

Kings

Note the split, and the different coverages of North and South. Note that they still bother to cover the North!

Talk about that and the Assyrian invasions & Babylonian captivity. Don't be afraid to repeat yourself from the other course.

Starts with David near death, with a condition called senile hypothermia. He is comforted by the virgin Abishag.

Adonijah seizes power briefly

Bathsheba, along with Nathan, assures Solomon's ascent to the throne.

Solomon becomes King, has Divinely gifted wisdom. His reign is one of wisdom, and prosperity.

2 women

Queen of Sheba

lots of wives

builds Solomonic gates

Israel is at the pinnacle of its' power as a nation state. Solomon has a long, peaceful reign

His son is a prick, though. Note that there are those who don't like his reign, enough that they ask if he is going to do better, but note that they don't go back to a tribal league.

Talk about the split, the reasons for it, what the North has, how the DH sees the North.

Northern Kings were unable to establish a dynasty- so constant assassination, overthrow, violence. No stability.

1Kings 17- Elijah- northern prophets- Elisha too. Miracle workers.

The rest of 1 kings is taken up with tales of the North- it's sort of a digression or a piece of the history that wants to spend time up there.

If you want an example, look at 1kings 18, the story of King Ahab.

2Kings

Begins with some more northern prophets

18:1 In the third year of King Hoshea son of Elah of Israel, Hezekiah son of King Ahaz of Judah became king.

18:2 He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years; his mother's name was Abi daughter of Zechariah.

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18:3 He did what was pleasing to the LORD, just as his father David had done.

18:4 He abolished the shrines and smashed the pillars and cut down the sacred post. He also broke into pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until that time the Israelites had been offering sacrifices to it; it was called Nehushtan.

18:5 He trusted only in the LORD the God of Israel; there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those before him.

18:6 He clung to the LORD; he did not turn away from following Him, but kept the commandments that the LORD had given to Moses.

18:7 And the LORD was always with him; he was successful wherever he turned. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and would not serve him.

18:8 He overran Philistia as far as Gaza and its border areas, from watchtower to fortified town.

Then the worst kings- Manasseh, and his son Amon

22:1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.

22:2 He did what was pleasing to the LORD and he followed all the ways of his ancestor David; he did not deviate to the right or to the left.

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22:8 Then the high priest Hilkiyah said to the scribe Shaphan, "I have found a scroll of the Teaching in the House of the LORD." And Hilkiyah gave the scroll to Shaphan, who read it.

22:9 The scribe Shaphan then went to the king and reported to the king: "Your servants have melted down the silver that was deposited in the House, and they have delivered it to the overseers of the work who are in charge at the House of the LORD."

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22:10 The scribe Shaphan also told the king, "The high priest Hilkiyah has given me a scroll"; and Shaphan read it to the king.

22:11 When the king heard the words of the scroll of the Teaching, he rent his clothes.

22:12 And the king gave orders to the priest Hilkiyah, and to Ahikam son of Shaphan, Achbor son of Michaiah, the scribe Shaphan, and Asaiah the king's minister:

22:13 "Go, inquire of the LORD on my behalf, and on behalf of the people, and on behalf of all Judah, concerning the words of this scroll that has been found. For great indeed must be the wrath of the LORD that has been kindled against us, because our fathers did not obey the words of this scroll to do all that has been prescribed for us."

22:14 So the priest Hilkiyah, and Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to the prophetess Huldah -- the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah son of Harhas, the keeper of the wardrobe -- who was living in Jerusalem in the Mishneh, and they spoke to her.

22:15 She responded: "Thus said the LORD, the God of Israel: Say to the man who sent you to me:

22:16 Thus said the LORD: I am going to bring disaster upon this place and its inhabitants, in accordance with all the words of the scroll which the king of Judah has read.

22:17 Because they have forsaken Me and have made offerings to other gods and vexed Me with all their deeds, My wrath is kindled against this place and it shall not be quenched.

22:18 But say this to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD: Thus said the LORD, the God of Israel: As for the words which you have heard --

22:19 because your heart was softened and you humbled yourself before the LORD when you heard what I decreed against this place and its inhabitants -- that it will become a desolation and a curse -- and because you rent your clothes and wept before Me, I for My part have listened -- declares the LORD.

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22:20 Assuredly, I will gather you to your fathers and you will be laid in your tomb in peace. Your eyes shall not see all the disaster which I will bring upon this place." So they brought back the reply to the king.

Undeterred by this, Josiah presses on with a giant passover

23:21 The king commanded all the people, "Offer the passover sacrifice to the LORD your God as prescribed in this scroll of the covenant."

23:22 Now the passover sacrifice had not been offered in that manner in the days of the chieftains who ruled Israel, or during the days of the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah.

23:23 Only in the eighteenth year of King Josiah was such a passover sacrifice offered in that manner to the LORD in Jerusalem.

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23:25 There was no king like him before who turned back to the LORD with all his heart and soul and might, in full accord with the Teaching of Moses; nor did any like him arise after him.

Josiah as JFK

His kids don't do well. The Babylonians come, and we know what that means.

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