

EZEKIEL

INTRODUCTION Factors of Judgment

SESSION 2 STARTS HERE

Jeremiah 2:19 KJV Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy **backslidings** shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that *it is* an evil *thing* and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the Lord thy God, and that my fear *is* not in thee, saith the Lord God of hosts.

| Their own backsliding is what brought judgment on them.

Deuteronomy 1:1 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

א אֵלֶּה הַדְּבָרִים, אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר מֹשֶׁה אֶל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֵבֶר, הַיַּרְדֵּן: בַּמִּדְבָּר בְּעֶרְבָה מוֹלַ סוּף בֵּין-פָּאָרָן וּבֵין-תְּפֶלַּח, וּלְבֶן יַחֲצִית--וְדִי זָהָב.	1 These are the words which Moses spoke unto all Israel beyond the Jordan; in the wilderness, in the Arabah, over against Suph, between Paran and Tophel, and Laban, and Hazeroth, and Di-zahab.
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| מֹשֶׁה = Moshe = Moses

The entire Book of Deuteronomy was spoken by Moses in five weeks. They were the last five weeks of his earth life. The Book was given to God's holy separated nation just before they entered their Promised Land as the bearers of His Name and His Glory. They were the witness of God and of His glory to the nations of the Earth.

Numbers 6:22-27 KJV

Num. 6:22 ¶ And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,

Num. 6:23 Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel, saying unto them,

Num. 6:24 The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:

Num. 6:25 The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

Num. 6:26 The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Num. 6:27 And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.

| This is the Aaronic blessing that was to be spoken over Israel. They had His name upon them. It was all about the sanctification of His name.

Deuteronomy 6:1 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

א וְזֹאת הַמִּצְוָה, הַחֻקִּים וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים,
אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, לִלְמֹד
אֶתְכֶם--לַעֲשׂוֹת בְּאֶרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם
עֹבְרִים שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ.

1 Now this is the commandment, the statutes, and the ordinances, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it--

| The purpose of Israel was—and still is—to reveal God to the nations.

The Call: Reveal God to the Nations

Deuteronomy 4:6-7 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

ו וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם, וַעֲשִׂיתֶם--כִּי
הוּא חֲכָמְתְּכֶם וּבִינְתְּכֶם,
לְעֵינֵי הָעַמִּים: אֲשֶׁר
יִשְׁמְעוּן, אֶת כָּל-הַחֻקִּים
הָאֵלֶּה, וְאָמְרוּ רַק עַם-חָכָם
וְנָבוֹן, הִנּוּ הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה.

6 Observe therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, that, when they hear all these statutes, shall say: 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'

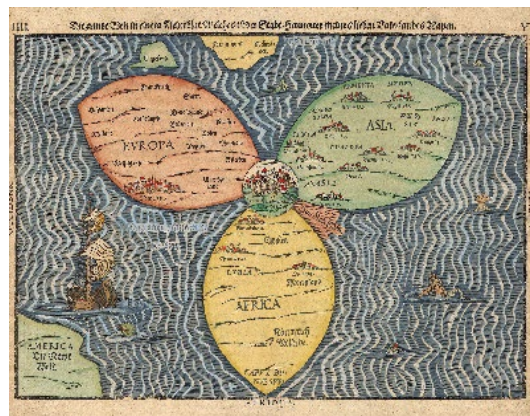
ז כִּי מִי-גוֹי גָּדוֹל, אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ
אֱלֹהִים קָרְבִּים אֵלָיו, כִּי־הוּא
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, בְּכָל-קָרָאנוּ אֵלָיו.

7 For what great nation is there, that hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is whensoever we call upon Him?

"in the sight of the peoples"

The wisdom of the Jews in following the commandments of the Lord would be something that would be seen and quite evident to all the people of other nations. They would see that the Lord God did, indeed, dwell among His people and bless them.

God placed Israel strategically in a place that was a land bridge through which armies and trade passed from Europe, Africa, and Asia.



