

## **The Book of 1 Kings.**

Part 1 of this amazing book is the history of the reign of Solomon after the death of David. The early years of Solomon's reign, the Golden Age of Israel, is a type of the reign of the Messiah when He returns, and these early years are made famous by the king's wise choice, his discriminating judgment, his surpassing wisdom, the growth of his dominions, the splendor of his court, and palaces; the building of the temple; other building enterprises and great wealth; and the visit of the Queen of Sheba.

His later years of his reign is a decline of his kingdom brought about by his extravagant luxury; his notorious sensuality, his apostasy from God; the enemies which the lord stirred up against him. Idolatry before adultery.

Part 2 is the history of the kingdoms of Judah and Israel from the death of Solomon to the accession of Jehoram in Judah; and from the accession of Jeroboam to the reign of Ahaziah, in Israel: the disruption of the kingdom through the folly of Solomon's son, Rehoboam; the ten tribes revolt, and enthronement of Jeroboam as king of Israel; the comparative history of the two kingdoms with the reign of Judah of Rehoboam, Abijam, Asa and Jehoshaphat and the evil reigns in Israel of Jeroboam, Nadab, Baasah, Elah, Zimri, Omri, Ahab, and Ahaziah.

And for the first time a prophet, Elijah, not like Abraham, but one that is totally in the Holy Spirit whose works of the Holy Spirit in miracles and prophecies, is introduced: (1 Kings and 2 Kings)

1. three times fed with divine supplies; and by ravens, by miraculously increased store of the widow and by an angel
2. a fearless reformer
3. rebuked kings
4. mighty in prayer
5. in one instance yielded to discouragement
6. not infallible in judgment
7. divinely honoured

His miracles were in:

1. Drought;
2. Meal and oil multiplied;
3. Child prophesied to be born and then when he died at a very young age he was restored to life;
4. Sacrifice consumed by fire;
5. Captains and men slain by fire;
6. Rain brought by prayer;
7. Waters of Jordan divided.

And, for the first time, a prophet receives a call from another prophet: Elisha, called by Elijah for double-portion anointing even though it was not Elijah's to give, it belongs to God to give: **type**, the later rain of the Holy Spirit as compared to the pouring out of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

### **1 Kings 1:**

Read the chapter. King David is old and his body was cold and his servants brought him a virgin to minister to him but King David did not respond.

Adonijah, his son that was born after Absalom exalted himself to be king after David and with Joab and Abiathar the priest helping him. Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zoheleth,

by Enrogel, and he called all his brethren the king's sons and all the men of Judah the king's servants. Nathan, the prophet, and Benaiah, and the mighty men, and Solomon, Adonijah did not call.

Zadok the priest, Benaiah, and Nathan the prophet as well as Shimei and Rei and the mighty men which belonged to David, were not with Adonijah. So Nathan spoke to Bathsheba about Adonijah that David does not know about it. Nathan counselled Bathsheba to see King David about Solomon being the next King of Israel and Nathan went with her. While she was petitioning him, Nathan walked in and bowed himself to the ground. Bathsheba and Nathan heard King David say *As the Lord lives, that has redeemed my soul out of all distress, Even as I sware unto you by the Lord God of Israel, saying, Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead; even so will I certainly do this day.*

Zadok, the priest, Nathan the prophet and Benaiah came before the king. They were to bring Solomon on the king's own mule to Gihon, to anoint Solomon as king of Israel there: *and you blow with the trumpet, and say, God save king Solomon. Then you shall come up after him, that he may come and sit upon my throne; for he shall be king in my stead: and I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah. And Benaiah the son of Johoiada answered the king, and said, Amen: the Lord God of my lord the king say so too. As the Lord has been with my lord the king, even so be he with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord king David.*

This they did with the Cherethites and the Pelethites, causing Solomon to ride upon king David's mule and they priests anointed King Solomon and they blew the trumpet and all the people said *God save king Solomon.* Everyone rejoiced and the sound went throughout the land.

Adonijah and all his guests heard the noise and Abiathar the priest came in and told him what had transpired with Solomon and his crowning. When all of Adonijah's guests fled to their own homes, Adonijah grabbed a hold of the horns of the altar. Solomon brought Adonijah and then sent him to his own house.

