (11:1)*

Israel falls to the Assyrians (721BC)

2 Kings 17 – King Sargon of Assyria

- Took Samaria captive
- Resettled the land with Babylonians
- Allowed some priests to return



- Yet, each one failed to completely cleanse Israel

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Judah				
Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture
931 - 913	Rehoboam (Son)	Evil / Evil	Shemaiah	1 Ki 12, 14 2 Ch 10-12
913 - 911	Abijah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15 2 Ch 13
911 - 870	Asa (Son)	Good/Good	Hanani	1 Ki 15 2 Ch 14-16
870 - 848	Jehoshaphat (Son)	Good/Good		1 Ki 22 2 Ch 17-20
848 - 841	Jehoram (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 8 2 Ch 21
841	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 8-9 2 Ch 22
841 - 835	Athaliah (mother)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 11 2 Ch 22-23
835 - 796	Joash (son of Ahaziah)	Good / Evil	<i>Joel</i>	2 Ki 11-12 2 Ch 23-24
796 - 767	Amaziah (son)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 14 2 Ch 25

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- Sent by God during Joash's reign
- Joash began well, restoring the temple, but engaged in treachery and political scheming.
- Joel – an invasion is coming -- *weep between the porch and the altar*
- They did, and the ultimate fulfillment was delayed 2 centuries
- Glorious promises of the last days! (2:28-29) – fulfilled in the upper room!

Judah, from Uzziah until Hezekiah (the captivity of Israel) (767-687 BC)

767 - 740	Uzziah aka Azariah (Son)	Good/Evil	Isaiah Micah	2 Ki 15 2 Ch 26
748 - 732	Jotham (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 15 2 Ch 27
732 - 716	Ahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 16 2 Ch 28
716 - 687	Hezekiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 18-20 2 Ch 29-32 Is 36-39

Isaiah sees the Kingdom in its glory

- Propheesied during Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (62 years)
- A compilation of his oracles – intense judgments for Israel...
- and judgments to all surrounding nations who touch God's chosen
- The most detailed messianic prophecies of any OT book!
- Spoke to God's Israel's eternal purpose through messiah...into eternity

Israel's bigger purpose in the earth:

2:2 The mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains...all the nations will stream to it.

42:1...4 "Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold...He will bring forth justice to the nations...He will not be disheartened or crushed Until He has established justice in the earth

Israel's bigger purpose in the earth:

56:6-7 "Also the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ...Even those I will bring to My holy mountain And make them joyful in My house of prayer...For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples."

60:1-3 "Arise, shine; for your light has come, And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you...Nations will come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.

Israel's bigger purpose in the earth:

62:1-2 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not keep quiet, Until her righteousness goes forth like brightness, ...The nations will see your righteousness, And all kings your glory...

65:17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former things will not be remembered or come to mind.

The Messiah in Isaiah:

4:2 In that day **the Branch** of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious...11:1 Then **a shoot** will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.

7:14 ...Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name **Immanuel**.

9:6 For **a child** will be born to us, **a son** will be given to us; And **the government will rest on His shoulders**;

The Messiah in Isaiah:

53:12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors.

61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted

The captors will become a blessing...

45:1...4 Thus says the LORD to Cyrus His anointed... **"For the sake of Jacob My servant, And Israel My chosen one, I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor Though you have not known Me.**

- Cyrus, king of Persia would not be born for another century!
- Gave decree for the Jews to return from captivity, fully funded the Temple restoration project!

Micah (Jotham → Hezekiah, 48 years)

- Reminded Israel of their divine purpose (like Isaiah)

the mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains

- Messiah to be born in Bethlehem:

(5:2) But as for you, Bethlehem...From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel...

The church in Micah:

- Prophesied the “diaspora:”

Micah 5:7 Then the remnant of Jacob
Will be among many peoples Like dew
from the LORD...

- The Jews who came for Pentecost
returned to their “homeland” ([Acts 11](#))– preaching Christ *with* their
knowledge of His-story among His
people

The church in Micah:

4:6-7 *In that day," declares the LORD, "I will
assemble the lame And gather the
outcasts... "I will make the lame a remnant
And the outcasts a strong nation,*

- Sound familiar?

1 Cor 1:26-7...*there were not many wise
according to the flesh, not many mighty, not
many noble; but God has chosen the foolish
things of the world to shame the wise, and
God has chosen the weak things of the
world to shame the things which are strong...*

Hezekiah's reign:

- Started well and ended well
- Temple reforms, idolatry removed, etc.
- Was king during the invasion of Israel.
- Sennacherib invaded Judah (2 Kings 19-20, 2 Chr 32) – Hezekiah gave him
tribute, full of fear.
- His prayer: [2 Kings 19:14-19](#)
- **God delivers Kingdoms who
acknowledge His dominion!**