Idol Worship—The Scattering and Ingathering

Deuteronomy 4:22-31 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

כב כִּי אֲנֹכִי מֵת בְּאֶרֶץ הַזֹּאת, אֲיַנְנִי עֲבֹר אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן; וְאַתֶּם, עֲבָרִים, וִירְשֶׁתֶם, אֶת-הָאָרֶץ הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת.

22 but I must die in this land, I must not go over the Jordan; but ye are to go over, and possess that good land.

כג כֹּנֵן הִשְׁמְרוּ לָכֶם, פֶּן-תִּשְׁכַּחוּ אֶת-בְּרִית יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת, עִמָּכֶם; וַעֲשִׂיתֶם לָכֶם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל, אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ.

23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which He made with you, and make you a graven image, even the likeness of any thing which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

כד כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ, אֵשׁ אֹכֶלֶת הוּא: אֵל, קַנָּא. {פ}

24 For the LORD thy God is a devouring fire, a jealous God. {P}

כה כִּי-תוֹלִיד בָּנִים וּבָנֵי בָנִים, וְנוֹשְׁנֶתָם בְּאֶרֶץ; וְהִשְׁחַתְתֶּם, וַעֲשִׂיתֶם פֶּסֶל תְּמוּנַת כָּל, וַעֲשִׂיתֶם הָרַע בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה, אֱלֹהֵיךָ, לְהַכְעִיסוֹ.

25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have been long in the land, and shall deal corruptly, and make a graven image, even the form of any thing, and shall do that which is evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke Him;

כו הָעִידְתִּי בָכֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת-הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת-הָאָרֶץ, כִּי-אֶבֶד תֵּאבְדוּן מִהֵרָ, מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם עֲבָרִים אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ: לֹא-תֵאדָרִיכֶן יָמִים עָלֶיהָ, כִּי הִשְׁמַד תִּשְׁמָדוּן.

26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over the Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

כז וְהַפִּיץ יְהוָה אֶתְכֶם, בְּעַמִּים;
וְנִשְׁאַרְתֶּם, מִתִּי מִסָּפָר, בְּגוֹיִם,
אֲשֶׁר יִנְהֹג יְהוָה אֶתְכֶם שָׁמָּה.

27 And the LORD shall scatter you among the peoples, and ye shall be left few in number among the nations, whither the LORD shall lead you away.

כח וְעַבַּדְתֶּם-שָׁם אֱלֹהִים,
מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵי אָדָם: עֵץ וְאֶבֶן--
אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יֵרְאוּן וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּן,
וְלֹא יֹאכְלוּן וְלֹא יִרְיחוּן.

28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

כט וּבִקְשַׁתֶּם מִשָּׁם אֶת-יְהוָה
אֱלֹהֶיךָ, וּמָצָאתָ: כִּי תִדְרֹשְׁנֻהוּ,
בְּכָל-לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ.

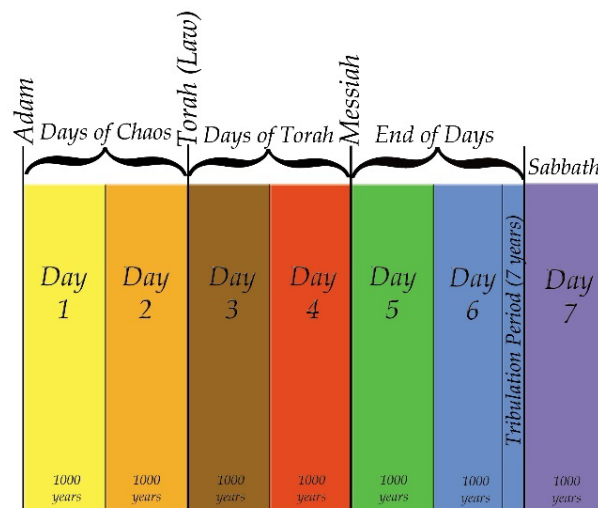
29 But from thence ye will seek the LORD thy God; and thou shalt find Him, if thou search after Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

ל בְּצָר לָךְ--וּמָצְאוּךָ, כָּל
הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; בְּאַחֲרִית,
הַיָּמִים, וְשָׁבַת עַד-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ,
וְשָׁמַעְתָּ בְּקוֹלוֹ.