### **1 Kings 2.**

Read the chapter. David dies. David leaves instructions to kill Joab because he had killed three of his sons; to sow kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite because he looked after David when he ran from Absalom; and Shimei, to make sure he is dead because he cursed David and spit on him when he fled. Solomon succeeds him. Adonijah who asked Bathsheba for the virgin that ministered to David to be his wife, is slain by Benaiah. **The sword of the judgment of adultery and murder of Uriah.** Solomon then sends Abiathar the priest that was with Adonijah to his own fields but he did not slay him because Abiathar had brought the ark of God with David to Jerusalem. Benaiah kills Joab in the tabernacle. To deal with Shimei, Solomon told him that he should live in Jerusalem but should he leave Jerusalem, he would be killed. Three years later, Shimei left to go to Gath. King Solomon called him in and told him what he had done against King David. Benaiah slew Shimei.

### **1 Kings 3.**

Read the chapter. Solomon marries Pharaoh of Egypt's daughter. Although Solomon loved the Lord, he sacrificed and burned incense in high places. In Gibeon as he was offerings thousand burnt offerings, *the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said Ask what I shall give you. And Solomon said, You have shown unto your servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before You in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; and You have*

*kept for him this great kindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now O Lord my God, You have made your servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this Your so great a people?*

*And the speech pleased the Lord...And God said unto him, Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life; neither have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies; but have asked for yourself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to your words: lo, I have given you a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like you before you, neither after you shall any arise like unto you. And I have also given you that which you have not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto you all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as your father David did walk, then I will lengthen your days.*

Solomon awoke and knew it was a dream. He came to Jerusalem and sacrificed burnt offerings, and made a feast for his servants.

The word of the Lord immediately comes to pass, that is, in wisdom. Two prostitutes come before the king. *O, my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house...the third day after I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house...this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it...at midnight and took my son from beside me...and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom...when I had considered it in the morning, behold it was not my son, which I did bear.* And so it was that they fought before the king, *the living is my son and the dead is your son.*

*And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king. And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other. Then spoke the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof...other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it. Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof. And all Israel heard...they feared the king:...God was in him, to do judgment.*

#### **1 Kings 4.**

Read the chapter. Solomon's kingdom was established in all of Israel. He had, as King, princes: Azariah, the son of Zadok the priest;

**Before I continue, Jesus, the Messiah, right now in heaven is a Prince as there cannot be two kings in one country. When He comes to rule and reign in Jerusalem, He will be King.**

The other prince was Elihoreph and Ahiah, Jehoshaphat, Benaiah, Zadok, Abiathar, Azariah, Zabud, Ahishar Adoniram,

Solomon also had twelve officers over all Israel which provided the food for the king's household: each man his month in a year made provision. Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt and the people brought him presents and served

Solomon all the days of his life. He had 40,000 stalls of horses for his chariots, and 12,000 horsemen. It was astounding what was needed to provide for everything Solomon had but the officers took care of all that. Solomon was wiser than all men. *And he spoke 3,000 proverbs: and his songs were 1005. And he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springs out of the wall: he spoke also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.*

### **1 Kings 5.**

Read the chapter. Hiram, king of Tyre, a friend of David, heard that Solomon was king and he send his servants to Solomon, and Solomon then sent for Hiram and told him that he wants to build the Temple. Hiram was so glad *Blessed be the Lord this day, which has given unto David a wise son over this great people...and I will do all you desire concerning timber of cedar, and concerning timber of fir. My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon unto the sea:...in floats..and you shall receive them:* Solomon gave Hiram food year after year for his household. There was great peace between the two men also. Solomon raised 30,000 men to work on the stone quarries and the timber and Hiram and Solomon prepared timber and stones to build the house.

### **1 Kings 6.**

Read the chapter. It came to pass 480 years after the children of Israel came out of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign, he began to build the temple. No hammer, no ax nor any tool of iron was heard while it was in building because all the stones and timber was prepared beforehand. During this time the word of the Lord came again to Solomon saying *Concerning this house which you are in building, if you will walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with you, which I spoke unto David your father: And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.* So Solomon built the house and finished it. Read how intricate and beautiful this house, the temple, was in the inside. He prepared a place for the Ark of the Covenant and the whole house he overlaid with gold. He also built of olive wood two cherubims and overlaid them with gold *And set the cherubims within the inner house: and they stretched forth the wings of the cherubims, so that the wing of one touched the one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house. He overlaid the floor of the house with gold, in and out. Carvings of doors, palm trees and open flowers, all overlaid with gold. ...In the fourth year was the foundation of the house of the Lord laid, in the month of Zif: And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished throughout all the parts thereof, and according to all the fashion of it. So was he seven years in building it.*

