



COURSE: BIBLE HISTORY

SUBJECT: JOSHUA THROUGH NEHEMIAH – HISTORY OF THE HEBREW NATION

LESSON NO. 45 and 46 - THE DIVIDED KINGDOM (CONTINUED)

A. Revelation of The Redeeming Purpose *Gen. 1:1-11:9.*

1. The Hebrew Family *Gen. 11:10-50:26.*
2. The Israelite Nation *Exodus-Nehemiah.*
 - a. Bondage *Exod. 1:1-7:7.*
 - b. Wonders -The Ten Plagues *Exod. 7:8-12:36.*
 - c. Exodus Wandering *Exod. 12:37-Num. 21:20.*
 - d. Conquest of The East Bank *Num. 21:21-36:13.*
 - e. Conquest of Canaan *Josh. 1-12.*
 - f. Division of the Land of Canaan *Josh. 13-22.*
 - g. The Judges *Judges 1:1-1 Samuel 8.*
 - h. The United Kingdom *1 Sam. 9:1-1 Kings 11:43.*
 - i. The Divided Kingdom *1 Kings 12:1-Neh. 13:31.*

- (1) Division of Solomon’s Empire at his Death.
- (2) History of Divided Kingdom
- (3) Elements Contributing to the Division in 931 B.C.
- (4) The Result of Jeroboam’s Sin in Erecting Two Golden Calves.
- (5) The First 100 Years of Division.
- (6) Second 100 Years of Division.
- (7) Third Period of Division.
- (8) Judah Alone 721-586 B.C.
 - (a) The Kings of This Period

Hezekiah	29 Yrs. (6 Yrs. Before 721 B.C.)
Manasseh	55 Yrs.
Amon	2 Yrs.
Josiah	31 Yrs.
Jehoahaz	3 Mos.
Jehoiakim	11 Yrs.
Jehoiachin	3 Mos.
Zedekiah	11 Yrs.

(b) Outstanding Events

- Hezekiah
 - Presented in previous lesson.
- Manasseh
 - Assumed throne at age 12, ruled for 55 years.
 - Political Situation: Faced Esarhaddon, paid tribute, became subject of Assyrian Empire.
 - Religious Situation: Most apostate of Judah’s history (*2 Kings 21:2-9; 2 Chron. 33:2-9*). Cause of Judah’s final fall (*2 Kings 23:26*). Rebuilt the high places and restored Baal worship. Human sacrifice reappeared and worship of the heavenly bodies was carried on even in the Temple (*2 Kings 21:8, 10-12*).
 - Personal Situation: He was carried to Babylon and imprisoned. He repented and turned toward God, God restored him to the throne and he made an urgent effort to reform the land.

- Amon
 - Evil like his father.
 - Killed by his own servants.
- Josiah
 - Political Situation: Due to rise of Scythians and Egypt's ties with Assyria, being broken, Judah enjoyed 20 years of peace.
 - Religious Situation: Described by Zephaniah: Israel is idolatrous (1:4-5); corrupt (3:2-4), and indifferent (1:12).
 - Reformation: At age 20 began to root out idolatry, completing greatest reformation in history at age 26. Returned to the law, repaired Temple, removed idolatry, destroyed Jeroboam's altar, observed greatest Passover since Exodus.
 - Presumption: In 608 B.C. in opposition to the word of God (2 Chron. 35:21-22), he contested the northward advance of Pharaoh Necho II and was killed in the battle of Megiddo. Jeremiah and all the nation mourned. The last good king was dead.
- Jehoahaz (1st Son of Josiah to be King)
 - Evil, not like his father.
 - Pharaoh Necho carried him to Egypt after 3 month reign.
- Jehoiakim [or Elikim] (2nd Son of Josiah to be King)
 - Placed on throne by Pharaoh Necho.
 - In 606 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar came and subjugated land.
 - This was 1st deportation.
- Jehoiachin [or Coniah] (Son of Jehoiakim)
 - In 597 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar seized Jerusalem, looted the Temple and carried 10,000 leaders of the people captive to Babylon (2 Kings 24:13-14).
 - This was 2nd deportation.
- Zedekiah (3rd Son of Josiah to be King)
 - Made ruler over poorer elements remaining, appealed to Egypt and rebelled against Babylon.
 - In 586 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem and brought Judah to an end.
 - This was 3rd deportation.
 - Blinded and imprisoned in Babylon.
 - City and Temple were burned and the walls dismantled.
 - Cause of fall: faithlessness toward God by kings, priests and people. 2 Chron. 36:12-16.

(c) Prophets of this Period

- Jeremiah 626-586 B.C.
 - A Message of Doom
 - Israel by divine choice was a people peculiar to Jehovah.
 - Israel had proved unfaithful by religious and moral apostasy.
 - Self-complacency and blind trust in externals avail nothing.
 - In view of this, the book is one of lamentation and tears from beginning to end.
 - A Message of Hope
 - The preservation of a remnant.
 - The restoration from exile.
 - The new Jerusalem built on the ashes of the old.
 - The new covenant promised with the shortcomings of the old removed.
- Zephaniah 625 B.C.
 - Theme : The day of Jehovah is near upon all nations.
 - Lesson : Jehovah is the God of The Universe.

- Nahum 614 B.C.
 - Theme : The destruction of Ninevah.
 - Lesson :
 1. Righteousness exalts a nation (Jonah's Day).
 2. Sin is a reproach to any people (Nahum's Day).

- Habakkuk 612-606 B.C.
 - Teachings
 - The universal supremacy of God's judgment.
 - Faithfulness is the guarantee of permanency.
 - The fact of divine discipline.
 - The value of honest doubt.