30 In thy distress, when all these things are come upon thee, in the end of days, thou wilt return to the LORD thy God, and hearken unto His voice;

לא כִּי אֵל רַחוּם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ,
לֹא יִרְפֹּךְ וְלֹא יִשְׁחִיתֶךָ; וְלֹא
יִשְׁכַּח אֶת-בְּרִית אֲבֹתֶיךָ, אֲשֶׁר
נִשְׁבַּע לָהֶם.

31 for the LORD thy God is a merciful God; He will not fail thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which He swore unto them.



The Shema

Deuteronomy 6:4 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

ד שְׁמַע, יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְהוָה
אֶלֹהֵינוּ, יְהוָה אֶחָד. 4 Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God,
the LORD is one

Spoken: *Shema Yisra'el Adonai Elohenu, Adonai Echad.*

“The Shema: The Daily Declaration of Faith,” Chabad.org

“Hear, O Israel: G-d is our L-rd, [G-d](#) is one.”

In its entirety, the Shema consists of three paragraphs: [Deuteronomy 6:4–9](#), [Deuteronomy 11:13–21](#) and [Numbers 15:37–41](#).

Its recitation twice daily (morning and evening) is a biblical commandment. In addition, we recite it just before retiring for the night, as well as in the Kedushah service on Shabbat.

Indeed, this succinct statement has become so central to the Jewish people that it is the climax of the final Ne'ilah prayer of Yom Kippur, and is traditionally a Jew's last words on earth.¹

Deuteronomy 11:13–21 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

יג וְהָיָה, אִם-שָׁמַעַתְּ אֶת-מִצְוֹתַי, אֲשֶׁר אֶנְכִּי מְצַוֶּה אֹתְכֶם, הַיּוֹם--לְאַהֲבָה אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, וּלְעֲבֹדוֹ, בְּכָל-לְבַבְכֶם, וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁכֶם. 13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall
hearken diligently unto My
commandments which I command you
this day, to love the LORD your God, and
to serve Him with all your heart and
with all your soul,

יד וְנָתַתִּי מִטֶּר-אֶרְצְכֶם בְּעִתּוֹ, יוֹרֵה וּמִלְקוֹשׁ; וְאִסַּפְתָּ דָגָנְךָ, וְתִירְשֶׁךָ וַיִּצְהָרְךָ. 14 that I will give the rain of your land
in its season, the former rain and the
latter rain, that thou mayest gather in
thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

טו וְנָתַתִּי עֹשֶׂב בְּשָׂדְךָ, לְבִהֶמְתֶּךָ; וְאָכַלְתָּ, וּשְׂבַעְתָּ. 15 And I will give grass in thy fields for
thy cattle, and thou shalt eat and be
satisfied.

¹ “The Shema: The Daily Declaration of Faith,” Chabad.org. Accessed June 1, 2021.
https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/705353/jewish/The-Shema.htm

טו השמרו לכם, פן יפתה
לבבכם; וסרתם, ועבדתם
אלהים אחרים, והשתחוויתם,
להם.

16 Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

יו וחרה אף-יהוה בכם, ועצר
את-השמים ולא-יהיה מטר,
והאדמה, לא תתן את-יבוליה;
ואבדתם מהרה, מעל הארץ.
הטבה, אשר יהוה, נתן לכם.

