

Bible Stories for Adults

The Kings of Israel and Judah

2 Chronicles 17 - 24

Opening

- Gathering: In what ways have you seen people impacted by their parent's faithfulness or faithlessness?
- Today's Focus: God continued to call the kings & people of Israel & Judah to Him despite continued rejection.
- Key Verses: *The Israelites persisted in all the sins of Jeroboam and did not turn away from them. Even Judah did not keep the commands of the Lord their God. 2 Kings 17:22, 19*
- Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. Revelation 2:10*

Opening Prayer

Lesson

The United Kingdom

- How faithful was Saul, the first king of Israel?
1 Chronicles 10:13-14
- How faithful was David?
1 Kings 15:5
- Was Solomon as faithful to the Lord as David had been?
1 Kings 11:4

The Divided Kingdom (*1 Kings 11*)

- How did Solomon's unfaithfulness lead to a split kingdom?
1 Kings 11:9-13
- Who was this subordinate and what caused him to pursue the kingship?
1 Kings 11:26, 29-31
- Had God picked Jeroboam just to punish Solomon, or did He intend to bless Jeroboam?
1 Kings 11:37-38

The First Kings of Israel - Jeroboam's and Baasha's Dynasties (*1 Kings 12-16*)

- How faithful was Jeroboam as King of Israel?
1 Kings 12:26-31
- How did God decide to punish Jeroboam for this evil?
1 Kings 14:7-11
- Who succeeded Jeroboam as king of Israel and how faithful was he?
1 Kings 15:25-26
- Why did Nadab reign only 2 years?
1 Kings 15:27-29

- How faithful was Baasha as king of Israel?
1 Kings 15:33-34
- Who succeeded Baasha as king of Israel?
1 Kings 16:8
- What happened to Elah?
1 Kings 16:9-10

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Omri's Dynasty (1 Kings 16 - 2 Kings 12)

What did Zimri accomplish during his reign and why?

1 Kings 16:11-13

How long did Zimri reign as king of Israel and why?

1 Kings 16:15-18

Who became the next king of Israel?

1 Kings 16:21-22

What notable change happened during Omri's reign?

1 Kings 16:24-25

Who succeeded Omri and how faithful was his reign?

1 Kings 16:29-33

How did God reach out to His people during this evil time?

1 Kings 18:21, 39

Who succeeded Ahab and how faithful was his reign?

1 Kings 22:51-53

Who succeeded Ahaziah after he died within two years from falling through a window?

2 Kings 1:17

How faithful was Joram?

2 Kings 3:1-3

Jehu's Dynasty (2 Kings 9-10)

Who became the next king of Israel and why?

2 Kings 9:4-6 (1-6)

What was Jehu's most important responsibility as the new king?

2 Kings 9:7-8

Did Jehu accept this task?

2 Kings 10:11, 17 (9:7-10:17)

How faithful of a king was Jehu?

2 Kings 10:18-19, 24-29 (18-29)

How did God respond to Jehu's faithfulness?

2 Kings 10:30

The First Kings of Judah (1 Kings 14-15)

How many dynasties ruled Judah and why?

1 Kings 11:34-36

How did God keep this promise for eternity?

Matthew 22:41-45

While Jesus was a descendant of David, was He really a king of Judah?

Mark 15:2

How faithful was Solomon's son, Rehoboam, as King of Judah?

2 Chronicles 12:1

How did God punish Judah for Rehoboam's unfaithfulness?

2 Chronicles 12:2, 9

Who succeeded Rehoboam as king of Judah and how faithful was he?

1 Kings 15:1, 3

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Asa's Reforms (*1 Kings 15*)

Who succeeded Abijah as king of Judah and how faithful was he?

1 Kings 15:9, 11-13

How serious was Asa about returning Israel to faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 15:10-15

Who succeeded Asa as king of Judah and how faithful was he?

2 Chronicles 17:1, 3-4

Jehoshaphat's Reforms (*2 Chronicles 17-20*)

How did Jehoshaphat further the reforms of his father Asa?

2 Chronicles 17:7, 9

How did he make sure this faithfulness would last in the nation?

2 Chronicles 19:4-7 (4-11)

How did God bless Jehoshaphat for his faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 17:5, 10

Jehoshaphat's Downfall (*2 Chronicles 18-20*)

How did Jehoshaphat end the civil strife with Israel?

2 Chronicles 18:1

Did he take any steps more direct than a political marriage?

2 Chronicles 18:3 (2-34)

2 Kings 3:7

How did God feel about Jehoshaphat's alliance with Israel?

2 Chronicles 19:2 (1-3)

2 Chronicles 20:35-37

Judah's Period of Baalism (*2 Chronicles 21-22*)

Who succeeded Jehoshaphat and how faithful was his reign?

2 Chronicles 21:5-6 (1-7)

How did Jehoram show his faithlessness at the beginning of his reign?

2 Chronicles 21:4

How did God punish Jehoram for his faithlessness?

2 Chronicles 21:8-10 (8-15)

2 Chronicles 21:16-17

2 Chronicles 21:18-19

Who succeeded Jehoram and how faithful was his reign?

2 Chronicles 22:1, 3-4 (1-6)

Why was Ahaziah's reign so short?

2 Chronicles 22:7-9

Who was Athaliah?

2 Chronicles 22:2

What was Athaliah's top priority when she took rule?

2 Chronicles 22:10

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Joash Becomes King (*2 Chronicles 23*)

How was God's chosen line of David protected from Athaliah's purge?

2 Chronicles 22:11-12

How did Joash become king?

2 Chronicles 23:2-3, 11 (1-11)

What happened to Athaliah, the last member of Ahab's family?

2 Chronicles 23:12, 15 (12-21)

How was Athaliah responsible for her own fate?

Matthew 26:52

Joash as King (*2 Chronicles 24*)

How old was Joash when he became king and how faithful was his reign?

2 Chronicles 24:1-2

What was one of the things Joash did that showed Judah's faithfulness?

2 Chronicles 24:4, 13 (4-14)

How faithful did Joash remain after Jehoida died?

2 Chronicles 24:17-19 (15-29)

How did the people respond when shown their unfaithfulness by Jehoida's son?

2 Chronicles 24:20-22

Did Joash at least turn to the Lord when attacked by an enemy?

2 Kings 12:17-18

Firm to the End (*Matthew 10:22*)

How was Joash punished for his faithlessness?

2 Chronicles 24:23-25 (23-27)

What lesson did Joash forget that we should remember?

Matthew 10:22

What reward have we been promised if we remain faithful to the end?

Revelation 2:10b

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. How have I seen God's blessings in response to my faithfulness?
(*1 Chronicles 17:7-14; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 119; Matthew 5:1-12; 25:14-46*)
2. How have I seen troubles in response to my unfaithfulness?
(*1 Kings 14; 16:1-7; Deuteronomy 28:15-68; 11:26-29; Luke 17:1-2; Mark 16:16*)
3. How have I seen people's lives impacted by the faithfulness of prior generations?
(*1 Kings 11:34-38; Exodus 20:4-6; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 2 Kings 10:30; Luke 1:50; Acts 2:38-39*)
4. How have I seen people's lives impacted by the faithlessness of prior generations?
(*1 Kings 11:31-35; 14:7-14; Exodus 34:6-7; John 8:42-44*)
5. How have I built on the faithfulness and avoided the faithlessness of my earlier generations?
(*2 Chronicles 14:1-5; 17:1-6; 19:4-11; 24:1-14; Ezekiel 18; Joel 1:3; Luke 18:28-30*)