

Legacy Bible Study

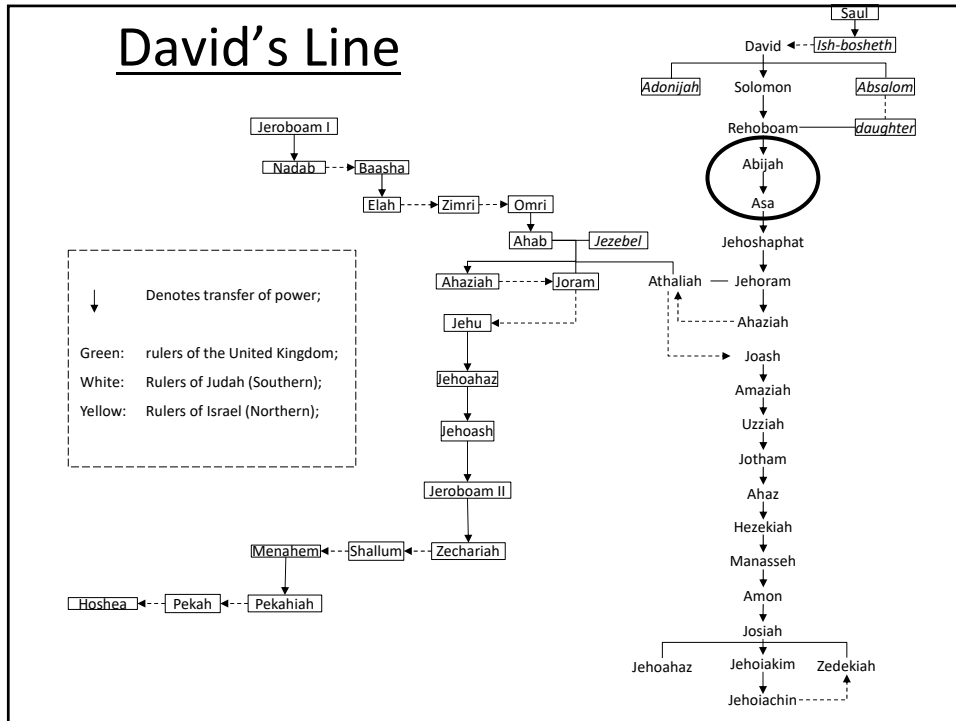
Kings & Prophets of Ancient Israel

Lesson 3: 1 Kgs 15:1-24; 2 Chr 13-16



1 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 13-16;

- I. Half-hearted (2 Chr 13; 1 Kg 15:1-8);
- II. Whole-hearted (2 Chr 14-15; 1 Kg 15:9-15);
- III. Hard-hearted (2 Chr 16; 1 Kg 15:16-24);



Allies or Enemies?

Relationship	Duration	Dates	Refs
Enemies	57 years	931-874BC	1 Kings 12:1-16:28
Allies	33 years	874-841BC	1 Kings 16:29-2 Kings 9:29
Enemies	119 years	841-722BC	2 Kings 9:30-17:41

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Abijah's Speech to the Northern tribes

- God has given kingship to David's line (tribe of Judah);
- God made a covenant of salt (preserved for all time);
- Your leader, king Jeroboam is a rebel;
- Jeroboam is advised by a bunch of worthless scoundrels;
- David's grandson, king Rehoboam was young & indecisive, (unfairly taken advantage of);
- Your resistance is against the sovereign, Lord God;
- Your vast army & impressive idols are powerless;
- You have expelled true priests and installed counterfeits;
- You are up against God's people who continue to serve Him;
- You have forsaken the One True God;
- You cannot succeed in a fight against Almighty God;

'Covenant of Salt'

1. As a preservative, salt infers the agreement would be preserved forever;
2. Ingesting salt in the presence of witnesses, was a way to make an agreement legally binding;
3. Treaties were often ratified by sharing a meal, salt provided the seasoning (Gen 31:54; Exod 24:11);

Salt is associated with God's covenants with His people ...