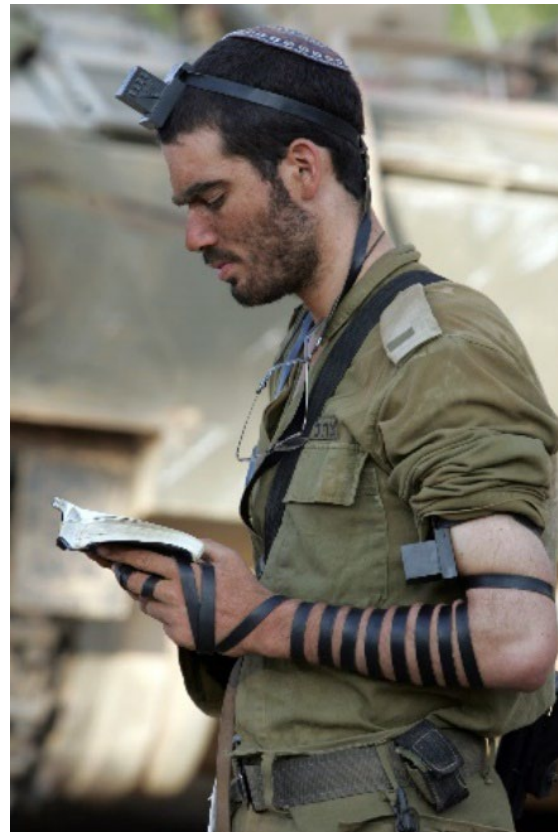
17 and the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and He shut up the heaven, so that there shall be no rain, and the ground shall not yield her fruit; and ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you.

יח ושמעתם את-דברי אלה,
על-לבבכם ועל-נפשכם;
וקשרתם אתם לאות על-ידכם,
והיו לטוטפת בין עיניכם.

18 Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul; and ye shall bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be for frontlets between your eyes.

IDF soldier prays with tefillim (phylacteries) in the 2006 Lebanon War after the Battle of Brit Jbeil.

Photographed by Yoav Lemmer. The officer is Lieutenant Asael Lubotzky from the esteemed Golani Infantry Brigade. He was seriously wounded in the war. Dr. Lubotzky's story was published in the book *From the Wilderness and Lebanon* (Koren Publishers, Jerusalem) by Yedioth Ahronoth recounting his personal experiences from the Second Lebanon War.



יט וְלַמִּדְתֶּם אֹתָם אֶת-בְּנֵיכֶם, לְדַבֵּר בָּם, בְּשֹׁבְתְךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבֹלְכְתָךְ בַּדֶּרֶךְ, וּבְשֹׁכְבְךָ וּבִקְוִמְךָ. **19** And ye shall teach them your children, talking of them, when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

כ וּכְתַבְתָּם עַל-מְזוּזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ, וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ. **20** And thou shalt write them upon the door-posts of thy house, and upon thy gates;

כא לְמַעַן יִרְבוּ יְמֵיכֶם, וַיְמֵי בְנֵיכֶם, עַל הָאָדָמָה, אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע יְהוָה לְאַבְתִּיכֶם לָתֵת לָהֶם--כִּימֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם, עַל-הָאָרֶץ. **21** that your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, upon the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers to give them, as the days of the heavens above the earth. {S}

{ס}

Blessing and Cursing: Gerizim and Eval

Deuteronomy 11:26-29 דְּבָרִים JPS 1917

כו רְאֵה, אֲנֹכִי נֹתֵן לְפָנֶיכֶם-- הַיּוֹם: בִּרְכָה, וּקְלָלָה. **26** Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse:

כז אֶת-הַבְּרָכָה--אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמָעוּ, אֶל-מִצְוֹת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה אֹתְכֶם, הַיּוֹם. **27** the blessing, if ye shall hearken unto the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day;

כח וְהַקְלָלָה, אִם-לֹא תִשְׁמָעוּ אֶל-מִצְוֹת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, וְסָרְתֶם מִן-הַדֶּרֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוֶּה אֹתְכֶם הַיּוֹם: לָלֶכֶת, אַחֲרֵי אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים--אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יָדַעְתֶּם. **28** and the curse, if ye shall not hearken unto the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known. {S}

{ס}

כַּט וְהָיָה, כִּי יְבִיאֲךָ יְהוָה
 אֶל-הָיָד, אֶל-הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר-אַתָּה
 בָּא-שָׁמָּה לְרִשְׁתָּהּ--וְנָתַתָּה אֶת-
 הַבְּרָכָה עַל-הַר גֶּרִיזִים, וְאֶת-
 הַקְּלָלָה עַל-הַר עִיבָל.