### **1 Kings 7.**

Read the chapter. It took 13 years to build Solomon's own house and he finished it. He also built his wife (Pharaoh's daughter) a house. He sent for Hiram out of Tyre. Hiram's father also came as he was a worker in brass and he brought all his work with him. Brass represents JUSTICE and judgment. Some of the figures that were molten in brass were **lion** (representing the **Lion of Judah, Jesus**); **oxen** (representing the servant, the Messiah, who gave Himself on the cross to take away all our sins and that of the whole world). **Ezekiel tells us also of a man-face (the Christ) and the eagle-face (spiritual and soaring in the heavenlies), the son of God and the son of man.** The temple was beautiful! *And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the Lord.*

### **1 Kings 8.**

Read the chapter. Solomon assembles the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes, and the chief of

the fathers of the children of Israel in Jerusalem to bring the Ark of the Covenant. The priests took up the Ark *And they brought up the ark of the Lord, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels...the Levites bring up...And king Solomon, and all the congregation...sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.* The Levites brought the Ark and placed it to the most holy place, under the wings of the cherubims. **The Messiah Jesus shed his blood once and for all so that not one more animal should be sacrificed for atonement of the people, but in the most holy place where the cherubims were built to overshadow the Ark, it represented that Jesus in the tomb after resurrection had angels sitting there when the disciples came to see where the body of Jesus was. He was resurrected the angels said.**

In the Ark were two tables of stone, the Ten Commandments, which Moses put there at Horeb when they came out of Egypt (**Jesus writes these on our hearts and minds when we accept His blood when we come out of sin**).

When the priests came out of the Holy Place, it was filled with the cloud of glory! The priests could not stand because of the cloud and Solomon spoke *The Lord said that He would dwell in the thick darkness. I have surely built You an house to dwell in, a settled place for You to abide in forever.* Then Solomon blessed all the congregation of Israel and all the children of Israel stood. *Blessed be the Lord God of Israel...Solomon reiterates that God chose David to be over His people Israel and that David wanted to build His Temple, however, Solomon was chosen to build His Temple unto His Name. The prophecy was fulfilled And the Lord has performed His Word that He spoke, and I am risen up in the room of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the Lord promised, and have bilt an house for the name of the Lord God of Israel...Lord God of Israel, there is no God like You, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keeps covenant and mercy with Your servants that walk before You with all their heart:...That Your eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which You have said, My name shall be there: that You may hearken unto the prayer which Your servant shall make toward this place...forgive...judge your servants, condemning the wicked,...justifying the righteous...smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against You, and shall turn again to You, and confess Your Name, and pray, and make supplication unto You in this house: Then You hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of your people Israel...rain upon Your land, which You have given to Your people for an inheritance. If there be in the land famine,...pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpillar,... enemy,...plague...sickness...What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all Your people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house: Then You hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart You know; (for You, even You only, know the hearts of all the children of men;) That they may fear You all the days that they live in the land which You gave unto our fathers.*

There are many men fighting over land that they say belongs to them. It does not. The whole earth belongs to God and He chooses to whom He gives it to, His creation was chosen before the foundation of the world but who fell away from Him in the beginning to follow after their own whims and idols. Just as Adam and Eve KNEW God, they decided to go their own way, so it is with all the rest of the population of the world.

Solomon continues to pray for the people of Israel and this wonderful House of the Lord that his father David had in his heart to build. *Enemies...Then You hear in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. If they sin against You, (for there is no man that does not sin), and You be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near; Yet if they ... repent, and make supplication unto You... **And so return unto You***

*with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, which led them away captive, and pray unto You toward their land, which You gave unto their fathers, the city which You have chosen, and the house which I have built for Your Name: Then You hear their prayer and their supplication in heaven Your dwelling place, and maintain their cause, And forgive Your people that have sinned against You, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against You, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them: For they be Your people, and Your inheritance, which You brought forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron: That Your eyes may be open unto the supplication of Your servant, and unto the supplication of Your people Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto You. For You did separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be Your inheritance, as You spoke by the hand of Moses Your servant, when You brought our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord God.*

Now, as we await the coming of the Messiah, Jesus, we call out the same way about Israel. They had sinned against God, they can read the above prayer of Solomon, and just as it happened then, thousands of years ago, NOW, this same prophecy will come to pass for those that pray toward Jerusalem. **IT SHALL COME TO PASS AND IS COMING TO PASS EVEN NOW.** Of course many will not be speaking about the children of Israel coming out with Moses; very soon they will be speaking about the millions coming out of Russia and the north countries to Israel.