Mosaic covenant: sacrifices required seasoning with salt (Lev 2:13);

Priestly covenant: the part of the sacrifices given to the priests & Levites was an 'everlasting covenant of salt' (Num 18:19);

New Covenant: symbolic sacrifices in the Millennial kingdom were to be 'sprinkled with salt' (Ezek 43:24);

Principle 1

1. **God calls His people to wholeheartedly depend on Him;**

Applications:

- *In what areas of your life are you not devoted to the Lord?*
- *What challenge in your life needs your wholehearted dependance on God to resolve?*

Typical Pattern (Kings)

Introduction of Judah's kings:

1. Date of beginning of reign;
2. Age at beginning of reign (not noted consistently at first);
3. Length and place of reign;
4. Name of the queen mother;
5. A theological evaluation;

The pattern for the Israelite kings is the same except that their ages and the names of their mothers are not given.

Conclusion of Judahite & Israelite reigns:

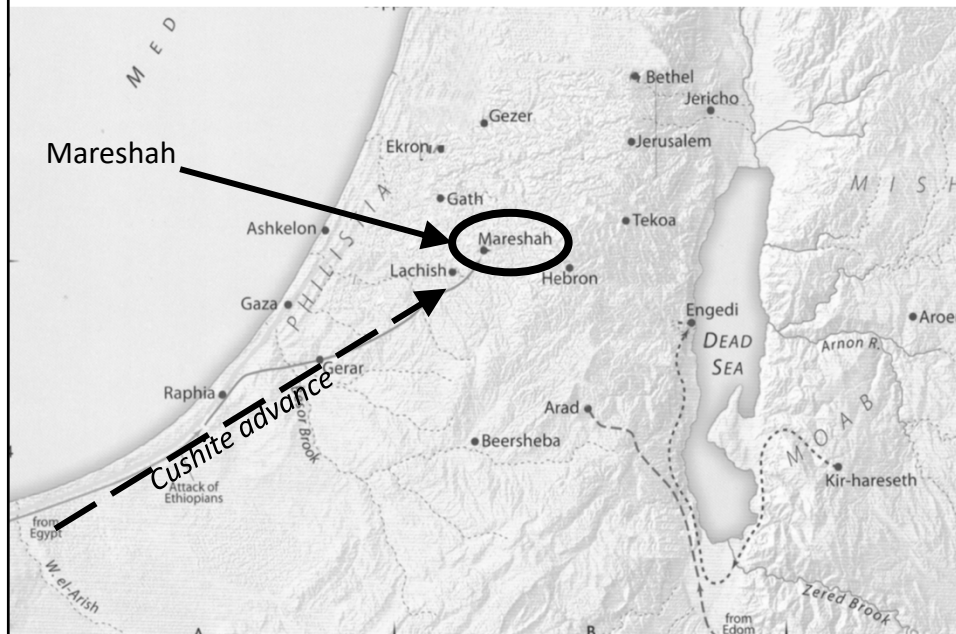
- A. Summary of reign & referral to 'royal annals' for more info;
- B. Notice of death and place of burial;
- C. Name of successor;

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Judah's Reforming Kings

King of Judah	Dates	Character	Reign (yrs)
Asa	911-870 BC	<i>... heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life</i>	41
Jehoshaphat	873-848 BC	<i>His heart was devoted to the ways of the Lord.</i>	25
Hezekiah	716-687 BC	<i>No one like him among all the kings of Judah</i>	29
Josiah	641-609 BC	<i>He turned to the Lord with all his heart and all his soul</i>	31

Cushite Attack



Sudden deliverance in midst of battle

Jeroboam (Israel) against <u>Abijah</u> (Judah) at Mt Zemaraim	2 Chron 13:14-18;
Zerah the Cushite against <u>Asa</u> (Judah) at Valley of Zephathah near Mareshah	2 Chron 14:11-12;
King of Aram against <u>Jehoshaphat</u> (Judah) & Ahab (Israel) at Ramoth Gilead	2 Chron 18:31;
Moabites, Ammonites, Meunites against <u>Jehoshaphat</u> (Judah) at Desert of Jeruel.	2 Chron 20:1ff;
Sennacherib of Assyria against <u>Hezekiah</u> (Judah) at Lachish / Jerusalem	2 Chron 32:20-22