29 And it shall come to pass, when the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, that thou shalt set the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal.



Figure 1: The city of Shechem, with Mount Gerizim (blessing) on the left and Mount Ebal (cursing) on the right. Photo taken from Mount Kabir.

Gerizim and Eval

Moses gave the people instructions for a ceremony God wanted them to perform once they entered the Promised Land. (Moses himself would not be permitted to enter the Land.) The ceremony would be another way for the people to be reminded of the benefits of following the commandments of God and the punishment for disobedience.

Deuteronomy 27:1–4 KJV

Deut. 27:1 ¶ And Moses with the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, Keep all the commandments which I command you this day.

Deut. 27:2 And it shall be on the day when ye shall pass over Jordan unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, that thou shalt set thee up great stones, and plaister them with plaister:

Deut. 27:3 And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee.

Deut. 27:4 Therefore it shall be when ye be gone over Jordan, *that* ye shall set up these stones, which I command you this day, in mount Ebal, and thou shalt plaister them with plaister.

Moses instructed the tribes of Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin to stand on Mount Gerizim for the pronouncing of the blessings, while the tribes of Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali were to stand on Mount Eval for the pronouncing of the curses.

Deuteronomy 27:11–13 KJV

Deut. 27:11 ¶ And Moses charged the people the same day, saying,

Deut. 27:12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:

Deut. 27:13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

There would be no doubt that the people knew what God expected of them. They knew what would happen if they obeyed, and they know what would happen if they failed to obey.

Why was it so important for the people to follow the Lord? Because their job was to show all those who would pass through the Land how those who served the Lord God were blessed.

What could possibly turn God's people away from serving Him? The Canaanites who still lived in the Land were able to convince many Israelites that they needed to worship the local gods in order to be assured of good rains and, therefore, good crops.

Specific Warnings

Leviticus 18:21 KJV And thou shalt not let any of thy seed **pass through the fire** to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I *am* the Lord.

Israel's disobedience got so bad that altars of pagan gods, including Molech, were built even in Jerusalem. The worship of Molech included the fiery sacrifice of living children, sometimes even the children of the Israelite king.

Deuteronomy 18:10 KJV There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to **pass through the fire**, *or* that useth divination, *or* an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.

