

1st Kings 13-16 (Cont)

10 25 16

Announcement

- In accordance with parish policy we **will not meet** next Tuesday, Nov 1st due to the Holy Day of Obligation
- In order to avoid missing two weeks in a row, we **will meet** on Tuesday, Nov 8th (Election Day)

KINGS OF JUDAH (SOUTHERN KINGDOM)

930-586 BC

No.	King	Date BC	Bad/ Good	Years Reigned	Relation to Predecessor	End of Reign	Scripture Reference
1	Rehoboam I	930-913	B	17	Son of Solomon	Died	1 Kg 11:42-14:31
2	Abijah	913-910	B	3	Son	Died	1 Kg 14:31-15:8
3	Asa	910-869	G	41	Son	Died	1 Kg 15:8-24
4	Jehoshaphat	872-848	G	25	Son	Died	1 Kg 22:41-55
5	Jehoram	848-841	B	8	Son	Stricken by God	2 Kg 8:16-24
6	Ahaziah	841	B	1	Son	Killed by Jehu	2 Kg 8:24-9:29
7	Athaliah	841-835	B	7	Mother	Killed by Army	2 Kg 11:1-20
8	Joash	835-796	G	40	Grandson	Killed by Servants	2 Kg 11:1-12:21
9	Amaziah	796-767	G	29	Son	Killed by Court	2 Kg 14:1-20
10	Uzziah	792-740	G	52	Son	Stricken by God	2 Kg 15:1-7
11	Jotham	750-732	G	16	Son	Died	2 Kg 15:32-38
12	Ahaz	735-715	B	16	Son	Died	2 Kg 16:1-20
13	Hezekiah	715-686	G	29	Son	Died	2 Kg 18:1-20:21
14	Manasseh	697-642	B	55	Son	Died	2 Kg 21:1-18
15	Amon	642-640	B	2	Son	Killed by Servants	2 Kg 21:19-26
16	Josiah	640-609	G	31	Son	Wounded in Battle	2 Kg 22:1-23:30
17	Jehoahaz	609	B	3 Months	Son	Exiled to Egypt	2 Kg 23:31-33
18	Jehoiakim	609-598	B	11	Brother	Died in Seige	2 Kg 23:34-24:5
19	Jehoiachin	598-597	B	3 Months	Son	Exiled to Babylon	2 Kg 24:6-16
20	Zedekiah	597-586	B	11	Uncle	Exiled to Babylon	2 Kg 24:17-25:30

KINGS OF ISRAEL (NORTHERN KINGDOM)

930-722 BC

No.	King	Date BC	Bad/ Good	Years Reigned	Relation to Predecessor	End of Reign	Scripture Reference
1	Jeroboam I	930-909	B	22		Stricken by God	1 Kg 11:26-14:20
2	Nadab	909-908	B	2	Son	Killed by Baasha	1 Kg 15:25-28
3	Baasha	908-886	B	24	Son of Ahijah	Died	1 Kg 15:27-16:7
4	Elah	886-885	B	2	Son	Killed by Zimri	1 Kg 16:6-14
5	Zimri	885	B	7 days	Captain of Chariot	Suicide by Fire	1 Kg 16:9-20
6	Tibni	885-880	B	7	Son of Ginath	Died	1 Kg 16:21-22
7	Omri	885-874	B	12	Captain of Army	Died	1 Kg 16:23-28
8	Ahab	874-853	B	22	Son	Wounded in Battle	1 Kg 16:28-22:40
9	Ahaziah	853-852	B	2	Son	Fell to His Death	1Kg 22:40-2Kg 1:18
10	Joram	852-841	B	12	Brother	Killed by Jehu	2 Kg 3:1-9:25
11	Jehu	841-814	B	28	(none)	Died	2 Kg 9:1-10:36
12	Jehoahaz	814-798	B	17	Son	Died	2 Kg 13:1-9
13	Jehoash	798-782	B	16	Son	Died	2 Kg 13:10-14:16
14	Jeroboam II	793-753	B	41	Son	Died	2 Kg 14:23-29
15	Zechariah	753	B	6 months	Son	Killed by Shallum	2 Kg 14:29-15:12
16	Shallum	752	B	1 month	(none)	Killed by Menahem	2 Kg 15:10-15
17	Menahem	752-742	B	10	(none)	Died	2 Kg 15:15-22
18	Pekahiah	742-740	B	2	Son	Killed by Pekah	2 Kg 15:22-26
19	Pekah	740-732	B	20	Captain of Army	Killed by Hoshea	2 Kg 15:27-31
20	Hoshea	732-722	B	9	(none)	Exile to Assyria	2 Kg 15:30-17

1st King 13 -16 (Cont)

- **Ahab**

- Reigns over Israel for 22 years
- Did more evil than all who walked before him
- Married **Jezebel**, the daughter of the King of *Sidon*
- Served and worshiped Baal
- Erected an altar to *Baal* in the house of *Baal* which he built in *Samaria*
- Made an *Asherah*

1st King 13 -16 (Cont)

- Brought in more foreign gods as he expanded the pantheon of the Northern Kingdom
- Did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel before him
- As the region was very arid, the god who brings rain is the favored god
- Rain was seen as a blessing from the gods
- When there was no rain the people believed that the gods must be angry
- ***Baal*** was the Canaanite rain god

Transition

- We will now turn to **1st Kings 17** where we will be introduced to the prophet ***Elijah***