Solomon prayed at the altar of the Lord with his hands spread up to heaven... *That all the people of the earth may know that the Lord is God, and that there is none else.* Just as it was that Egypt knew that God is God and His chosen are Israel, even at the door, the same thing will happen; the **whole world** will know **after the plagues of Egypt** are finished upon the world, that **GOD IS GOD.**

Peace offerings: 22,000 oxen 120,000 sheep and dedicated the House of the Lord.

Burnt offerings and meat offerings, and the fat of the Peace offerings: because the brasen altar that was before the Lord was too little to receive the burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings.

The feast was for fourteen days.

### **1 Kings 9.**

Read the chapter. The Lord appeared to Solomon the second time. He tells Solomon to obey Him; but if he doesn't obey Him and go after other gods and idols, than all Israel will suffer and people will hiss against the city and against the land. *And they shall answer, Because they forsook the Lord their God, who brought forth their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and have taken hold upon other gods, and have worshipped them, and served them: therefore has the Lord brought upon them all this evil.*

Solomon, for his service to him, gave Hiram, the king of Tyre twenty cities in the land of Galilee but he was very displeased with them.

Three times a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings upon the altar which he built unto the Lord.

He built ships; Hiram, still his friend, sent in the navy his servants, shipmen that had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

## **1 Kings 10.**

Read the chapter. Solomon has a visitor: the Queen of Sheba. She heard of Solomon's God and His Name, his wisdom, his riches, his chariots and horses, and his country. She came to prove him with questions. She, of course brought gifts for him, a *great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: ...And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, and the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; she fainted!...Blessed be the Lord Your God, which delighted in you, to set you on the throne of Israel: because the Lord loved Israel forever; therefore He made you king, to do judgment and justice.* She returned to her own country with her servants.

Solomon received huge amounts of gold; almug trees of which he made pillars for the house of the Lord, and for the king's house, harps also and psalteries for singers. He received spices of the kings of Arabia; he made his throne of ivory overlaid with gold; two lions stood by the throne; vessels of gold, and he received at his judgment and wisdom gifts of silver, gold, garments, armour, spices, horses,, mules. He had 1,400 chariots; 12,000 horsemen; silver in Jerusalem were like stones, no value; cedar trees and sycomore trees abundant.

Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn.

## **1 Kings 11.**

Read the chapter. Solomon's wives and concubines in his old age, draw him to idolatry. God had warned the children of Israel *Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, You shall not in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines: and his wives turned away his heart (from God).* He went after Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Zidonians and Milcom (the abomination) of Ammonites; he did evil in the sight of the Lord; he went after Chemosh of Moab (the abomination); he went after Molech (the abomination) of Ammon; *And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.*

The Lord threatened Solomon for what he did *Foreasmuch as this is done of you, and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely rend the kingdom from you, and will give it to your servant. Notwithstanding in your days I will not do it for David your father's sake: but I will rent it out of the hand of your son.*

So Hadad, the Edomite became Solomon's enemy from the time of David and Joab's time and Hadad, as a child, fled and eventually came to Egypt. Hadad had great favour in the sight of Pharaoh and the Pharaoh gave to Hadad the queen's sister for a wife. But when Hadad heard the David and Joab were dead, he asked Pharaoh that he might go back to his own country. God also stirred up Rezon to be Solomon's enemy; from David's time when David slew Zobah. Rezon went to Damascus and dwelt there. Also another adversary came out of the woodwork was Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, Solomon's servant, for he was prophesied to...*when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field: And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces: And he said to Jeroboam, You take ten pieces: for thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel, Behold I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to you: (But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:.) Because that they have forsaken Me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked*

*in My ways, to do that which is right in Mine eyes, and to keep My statutes and My judgments, as did David his father. Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David My servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept My commandments and My statutes: But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto you, even ten tribes...unto his son will I give one tribe, that David My servant may have a light always before Me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen Me to put My name there...you...shall be king over Israel...do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, ... will give Israel unto you.*

Solomon sought to kill Jeroboam so he fled to Egypt until Solomon died. Solomon reigned in Jerusalem for 40 years. Rehoboam, his son, reigned in his stead in Jerusalem.