DIVIDED KINGDOM									
JUDAH				ISRAEL					
Years	King	Begin/End	Prophet	Scripture	Years	King	Begin/End	Prophet	Scripture
931-913	Rehoboam (son)	👎/👎	Shemaiah	I Kings 12,14 2 Chron 10-12	931-910	Jeroboam I (servant)	👎/👎	Ahijah	I Kings 12-14 2 Chron 10
913-911	Abijah (son)	👎/👎		I Kings 15 2 Chron 13					
911-870	Asa (son)	👍/👍	Hanani	I Kings 15 2 Chron 14-16	910-909	Nadab (son)	👎/👎		I Kings 15
					909-886	Baasha	👎/👎	Jehu	I Kings 16
					886-885	Elah (son)	👎/👎		I Kings 16
					885	Zimri (captain)	👎/👎	Micaiah Elijah I Ki 17-19, 21 2 Kings 1-2	I Kings 16
					885-874	Omri (captain)	👎/👎		I Kings 17 2 Chron 18
					874-853	Ahab (son)	👎/👎		I Kings 22 2 Chron 18
870-848	Jehoshaphat (son)	👍/👍		I Kings 22 2 Chron 17-20	853-852	Ahaziah (son)	👎/👎	Elisha I Kings 19 2 Kings 2-9 2 Kings 13	I Kings 22 2 Chron 18
848-841	Jehoram (son)	👎/👎	Obadiah (?)	2 Kings 8 2 Chron 21	852-841	Joram (son of Ahab)	👎/👎		2 Kings 3
841	Ahaziah (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 8-9 2 Chron 21	841-814	Jehu (captain)	👎/👎		2 Kings 9-10
841-835	Athaliah (mother)	👎/👎		2 Kings 11 2 Chron 22-23	814-798	Jehoahaz (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 13
835-796	Joash (son of Ahaziah)	👍/👎	Joel	2 Kings 11-12 2 Chron 23-24	798-782	Jehoash (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 13-14
796-767	Amaziah (son)	👍/👎		2 Kings 14 2 Chron 25	782-753	Jeroboam II (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 14
767-740	Uzziah aka Azariah (son)	👍/👎	Isaiah Micah	2 Kings 15 2 Chron 26	753-752	Zechariah (son)	👎/👎	Amos Hosea Jonah (2 Kings 14:25; Jonah 1:1) Micah	2 Kings 15
					752	Shallum (no relation)	👎/👎		2 Kings 15
					752-742	Menahem (no relation)	👎/👎		2 Kings 15
					742-740	Pekahiah (son)	👎/👎	Amos Hosea Jonah (2 Kings 14:25; Jonah 1:1) Micah	2 Kings 15
748-732	Jotham (son)	👍/👍		752-740 (rival) 733-722 (sole)	Pekah (captain)	👎/👎	2 Kings 15		
732-716	Ahaz (son)	👎/👎		732-722	Hoshea (no relation)	👎/👎	2 Kings 17		
716-687	Hezekiah (son)	👍/👍		2 Kings 18-20 2 Chron 29-32 Isaiah 36-39	Israel went into Assyrian Captivity in 722 BC				
687-642	Manasseh (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 21 2 Chron 33					Nahum
642-640	Amon (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 21 2 Chron 33					
640-608	Josiah (son)	👍/👍	Huldah Habakkuk Zephaniah Jeremiah Ezekiel (Lamentations)	2 Kings 22-23 2 Chron 34-35					
608	Jehoahaz (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 23 2 Chron 36					Daniel
608-597	Jehoiakim (son of Josiah)	👎/👎		2 Kings 23-24 2 Chron 36					
597	Jehoiachin (son)	👎/👎		2 Kings 24-25 2 Chron 36					
597-586	Zedekiah (son of Josiah)	👎/👎		2 Kings 24-25 2 Chron 36					
Judah went into Babylonian Captivity in 586 BC									
586-450			Jeremiah Haggai Malachi	Ezekiel Zechariah					

Disobedient Kings

2 Kings 16:2–4 AMPC

2 Kings 16:2 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began his sixteen-year reign in Jerusalem. He did not do right in the sight of the Lord his God, like David his [forefather].

2 Kings 16:3 But he walked in the ways of Israel's kings, yes, and made his son pass through the fire [and offered him as a sacrifice], in accord with the abominable [idolatrous] practices of the [heathen] nations whom the Lord drove out before the Israelites.

2 Kings 16:4 He sacrificed and burned incense in the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.

2 Kings 17:13–17 KJV

2 Kings 17:13 Yet the Lord testified **against Israel, and against Judah**, by all the prophets, *and by* all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments *and* my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets.

2 Kings 17:14 Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the Lord their God.

2 Kings 17:15 And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that *were* round about them, *concerning* whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them.

2 Kings 17:16 And they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, and made them molten images, *even* two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

2 Kings 17:17 And **they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire**, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger.

2 Chronicles 33:1–7, 9 KJV

2 Chr. 33:1 ¶ **Manasseh** was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem:

2 Chr. 33:2 But did *that which* was evil in the sight of the Lord, like unto the abominations of the heathen, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel.

2 Chr. 33:3 For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down, and he reared up altars for Baalim, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

2 Chr. 33:4 Also he built altars in the house of the Lord, whereof the Lord had said, In Jerusalem shall my name be for ever.

2 Chr. 33:5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord.

2 Chr. 33:6 **And he caused his children to pass through the fire** in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used

witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger.