Faith

Faith is believing God and acting upon it. It is NOT just intellectual assent

Saving Faith has 3 elements;

- **Content** - belief is always in something (Matt 16:16, John 1:12; 3:16; Acts 4:12; 16:31);
- **Conviction** - warming of the heart (John 1:12; 3:16; 6:37; Acts 16:14);
- **Commitment** - following after Christ (Mat 11:28-30; Luke 9:23; 14:25-27; Rom 12:1-2);

Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see"

True faith influences the way we live today;

Kinds of Prophets

- Solitary prophets (e.g., Abraham, Moses, Elijah)
- Worship leaders (1 Chron 25:1, e.g., Miriam, the 70 Israelite elders, Saul, David)
- Court prophets (e.g., Nathan, Gad)
- Preaching prophets (e.g., Ahijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah)
- Writing prophets (e.g., Moses, David, Isaiah, Hosea)
- Prophetic groups (e.g., schools of prophets, and sons of the prophets)

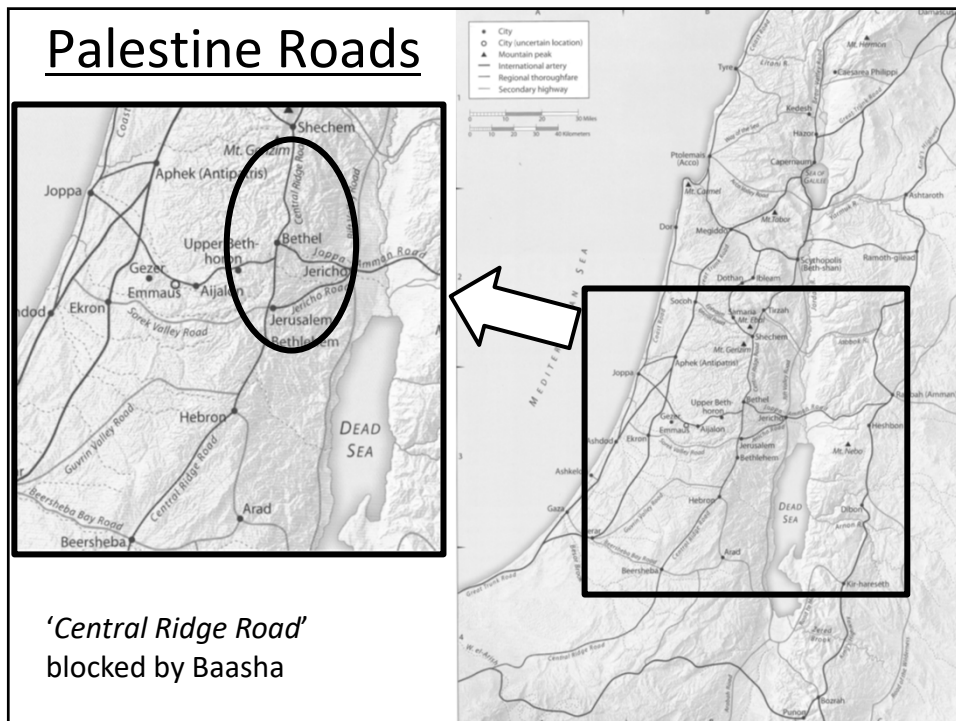
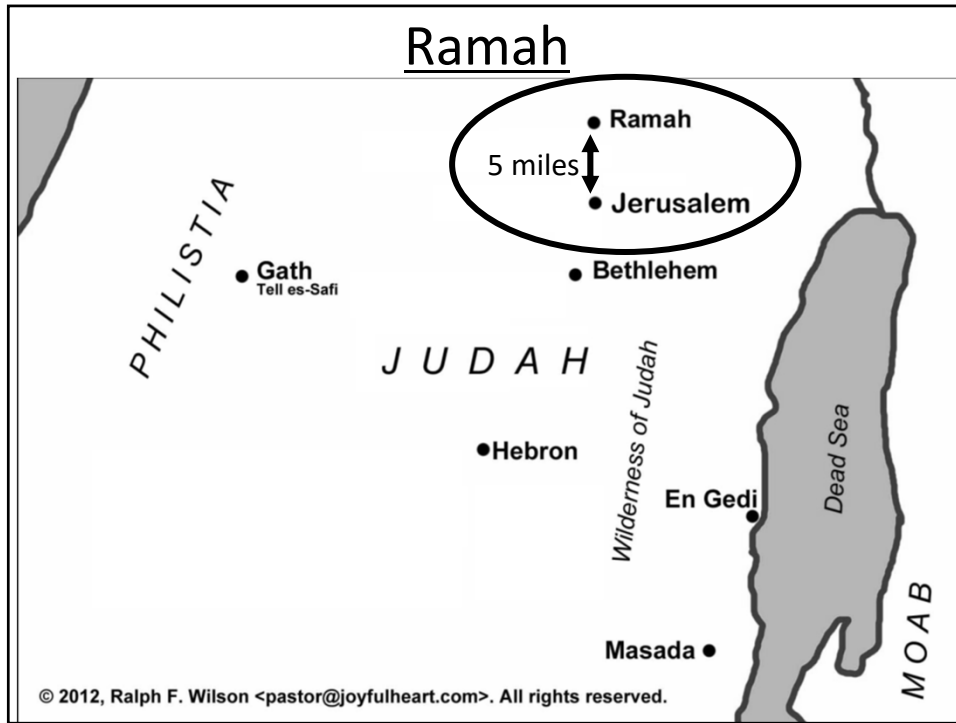
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Principle 2