As long as Solomon obeyed the commandments of God, there was peace. **Type: as long you have the Prince of Peace, Jesus, in your heart, you will have peace; as soon as you disobey the commandments of God that are written on your heart, you have enemies. Now, there are enemies of the Christ in you, but God fights those battles: you do not. He is the Captain of your soul and He looks after that even unto death but that is not what I am talking about. Peace in the Spirit of God is better than anything in the whole world therefore you have everlasting life at death of the body.**

Rehoboam went to Shechem for all Israel to make him king. Jeroboam heard of it and came with all of Israel also to Shechem and asked Rehoboam if he would ease the yoke of servitude and domination. He refused counsel from the elders to do so and went to his young friends. This was for Ahijah's prophecy to come to pass. So Israel rebelled and stoned Adoram whom Rehoboam sent to collect tribute; they sent for Jeroboam and made him king over all Israel. Only Judah followed the house of David. Benjamin also came. But Shemiah the prophet spoke to Rehoboam *Thus said the Lord, You shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; for this thing is from Me.* They listened to the word of the Lord and returned.

But Jeroboam built an altar in Mount Ephraim and built two golden calves and made Israel to sin. He put one in Beth-el, and the other he put in Dan. Jeroboam also made priests out of the lowest of the people that were not sons of Levi.

### **1 Kings 13.**

Read the chapter. Jeroboam's hand withers but at the prayer of the prophet it is restored. This disobedient prophet who was told not to eat or drink where Jeroboam had set up altars to the golden calves, returned with an older prophet who was a liar and is slain as well as his donkey, by a lion. The old prophet was told of this and he went, got the young dead prophet and his donkey and buried them. After he told his sons *...lay my bones beside his bones: For the saying which he cried by the word of the Lord against the altar in Beth-el and against all the houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.*

Jeroboam did not turn from sinning but even, himself, became a priest in the high places with the other low-lives. His son, Abijah, died and his reign was 22 years and he died; Nadab his son reigned in his stead.

Rehoboam, the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was 41 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned 17 years in Jerusalem. Judah did evil in the sight of the Lord by building high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree. And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the Lord cast out before

the children of Israel. In the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak, king of Egypt came up to Jerusalem and took **away the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house; he even took away all: and he took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made.**

Jeroboam and Rehoboam warred all their days. Rehoboam died and his son Abijam reigned in his stead.

### **1 Kings 15.**

Read the chapter. Abijam, Jeroboam's son reigned in Judah. He was wicked and did what Jeroboam did in idolatry. Jeroboam and Abijam warred with each other. Abijam died and Asa his son reigned in Judah. Asa did right in the sight of the Lord and he reigned for 41 years in Jerusalem. He removed the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made. He removed his mother because she was an idol worshipper and Asa destroyed her idols and burnt it by the brook Kidron. The high places were not destroyed but his heart was as David's, perfect before the Lord. Asa brought silver and gold, and vessels into the house of the Lord.

Asa and Baasha king of Israel were at war with each other all their days. Asa, instead of trusting the Lord as King David had done, he took all the treasures of the House of the Lord and delivered to his servants to take to the king of Damascus and asked if he would break the bond between himself and the king Baasha of Israel. The king of Damascus made friends and was victorious with Asa and helped him against King Baasha of Israel. Asa died of diseased feet and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead.

Ahijah, king of Israel, reigned 24 years and he did evil in the sight of the Lord and he made Israel to sin also.

### **1 Kings 16.**

Read the chapter. Jehu, the prophet came to Baasha and gave him the word of the Lord against him. *...Behold I will take away the posterity of Baasha, and the posterity of his house; and will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. Him that dies of Baasha in the city shall the dogs eat; and him that dies of his in the fields shall the fowls of the air eat...*

His son Elah reigned in his stead. Asa king of Judah was 26 years old when Elah began to reign over Israel and he reigned for two years and according to the word of the Lord, nothing of Baasha would live; Zimri, captain of half his chariots conspired against him, and killed Elah, all the house of Baasha, his kinsfolks, and his friends. Zimri reigned in Israel seven days when Israel heard of the slaying of Baasha by Zimri so they made Omri, the captain of the host, king over Israel that day in the camp. Omri came against Tirzah and besieged it where Zimri set fire to the king's house over him and he died. Then the people of Israel were divided; half followed Tibni the son of Ginath, and half followed Omri but the people that followed Omri prevailed and Tibni died and Omri reigned. When Asa was 31 years old, Omri began to reign over Israel for 12 years. Omri did evil in the eyes of the Lord and did worse than all that were before him.