2 Chr. 33:7 And **he set a carved image, the idol which he had made, in the house of God**, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

2 Chr. 33:9 So Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to err, *and* to do worse than the heathen, whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel.

Jeremiah 32:35 KJV And they built the high places of Baal, which *are* in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to **pass through the fire** unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

Ezekiel 16:21 KJV That thou hast slain my children, and delivered them to cause them to **pass through the fire** for them?

Ezekiel 20:26 KJV And I polluted them in their own gifts, in that they caused to **pass through the fire** all that openeth the womb, that I might make them desolate, to the end that they might know that I *am* the Lord.

Ezekiel 20:31 KJV For when ye offer your gifts, when ye make your sons to **pass through the fire**, ye pollute yourselves with all your idols, even unto this day: and shall I be enquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live, saith the Lord God, I will not be enquired of by you.

Ezekiel 23:37 KJV That they have committed adultery, and blood *is* in their hands, and with their idols have they committed adultery, and have also caused their sons, whom they bare unto me, to **pass** for them **through the fire**, to devour *them*.

Athaliah: Satan's Channel to Attempt to Abort the Covenant of God

Psalms 89:34 KJV My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

All throughout God's Word, He promises that the royal line of David is to sit on the throne over Israel and Judah forever. In this passage, the promise is especially strong.

Psalms 89:2-4 KJV

Psa. 89:2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.

Psa. 89:3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

Psa. 89:4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah.

2 Kings 8:16–19 KJV

2 Kings 8:16 ¶ And in the fifth year of Joram [Israel] the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat *being* then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

2 Kings 8:17 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

2 Kings 8:18 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab: for the daughter of Ahab was his wife: and he did evil in the sight of the Lord.

2 Kings 8:19 Yet the Lord would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, *and* to his children.

2 Kings 8:25–28 KJV

2 Kings 8:25 ¶ In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah [of Judah] the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign.

2 Kings 8:26 Two and twenty years old *was* Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel.

2 Kings 8:27 And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the Lord, as *did* the house of Ahab: for he *was* the son in law of the house of Ahab.

2 Kings 8:28 And he [Ahaziah, king of Judah] went with Joram [king of Israel] the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramothgilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram.

2 Kings 11:1–14, 20 KJV

2 Kings 11:1 ¶ And when **Athaliah** the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.

2 Kings 11:2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram [by another mother], sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons *which were* slain; and they hid him, *even* him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from **Athaliah**, so that he was not slain.

2 Kings 11:3 And he was with her hid in the house of the Lord [the Temple] six years. And **Athaliah** did reign over the land.

2 Kings 11:4 ¶ And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the Lord, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the Lord, and shewed them the king's son.

2 Kings 11:5 And he commanded them, saying, *This is* the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you that enter in on the sabbath shall even be keepers of the watch of the king's house;

2 Kings 11:6 And a third part *shall be* at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.

2 Kings 11:7 And two parts of all you that go forth on the sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the Lord about the king.

2 Kings 11:8 And ye shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain: and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in.

2 Kings 11:9 And the captains over the hundreds did according to all *things* that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

2 Kings 11:10 And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give king David's spears and shields, that *were* in the temple of the Lord.

2 Kings 11:11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, *along* by the altar and the temple.

2 Kings 11:12 And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and *gave him* the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.

2 Kings 11:13 ¶ And when **Athaliah** heard the noise of the guard *and* of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the Lord.

2 Kings 11:14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner *was*, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and **Athaliah** rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason.

2 Kings 11:20 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was in quiet: and they slew **Athaliah** with the sword *beside* the king's house.

Athaliah was "in cahoots" with the house of Ahab, who planned to lead the Southern Kingdom of Judah into Baal worship and end the worship of Yahweh.

Satan got as close as he could through the nation's sins and weaknesses, but he could not stop the covenant word of God then—or now!!!!!!

SESSION 2 ENDS HERE

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