

The Chronology of the Hebrew Kings⁶

<i>Israel</i>	<i>Judah</i>
Jeroboam I 931/30–910/9	Rehoboam 931/30–913
Nadab 910/9–909/8	Abijam (Abijah) 913–911/10
Baasha 909/8–886/85	Asa 911/10–870/69
Elah 886/85–885/84	
Zimri 885/84	
Omri 885/84–874/73	
Ahab 874/73–853	Jehoshaphat 870/69–848 ⁷
Ahaziah 853–852	Jehoram (Joram) 848–841 ⁸
Joram (Jehoram) 852–841	Ahaziah 841
Jehu 841–814/13	Athaliah 841–835
Jehoahaz 814/13–798	Joash (Jehoash) 835–796
Jehoash (Joash) 798–782/81	Amaziah 796–767
Jeroboam II 782/81–753 ⁹	Azariah (Uzziah) 767–740/39 ¹⁰
Zechariah 753–752	
Shallum 752	
Menahem 752–742/41	Jotham 740/39–732/31 ¹¹
Pekahiah 742/41–740/39	
Pekah 740/39–732/31 ¹²	Ahaz
732/31–716/15 ¹³	
Hoshea 732/31–723/22	
	Hezekiah 716/15–687/86 ¹⁴
	Manasseh 687/86–642/41 ¹⁵
	Amon 642/41–640/39
	Josiah 640/39–609
	Jehoahaz 609
	Jehoiakim 609–598
	Jehoiachin 598–597
	Zedekiah 597–586

End of Northern Kingdom
722 BC

⁶ The table is from two sources: Edwin R. Thiele's *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings* and *The New Bible Dictionary*, 219ff. The two differ in only a few places. See also R. K. Harrison, *Introduction to the Old Testament*, 735f, where the chart from NBD is copied. No other system is as accurate.

⁷ Co-regent from 873/72.

⁸ Co-regent from 853.

⁹ Co-regent from 793/92.

¹⁰ Co-regent from 791/90.

¹¹ Co-regent from 750.

¹² Counted his years from 752.

¹³ Co-regent from 744/43; senior partner from 735.

¹⁴ Co-regent from 729.

¹⁵ Co-regent from 696/95.

(4)

Lesson One Sunday 1 K. 12:1–14:20 & 2 C. 10:1–11:4

The Division of the Kingdom and Its Aftermath (1 K. 12:1–16:20 & 2 C. 10–16)

This is the first of four fairly natural subdivisions into which the period of the divided kingdom falls. Any student who will commit this outline to memory, learning the four subdivisions and the main characteristics of each, will have a good grasp of the whole period and avoid being lost in confusion amidst the apparent complexities of the period. Let that, then, be the Number One goal of every student, and let teachers give continued emphasis to that kind of analysis throughout the course.

The first two lessons are devoted to the first subdivision, which covers approximately the first half century after the division. Emphasis should be placed on causes and consequences of the division.

Reading for Thursday: 1 K. 12 Division of the Kingdom

- A. *Historical Background.* Was this the first time conflict and division had appeared among the tribes of Israel? See Judges 8:1ff; 12:1ff; 2 Sam. 2–5; 19:40–43; 20:1–3.
- B. What was the ultimate cause of the division? (1 K. 11:9–13).
- C. What was the immediate cause or occasion of the division? (1 K. 12:1–15; cf. v. 18a & 5:13f).
- D. List two big mistakes made by Rehoboam (1 K. 12:6–15, 18a).
- E. *Immediate Consequences of Division:*
1. *Two independent kingdoms.*
 - 1a. What were the two kingdoms resulting from the division?
 - 1b. How much was included in the southern kingdom? (1 K. 12:20, 21; 2 C. 11:12).

2. *Innovations of Jeroboam in the northern kingdom (1 K. 12:25–33)*. List the three main innovations introduced into the religion of the northern kingdom by Jeroboam.¹⁹

F. Be sure you can identify each of the following: (1) Rehoboam, (2) Shechem, (3) Jeroboam, (4) Ahijah (cf. 1 K. 12:15 with 11:26–40), (5) Adoram, (6) Shemaiah, (7) Bethel and Dan.

Reading for Friday: 1 K. 13
Prophecy Against the Altar at Bethel

- A. Where was the prophet from?
- B. What was his message against the altar at Bethel?
- C. Did Jeroboam have good reason to believe this message and to repent of his sins?²⁰
- D, 1. What became of the man of God who spoke against the altar?
- D, 2. What was his mistake?
- D, 3. What lesson can we learn?
- D, 4. How is Galatians 1:8–9 related to this incident?

¹⁹ These are important, for they explain the references to “the sin (or sins) of Jeroboam” recurring all through the history.

²⁰ In your answer, refer to incidents all through the chapter.

(6)

Reading for Saturday: 1 K. 14:1–20
Prophecy Against the House of Jeroboam
and Against the Kingdom of Israel

- A, 1. Why did Jeroboam want his wife to disguise herself from Ahijah? (vv. 1–5).
- A, 2. How does 11:38 throw light on this matter?
- B. The prophecy of Ahijah (vv. 6–16) has three main elements:
1. What was the prediction about the house of Jeroboam?
 2. What was the prediction about the sick child?
 3. What was the prediction about Israel?