So Omri died and Ahab his son reigned in his stead. He reigned for 22 years and he did evil in the sight of the Lord above all that were before him. He married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. He built a house of Baal in Samaria; he made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

Joshua had been prophesied to, that should Jericho were to be rebuilt, that man and his family would perish. Hiel, the Beth-elite built Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

### **1 Kings 17.**

Read the chapter. Here is a Holy Ghost man! Elijah prophesies to Ahab that there will be no rain because of his sins against God with his idolatry. God then tells Elijah to hide himself by the Brook Cherith, of which he will drink, that is before Jordan, and that He had commanded ravens to bring him bread and flesh in the morning and bread and flesh in the evening to feed him there. The brook dried up after a while because of the drought and the Lord spoke to him again to go to Zarephath (Zidon) and a widow woman would feed him there. When he got there she was gathering sticks for firewood and he asked her *I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in your hand. And she said, As the Lord Your God lives, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as you have said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for you, and for your son. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.*

And it was that they ate many days and the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail according to the Word of the Lord which he spoke to Elijah. After some time that her son died. Elijah laid down upon the child and spoke three times to the Lord to resurrect the child, and the Lord God did. **Type: resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.** ...*And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the Word of the Lord in your mouth is truth.*

### **1 Kings 18.**

Read the chapter. The Lord tells Elijah to show himself to Ahab that He will send rain upon the earth. Ahab called upon Obadiah which was governor of his house (Obadiah feared the Lord greatly: when Jezebel but off the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.) Obadiah went one way and Ahab another to find water for the flocks. Obadiah met Elijah and was told to tell Ahab *Elijah is here.* In fear Obadiah obeyed and Ahab found Elijah, saying *Are you he that troubles Israel? ...I have not troubled Israel; but you and your father's house, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and you have followed Baalim. Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto Mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal 450, and the prophets of the groves 400, which eat at Jezebel's table.* So Ahab did.

*And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*

Elijah came as a prophet of the Lord but Baal's prophets are 450. He took two bullocks, let them cut in pieces one and lay it on the wood and put no fire under. Elijah too cut in pieces one bullock and laid it on wood but no fire under. *And call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God that answers by fire, let him be God.* That's what Baal prophets did. They called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying O Baal hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

Elijah mocked them starting at noon...*Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is*

*pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure, he sleeps, and must be awakened. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves, after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. Nothing happened even at evening sacrifices so there was no voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.*

*Elijah asked the children of Israel to come near the altar and he repaired the broken altar. And Elijah took 12 stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Isreal shall be Your Name: And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood. And he said, Do it a second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time. And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water. ...evening sacrifice...Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, and that I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You are the Lord God, and that You have turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said **The Lord, He is the God; the Lord, He is the God.***

They took the prophets of Baal, not one escaped, and brought them to Brook Kishon, and killed them there. Then Elijah said to Ahab *Get up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain.* Rain always falls when there is no sin. The rain fell. Ahab with his chariot went to Jezreel; Elijah out-ran him to the entrance of Jezreel.

### **1 Kings 19.**

Read the chapter. Ahab told his wife Jezebel the Baal worshipper what Elijah did and Jezebel sent a message to Elijah *So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.* Elijah went to Beersheba with his servant and left him there but he went into the wilderness where he sat down under a juniper tree and he asked God to die. As he slept, an angel gave him food to eat, a cake baking on coals and a cruse of water at his head. He slept again; the angel came the second time and after he ate and drank, he walked to Horeb and lived on that food for 40 days and 40 nights. Angel food.