1. God calls His people to wholeheartedly depend on Him;
2. **God desires people to seek Him, and He rewards faith;**

Applications:

- *When did you last earnestly seek the Lord?*
- *How has God rewarded your faith?*



Kings of Aram in 1st Kings

<p>Rezon (Hezion) ca. 940–915 B.C. 1 Kings 11:23, 25; 15:18</p>	
<p>Tabrimmon ca. 915–900 B.C. 1 Kings 15:18</p>	
<p>Ben-Hadad I ca. 900–860 B.C. 1 Kings 15:18, 20</p>	
<p>Ben-Hadad II ca. 860–841 B.C. 1 Kings 20; 2 Kings 6:24; 8:7, 9, 14</p>	

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Northern Kingdom's three capitals

<p><u>Northern Kingdom: Israel</u></p> <p>Shechem 1 Kgs 12:25</p> <p>Tirzah 1 Kgs 14:17; 15:33</p> <p>Samaria 1 Kgs 16:23-24</p>	
<p><u>Southern Kingdom: Judah</u></p> <p>Jerusalem 1 Kgs 12:18</p>	

Principle 3

1. God calls His people to wholeheartedly depend on Him;
2. God desires people to seek Him, and He rewards faith;
- 3. God is faithful, even when we are not;**

Applications:

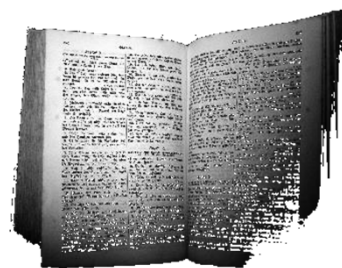
- *How has God blessed you even when your faith has faltered?*
- *Who do you know who has received God's grace, despite their lack of belief?*

Main Truth:

God strengthens those who wholeheartedly depend on Him.

Reading for Next Week (9-Oct-22)

1 Kings 15:25 – 18:46



Discussion

- What do we learn from King Asa “buying” help from the King of Syria (Ben-Hadad), rather than depending on the Lord?
- What does it mean to be a whole-hearted Christian in our day?
- How does our environment / culture encourage us to be hard-hearted? How do we resist that pressure?
- What parallels do you see between ancient Israel and modern America?
- In what ways does God send warnings about sin’s consequences to us?