

Isaiah the Prequel – Week 1 - Kings of Judah before the time of Isaiah

King	Rehoboam	Abijah/Abijam	Asa	Jehoshaphat – (means Yahweh judges/is judge/has judged)	Jehoram/Joram (means “Yahweh is exalted”)	Ahaziah/Jehoahaz	Athaliah – Declared herself Queen	Joash/Jehoash – Jehoiada was his regent (means Yahweh has given)
Time	928-911 – reigned 17 years	911-908 or 913-911/10 – reigned for 3 years	908-867 or 911/10-870/69 – reigned 41 years	867-851 or 872-848 – reigned 25 years	851-843 – reigned 8 years	843-842 – 22 yr old – reigned 1 year – Mother/Athaliah was regent	842/841-836/835 – reigned 6 years	836-799
Scripture	1 Kgs 11:42-14 & 2 Chr 10-12	1 Kings 14:31-15; 2 Chron 13	1 Ki 15; 2 Chr 14-16	1Ki 22:41-50 & 2 Chr 17-20	2 Kgs 8:16-24 & 2 Chr 21:1-20			2 Kings 11-12; 2 Chr 22-24
Type	Sinful – listened to God 1 time	Wicked – heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God (1 Ki 15:3) Followed his father’s ways. 1 Kgs 15:3	Wished to cleanse the land of idol worship	Good King Did what was right in the eyes of the Lord/ was a righteous king (1 Kgs 15:11-15 & 1 Kgs 22:43)	Bad King	Evil	Evil	Started well – as the Davidic king & legitimate heir – ended poorly – as the disgraced fool
General Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father – Solomon</li> <li>Mother – Naamah the Ammonitess</li> <li>Northern leaders appealed for less tax – RB talked to experienced elders &amp; young contemporaries</li> <li>Elders advised to act favorably/ contrast – others advised RB to assert control by increasing workload</li> <li>RB listened to the youngers</li> <li>The North split because of his high taxes</li> <li>Was going to launch war – halted because of Shemaiah the prophet – God had caused the division (1 kgs 14:22-24)</li> <li>RB/peoples disobedience to God brought about the invasion of Shishak (Pharaoh)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father - Rehoboam</li> <li>Mother – Maacah – daughter of Abishalom (1 Kgs 15:2)/ Absalom (2 Chr 11:20)</li> <li>She set up wooden image – fertility goddess, Asherah</li> <li>Waged continual warfare against Jeroboam/ Northern Kingdom (1 Ki 15:6-7)</li> <li>Life marked by disobedience to God</li> <li>1 act of faith – he appealed to Judah to remember God</li> <li>Attempted to reunite the kingdoms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father – Abijah</li> <li>Mother – Maacah/Micaiah</li> <li>There was a time of peace when Asa was obeying Yahweh</li> <li>Cushite invasion – Asa relied solely on God – the fear of Yahweh decimated Zerah’s overwhelmingly superior forces</li> <li>Peace ends when Asa forms an ally with a foreign nation rather than relying on Yahweh</li> <li>Prophet Azariah ben Obed warns Asa</li> <li>Asa negotiates anyway</li> <li>2 Chr 16:10, 12 implies that his foot disease was cause by his behavior</li> <li>Did not seek God with his illness</li> <li>Wanted to reunite Judah &amp; Israel</li> <li>Was defeated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father – Asa</li> <li>Likely shared the throne as coregents with his father</li> <li>Asa died in 3<sup>rd</sup> year of J’s reign</li> <li>Aggressively pursued religious reforms</li> <li>Sent teachers/Levites with the “Book of the Law of the Lord” to teach</li> <li>Because of his reforms – he enjoyed prosperity nearly unparalleled during the divided monarchy</li> <li>Religious reforms paved the way –</li> <li>Built garrisons/ fortifications/storehouses throughout Judah</li> <li>Was brought tribute from Philistines/Arabs</li> <li>Eventually he connected to ungodly neighbors through marriage/trade alliances</li> <li>Son Jehoram – political marriage to Athaliah</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father - Jehoshaphat</li> <li>Married Athaliah (daughter of Ahab-king of Israel &amp; Jezebel)</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> born</li> <li>Under Jezebel’s influence killed 6 brothers &amp; several ministers</li> <li>Returned Judah to idolatry/ worship of Baal</li> <li>Elijah admonished him for abandoning righteous ways/ causing the people to stray/killing his brothers</li> <li>Elijah warns he will die of a horrible intestinal disorder &amp; Yahweh will “inflict a great blow upon