1st Kings 17-22

10 25 16

Introduction to the Prophets

- Prophet
 - In Hebrew *Nabi*: a spokesman, speaker, prophet
 - In Greek *Prophétés*: an interpreter or forth-teller of the divine will
- What is a prophet?
 - Someone who is the mouthpiece, spokesman for God
 - One who tells you what God has said
 - One who gives God's perspective on a situation
 - He is **not a fortune teller!**
- Upon receipt of His message the people (the king, the society, the people in general) who hear it must decide what they are going to do with what the prophet said

1st Kings 17

- The Prophet *Elijah* the *Tishbite*, as instructed by the Lord God of Israel, goes to *Ahab* the King of Israel and says that there will be no rain until he says so
- He is the first in a long line of prophets who charges God's people with breaking the Covenant and pronounces God's judgment on them
- *Baal* is the *Canaanite* "rain god"
- The Hebrew name ***Elijah*** means "*Yahweh* is God" or "God is *Yahweh*"
 - *El* is short for *Eloh* which is the Hebrew word for God
 - *Elijah* – *El* and ***Jah*** (the "j" is from the German translation)

1st Kings 17 (Cont)

- Thus, *Jeremiah*, *Isaiah*, *Abijah* all use the first part of the name *Yahweh*
- Here *Elijah* (*Yahweh* is God) says to Ahab king of Israel “there won’t be any rain except by My word”
- The prophet is laying down the law from God
- After making this pronouncement *Elijah* is directed by God to flee to the wilderness and hide from King *Ahab*
- There he is provided for by ravens until the drought dries up the brook

1st Kings 17 (Cont)

- He is directed by God to go to *Sidon* where he lives with a widow and her young son for three years
- During this time *Elijah*:
 - Miraculously keeps the flour and oil used for baking bread from running out
 - Raises the widow's son from the dead*

1st Kings 18

- After three years of drought God calls *Elijah* to return to *Ahab* King of Israel in *Samaria* so that “He can bring rain upon the land”(after an incredible test)
- The famine was so severe that King *Ahab* calls *Obadiah* the “over the household” (*al bayith*), to search half of the land to find grass for the animals while he searches the other half
- *Obadiah* revered the Lord and helped save some of the prophets of the Lord from *Jezebel*
- *Obadiah* eventually meets *Elijah* who directs him to inform the king of his presence

1st Kings 18 (Cont)

- King *Ahab* meets *Elijah* who calls the king to assemble all of Israel on ***Mt Carmel*** for a challenge
- Today most Christians have no idea why the people of Israel went into exile
- They ask “what sin did Israel do that caused God to become so upset with them?”
 - Monotheism vs Polytheism
 - It was about their relationship with their creator

1st Kings 18 (Cont)

- God created man to live in a relationship with Him
- We are fashioned from dust, engineered and wired to have a relationship with God our creator
- When we make a god out of something else He gets upset
- He created us to become like what we worship
- This is like a child who grows up in the image of his father and mother
- So *Elijah* says that God is unhappy with King *Ahab* because he has “forsaken the commandments of the Lord and followed the Baals”*

1st Kings 18 (Cont)

- Elijah proposes a little game to King *Ahab*
- *Mount Carmel* is a peak on the coastal range which is usually covered in lush vegetation
- It is the “place of rain”, the place of fertility and life
- The locals believed that it was the “house of Baal”
- *Elijah* just asked for a contest on *Baal’s* home court
- The prophet is significantly outnumbered because *Ahab* has 450 prophets of *Baal* and 400 prophets of *Asherah*

1st Kings 18 (Cont)

- It was believed that the more prophets you had the more likely the god would listen to you
- This contest of calling on a storm that shoots lightening bolts to light up and consume the animal sacrifice
- This should not be a problem for *Baal*
- *Elijah* lets the prophets of *Baal* go first and gives them all day to bring about success
 - “He has gone aside” is a nice way of saying that maybe he is in the bathroom!

1st Kings 18 (Cont)

- At the end of the day the people of Israel must have been very tired of standing around watching the prophets of *Baal* cutting themselves and crying for their god
- So now Elijah soaks his offering three times with water to make it even more difficult for God and guarantee that there was no trickery
- In the end the people of Israel return to the worship of the one true God of Israel
- *Elijah* then says to Ahab that it is now time to feast as rain is about to return to the land

1st Kings 18 (Cont)

- Seven is the number for covenant meaning that the covenant with the God of Israel has now been restored
- In the end *Baal* has not been shown to be a god of rain or even a god at all
- The rest of the story of *Ahab* and *Jezebel* begins in **1st King 21***

1st Kings 19

- *Elijah* flees for his life to the wilderness near *Beersheba* after *Jezebel* promised to have him killed
- He is eventually called by God to *Mt Horeb* (Sinai) where he meets God in “a still small voice”
- God directs him to go back to the wilderness of *Damascus* and anoint *Hazael* to be King of *Syria* and *Jehu* to be the 10th King of Israel
- He also directed Elijah to anoint *Elisha* as his successor
- Then we see the call of *Elisha*
- 1st Kings 20 presents a story of a series of battles between Israel and Syria ending in the defeat of Syria by Ahab

1st Kings 21

- We return to the story of *Ahab* and *Jezebel* with Ahab's interaction with *Naboth* the *Jezreelite*
- *Naboth* was a pious man who respected his land as a part of his ancestral inheritance
- He saw this as his salvation and thus refused to sell it to the King
- Ahab was very upset
- Jezebel steps in, creates a false trial and condemnation, freeing the land of Naboth for her husband

1st Kings 21 (Cont)

- God calls *Elijah* to condemn Ahab for this sin
- *Ahab* repents and God spares His punishment until *Ahaziah*, son of *Ahab* rules in Israel