He came to a cave and the Lord said to him *What are you doing here, Elijah? ...I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And He said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake: And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, and he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him and said, What are you doing here, Elijah?* Poor Elijah, after such a victory over all the demons and Baal worshippers, he repeats himself *...I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life to take it away.*

The Lord told him to return by way of the wilderness of Damascus and to anoint Hazael to be king over Syria, anoint Jehu to be king over Israel, and anoint Elisha to be prophet in stead of Elijah. *And it shall come to pass, that him that escapes the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet, I have left me 7000 in Israel, all the knees which hae not*

*bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which has not kissed him. (Why are idols always kissed?)*

Elijah left the cave and found Elisha who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, requested of Elijah that he say goodbye to his parents after he slaughtered the oxen and feasted with his neighbourhood. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

### **1 Kings 20.**

Read the chapter. Benhadad the king of Syria and 32 kings with him besieged Samaria. He then sends his messengers to Ahab and told him that all Ahab's silver and gold and all his wives and children and all the servants' possessions are his and Ahab consented to this. Benhadad would send the messengers to collect everything. But the elders of the land told him not to listen to Benhadad. Ahab consented to the first request but not the second so Benhadad came against the city. A prophet came to Ahab and told him that the city will not be Benhadad's.

While Benhadad was drinking with his friends, the 32 kings, young men came out of Samaria and slaughtered the Syrians. The prophet told the king of Israel that within a year, Benhadad would come again to war with Israel. The Syrians said that since Israel won against them in the hills, if they go against them in the valley, they will win this time. The Syrians filled the country while the children of Israel pitched before them like two little flocks of kids. And there came a man of God, and spoke unto the king of Israel, and said, *Thus saith the Lord, Because the Syrians have said, The Lord is God of the hills, but he is not God of the valleys, therefore will I deliver all this great multitude into your hand, and you shall know that I am Lord.*

For seven days the Israelites pitched their tents against the Syrians but on the seventh day, Israel slew of the Syrians 100,000 footmen in one day. As they fled to Aphek, 27,000 were killed when a wall fell on them. Benhadad and a group of his men went to Ahab and made peace when Benhadad told Ahab he would restore all the Syria had taken from Israel. They made a covenant together and Ahab let Benhadad go.

Ahab was prophesied to by a man of God that because Ahab released Benhadad that was slated for slaughter, then Ahab will take his place. Ahab came to Samaria.

### **1 Kings 21.**

Read the chapter. Ahab covets a vineyard but Naboth the owner would not sell to him because the Lord had forbade him. He came home to Jezebel but would not eat. Jezebel decided to give Ahab Naboth's vineyard. She plotted that two men would swear that Naboth blasphemed God and the king. They did that according to the letters that Jezebel had written to the elders and nobles of the city where Naboth dwelt and stoned him. Jezebel told Ahab *Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.*

Elijah heard the word of the Lord *Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it. ...Thus saith the Lord, Have you killed, and also taken possession? And you shall speak unto him saying, Thus saith the Lord, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick your blood, even yours.*

Ahab saw his enemy;... *And of Jezebel also spoke the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. Ahab rent his clothes, put on sackcloth upon his*

flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly. The Lord sent word to Elijah *You see how Ahab humbled himself before me? Because he humbled himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.*

### **1 Kings 22.**

Read the chapter. There was peace between Israel and Syria for three years. Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came to Ahab, the king of Israel. Jehoshaphat wanted Ahab to join him to come against Syria. But first they enquired of the Lord, well, the prophets that were with Ahab. But Jehoshaphat could tell who was *of the Lord* and so they sent for Micaiah the son of Imlah. *And he said, you hear therefore, the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left. And the Lord said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will persuade him. And the Lord said unto him Wherewith? And he said I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, You shall persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so. Now therefore, behold, the Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets, and the Lord has spoken evil concerning you.*

Micaiah was put in prison. He was not mentioned again in this chapter. Ahab disguised himself but a bow at a venture was drawn by a certain man and Ahab was killed. So the king died as Micaiah the prophet said according to the word of the Lord; the dogs licked his blood as it was washed off his chariot. Ahaziah, his son reigned in Israel after him but as evil as his father and his mother Jezebel serving Baal, and worshipping him and provoking to anger the Lord God of Israel according to all that his father had done.

Jehoshaphat the son of Asa reigned over Judah starting when he was 35 years old and continued for 25 years in Jerusalem. He did that which was right in the sight of the Lord like his father Asa but he did not take down the high places where incense was burnt. He took out of the land the sodomites that had remained after his father Asa had removed some.