your people, your sons, your wives, and all your possessions (2 Chr 21:14-15)</li> <li>Died a painful death</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father – Jehoram</li> <li>Mother - Athaliah</li> <li>Youngest son</li> <li>Only son to survive</li> <li>Followed his mother’s ways</li> <li>Reigned one year before being killed</li> <li>Went to visit his uncle Jehoram (king of Israel) who was wounded in war</li> <li>Killed by Jehu, God’s anointed king of Israel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father - Ahab (King of Israel)</li> <li>Mother – possibly Jezebel the Sidonian – if not mother – still highly influenced her</li> <li>Wife of Jehoram/Joram</li> <li>Killed all the royal family &amp; ruled in their place</li> <li>Coup by Jehoiada (high priest/ Jehosheba’s husband) after 6 years</li> <li>Dies similarly to Jezebel</li> <li>executed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Father - Ahaziah</li> <li>Mother – Zibiah from Beer-sheba (2 Chr 24:1)</li> <li>7 years old – declared king</li> <li>Ruled 40 years</li> <li>Hidden away when Athaliah (his aunt) killed the royal family by his aunt, Jehosheba (Jehoram’s sister) in the temple (2 Kings 11:3, @ Chr 22:11-12)</li> <li>Jehoiada gathered Levites, heads of the families of Israel, palace guards &amp; crowned him</li> <li>They executed Athaliah</li> <li>Destroyed the temple of Baal</li> <li>Made a covenant with the Lord</li> <li>He restored the temple &amp; temple</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shemiah the prophet declares it is God’s work</li> <li>RB/people – humbled themselves – God reduced it to a “little deliverance”</li> <li>Throughout his reign, was in battle with the king of Israel</li> <li>Levites &amp; priests fled the north for the south because they were deprived of priestly privileges &amp; duties</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Did not forbid Athaliah’s pagan practices</li> <li>Ahab asked JT to fight – JT agreed but wanted to consult the prophet Micaiah</li> <li>Micaiah warned Ahab not to attack – did anyway – Ahab killed in battle</li> <li>JT was attacked by Mesha (2 Chr 20:1-30) shows JT’s reliance on God – not allies of bad character</li> <li>God miraculously ends the battle in Judah’s favor</li> <li>Faced divine consequences for these choices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Chr 21:16-19 details the fulfillment of punishment</li> <li>No one regretted his death (2 Chr 21:20)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>worship (2Kings 12:2 &amp; 2 Chr 24:2 ESV)</li> <li>After death of Jehoiada (high priest)</li> <li>Listened to idolaters</li> <li>turned away from God to idolatry (2 Chr 24:15-22)</li> <li>served Asherim &amp; the idols</li> <li>God sent Zechariah (Jehoiada’s son) to pronounce His judgement on him (2 Chr: 20)</li> <li>Murdered Zechariah</li> <li>Wounded in battle</li> <li>Murdered by his officials as he lay in bed (2 Kgs 12:20-21: 2 Chr 24:25-26)</li> </ul>
Biblical Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RB &amp; the people’s disobedience to God brought about the invasion by Shishak</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ridding the kingdom of ancestors’ idols (1 Kgs 15:12)</li> <li>Abolishing the <i>qedoshim</i>/male cult prostitutes (1 Kgs 15:12)</li> <li>Removing Maacah from her position as queen mother &amp; destroying the object she made for the goddess Asherah (1 Kgs 15:13)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Praised for furthering the religious reforms of Asa</li> <li>Accomplished even more than Asa</li> <li>There are some differing historical details – the biblical accounts are unified in perspective.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overthrow is important because it underscored the desire to have a Davidic king</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ended the reign of Athaliah &amp; the last vestiges of the wicked Omride rulers</li> <li>Ruled as a legitimate heir to the throne of David</li> <li>Initiated the collection of money &amp; the rebuilding of the temple to the Lord</li> <li>Did not tear down the places of idolatry</li> <li>Jesus references this is Luke 11:51</li> </ul>